

# Game Builders Academy

## Press Release



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## GBA Brings Video Game Design to Elwood's Fall After-School Programs

**Elwood, NY, October 1, 2009** – The Elwood Union Free School District has become the third public school district on Long Island to begin offering Game Builders Academy's Video Game Design and Development program. This innovative enrichment course is now part of the district's fall after-school programs coordinated by the parent-organized Elwood Booster Club.



Students in middle school grades 5-8 began a 20-hour introductory program in video game design and development. Every Thursday afternoon, these students design and develop their own video games from scratch. The students apply their math, science, technology, literacy and art skills – as well as logical and critical thinking skills – all while doing something they enjoy: *creating their own video games*. Students are learning, applying what they learn, and having fun doing it. It's this academic connection that makes GBA's programs so unique and valued by parents and educators.

Laura Williams, the Elwood Booster Club coordinator believes this initial GBA program will provide an exciting boost to her after-school offerings. Gene Tranchino, Director of Technology at Elwood, is also pleased to see this GBA program come to his school district and hopes to explore additional ways to incorporate GBA's innovative learning programs within the Elwood UFSD.

### ***About Game Builders Academy***

Headquartered in Westbury, New York, Game Builders Academy (GBA) is a STEM-based educational services and products provider of innovative, technology-based instruction – primarily for students in grades 5 through 12 – that helps students learn, grow, have fun and succeed! GBA's initial instructional programs have been based on video game design and development, robotics, and 3D computer modeling & animation. A GBA *Starburst*™ offering in video game development was specifically designed for early childhood students in grades K through 4. Additional new programs are continually in development for future release. GBA's clients include public and private schools, college-based youth programs, as well as summer academic camps. Its programs have been integrated within regular, Gifted, and Special Ed daytime school curricula, after-school and weekend programs, and summer youth activities.

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