

Principles for a Successful Classroom

Team Henson will incorporate the principles of a successful classroom in all content areas that will be covered in the Freshman Success Academy. These principles include:

Learning from a felt need. Students will be presented with meaningful activities that create a foundation for learning.

Student responsibility for learning.

Students will accept responsibility for goal setting and time management.

Working well collaboratively. Students will work with peers and teachers on open-ended problem solving activities which includes working independently on smaller tasks.

High social capital. Parents and the adults in school will work together as partners in the learning process.

High academic standards. All students are expected to do their best to achieve high standards. Students will actively seek out teachers, fellow students, and other resources to reach their full potential.

Technology infusion. Our computer labs and high technology resources are available for students to use as a tool to achieve academic success. *(the use of the internet as a source of entertainment is inappropriate in the classroom setting.)*

Focus on higher-order, open-ended problem-solving. Coursework focuses on problem solving projects that enable students to incorporate these skills into their everyday lives.

Connected learning. Students will be successful in both connecting what they learn across all disciplines and to their own lives.

Individual learning path. Teachers will recognize each student's learning needs.

Global citizenship. Students will recognize their important role as contributors to the improvement of a global society.

TEAM HENSON



Contact Information

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www.plainfieldnj12.org

www.schoolnotes.com

www.teacherweb.com

www.ideportal.com

www.ngenkids.com

Welcome to Team Henson!

This year, your son or daughter will be a member of Team Henson, named for Matthew Henson, the first explorer to set foot on the North Pole. He was a member of diverse team that overcame treacherous obstacles to discover a new land and achieve heroic goals. He embodies the spirit of team success. As a team, we will explore core curriculum all subject areas and discover new connections and relationships among these areas.



As parents and guardians, you are an integral part of this journey. With your support and encouragement, our team exploration and discoveries will lead to your student's growth and success.

Welcome aboard! Fasten your seatbelts. *iBienvenidos a bordo! Prepárense y ajusten sus cinturones.*

Staff of Team Henson

Roseann Tuvel Bassin - Mathematics Teacher in her third year at Plainfield High School;
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Deborah Bosi - English Teacher in her third year at Plainfield High School.
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Thomas Collins - English Teacher in his fifth year at Plainfield High School. Founder of the Poetry-N-Motion Modeling Club which is based at Plainfield High School. tcollins@plainfield.k12.nj.us

Donna L. Keenan - English Teacher in her third year at Plainfield High School.
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Beverly Lyons- World History teacher in her fourth year at Plainfield High School.
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Deborah Reynolds - Math teacher at Plainfield for more than 18 years. deboraharey@aol.com

Reggie Robinson - Computer Applications teacher in his seventh year at Plainfield High School.
rrobinson@plainfield.k12.nj.us

Darya Stokes - Special Needs Science teacher in her 2nd year at Plainfield High School. Presently pursuing MBA in Special Education.
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Diane Yglesias - Health/Physical Education/Conflict Resolution at Plainfield High School for 13 years. Ms. Yglesias has included teaching Conflict Resolution as part of the 9th grade Health and Physical Education program for the past 10 years. dyglesias@plainfield.k12.nj.us

TEAM HENSON THEMES FOR 2005-2006

Each theme will be accompanied by a theme project that students will participate in and complete in a timely fashion. These themes were developed out of the content from each class your child will attend in the freshman success academy.

Journey into the Unknown

Moments of Discovery

Expanding Our Horizons

Building a Better World

Breaking Out of Your Comfort Zone

Creating and Accepting Change

Aspects of Team Life

Why a Team Approach?

What will being a part of Team Henson mean to your son or daughter?

They will:

- Learn how to be an important part of a powerful "whole".
- Relate and connect ideas across each subject area.
- Receive positive encouragement that will support their academic, social, emotional, and personal growth and development.
- Develop new learning skills through problem-based learning, collaboration, and cooperation.
- Discover that teamwork is a powerful tool for life.
- Learn more as a team.
- Seek higher education.

Students are more likely to stay in school, learn more, and graduate if they are excited about learning and being a part of a team.