



# Oceanport Board of Education

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September 5, 2017

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The Monmouth Beach, Oceanport, and West Long Branch School Districts are pleased to announce the implementation of a comprehensive grades 5-8 science program for the 2017-2018 school year. The Science Dimensions program focuses on opportunities for students to collaborate, work in teams to devise solutions, perform hands-on experiments, build models, and journal in science notebooks. The goal is to prepare our students to master the concepts and skills included in the New Jersey Student Learning Standards.

Science Dimensions lessons begin with a problem to solve or a discrepant event or phenomenon to explain, which lays the groundwork for students to explore science in the same way real-life scientists do, by starting with a question. This feature provides intrinsic motivation to spark curiosity and serves as the context for the three-dimensional learning and hands-on activities throughout the lessons. As a result, students are motivated to critically think and construct explanations of *how* and *why*. Additionally, the Science Dimensions program and district curricula are aligned to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards, allowing each student to establish meaningful connections between and among lesson topics.

In September, each student will be provided with login information so that the digital program components can be accessed from home. Once your child receives his or her login information, please visit:

[www.hmhco.com](http://www.hmhco.com)

You will be prompted to select a state and a school district, after which you will be directed to a screen to input your login information. Thank you in advance for supporting this initiative by taking the time to review the digital components, which include science, technology, engineering, and mathematical practices.

Lastly, once the school year is underway, we will be sharing an overview of the Science Dimensions program with parents and guardians. We are also very much looking forward to our Family Science Night that will take place in October. Should you have any questions about this initiative, please do not hesitate to contact me through our main office secretary at 732-229-0267.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matthew Howell".

Matthew Howell

*"Students First"*