

**MAMARONECK UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
DEPARTMENT FOR STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES  
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Director of Special Education  
PreK – 5

September, 2008

Dear Parents and Community Members,

The 2008-2009 school year is underway and the administration and faculty have been busy preparing for a successful and enriching experience for our students.

Mamaroneck High School (MHS) is developing and expanding our Community Based Vocational Training Program. This program is geared towards students in need of intensive support for vocational training and transition planning. Kristen Macaluso, a newly hired Transition Counselor, will be coordinating the services provided by this unique program.

Kristen comes to MHS with a wealth of experiences in the field of disability services. She has served as a counselor at Fordham University and New York University arranging accommodations for students with various types of disabilities. She has also worked as a supported employment specialist, helping post-secondary students explore career interests and obtain appropriate jobs. Most recently, Kristen assisted in the development of an Autism Family Center which connected families with local agencies and services.

Along with teachers and support staff, Kristen will be creating employment or internship positions in local communities for students. MHS job coaches will implement strategies to assist students in learning appropriate work behaviors and identifying personal strengths.

We have formed many successful partnerships with local businesses and would like to continue making connections within the community in order to create worthwhile employment and internship settings for our students.

We invite you to take part in this meaningful learning experience by considering how a Mamaroneck High School student can help your business meet its current needs. Please feel free to contact Kristen Macaluso, Transition Counselor at 914 220-3039 or [kmacaluso@mamkschools.org](mailto:kmacaluso@mamkschools.org), to learn more about our Community Based Vocational Training Program.

Sincerely,

*Karen Gatto*

Director of Special  
Education Secondary