



Smithtown Central School District
Smithtown High School West
100 Central Road, Smithtown, NY 11787

John Coady
Principal
(631) 382-2900

Mark Secaur, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

April 11, 2023

Dear Smithtown West Parents and Guardians:

We are excited to announce that Smithtown High School West will be welcoming a new member of our team, Chloe, from the Therapy Dogs of Long Island into our school! We recognize the need to provide our students with as many options and tools to attend to and promote positive mental health. Research has found that interactions with a furry friend can reduce anxiety and depression, while helping to protect against a variety of other negative feelings and emotions. Therapy dogs can also help children learn compassion, empathy, responsibility, respect, and self-discipline. It goes without saying that these trained animals offer individuals in need comfort and non-judgmental love.

Chloe will be joining us during this week. She will be available in our Counseling Center, both Suites A and B.

Our goal is to provide our students with an opportunity to learn and experience first hand how therapy dogs can help manage and reduce stress and anxiety.

For more information about Therapy Dogs of Long Island, please feel free to take a look at the Therapy Dogs of Long Island website: <https://therapydogsl.org/>.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding Chloe, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Agostino, School Counselor, in the Counseling Center at 631-382-3016.

Sincerely,

John Coady
Principal

