

HENDRICK HUDSON SCHOOL DISTRICT

Hendrick Hudson High School

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JAMES L. MACKIN, JR.
Principal

LAURA G. NEIER
Assistant Principal

ANTHONY J. GIOVINAZZI
Assistant Principal

September 7, 2017

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are excited to announce the addition of Ramona to the SAILOR program at the high school. Ramona is a two-year-old Labrador retriever, who has received requisite training through Guiding Eyes of Yorktown, N.Y. to serve as a Therapy Dog.

Ramona will work in the SAILOR program a few days each week as a part of the team. She will help students reach goals related to self-esteem, emotional regulation, friendship and attention issues, among many others. One of her jobs will be to facilitate meaningful community interactions with students who may find these situations stressful. Ramona will be handled by Christina Feal, our SAILOR program teacher.

Research is clear that trained animals, like Ramona, can provide emotional support and can help students in managing certain behaviors. However, Ramona's arrival comes with great responsibility, and we will be implementing her in a systematic way to ensure the success, safety and comfort of everyone. We will continue to work with local agencies to maintain Ramona's and Mrs. Feal's training to meet our specific needs.

Additional information has been posted on our website. Click [here](#) to read more.

You can also contact Mrs. Feal at: christina.feal@henhudschools.org or Mr. Mackin at: james.mackin@henhudschools.org.

We are excited to welcome Ramona to the high school to provide our students with this forward-thinking support.

James L. Mackin
Principal