



# Congratulations, Class of 2016!



Central School District Plainview-Old Bethpage POSTAL CUSTOMER \*\*\*\* ECKM22 \*\*\*\* Dr. Lorna R. Lewis, Superintendent of Schools

Lauren Sackstein • Susan Stewart Jodi Campagna • Seth Greenberg • Ronelle Hershkowitz Ginger Lieberman, Vice President Debbie Bernstein, President Board of Education

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## Superintendent's Message



Dear Graduates:

The Class of 2016 will long be remembered as a class that broke many records in academic, athletic and extracurricular accomplishments. We were again moved by the performance of another All-National concert master at graduation, as well as some of the most eloquent speeches I have ever

been privileged to hear from our student leaders. There can be no doubt our graduates are going to be successful as they begin their studies in great spaces for learning.

Whether it was with DECA, Robotics, Moot Court, All-State or All-National Music, Relay For Life, County Championships, Blood Drives, Food Drives, Senior Citizen Prom, Senior Citizen Tea, astounding us with your theatrical talents throughout your years and most recently in *The Little Mermaid*, we have cherished each moment of your collective efforts. In your 13 years with us you have left your mark on all aspects of our community while managing to balance your quest for academic excellence with equal zeal for making a difference locally and globally.

Google, the tech giant, spent years of intensive analysis to find out the key to good teamwork. The project, known as Project Aristotle, included interviews with hundreds of employees and analysis of data of more than 100 active teams at the company. The Googlers looked hard to find a magic formula—the perfect mix of individuals necessary to form a stellar team. Google's data-driven approach ended up highlighting what leaders in the business world have known for a while: The best teams respect one another's emotions and are mindful that all members should contribute to the conversation equally. It has less to do with who is on a team, and more to do with how team members treat each other. To quote from one of my favorite authors, Maya Angelou, "I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel." It may sound corny, but being nice matters.

As you leave our protected hallways of POBJFKHS, full of energy and enthusiasm, I hope that you continue to be the good citizens that you have demonstrated here, courageous, tolerant, respectful, and accepting of others.

Soon the Class of 2029 will burst through our elementary school doors to begin a new chapter of this district - with K-4 schools. You have led by example and we anxiously await this new class as they follow in your footstep.

Class of 2016, we send you off with grateful acknowledgement for all that you have accomplished. Now go out there and report back to us on the extraordinary experiences you are about to adventure.

Sincerely,

Dr. Lorna Lewis Superintendent of Schools

# Congratulations to the POBJFKHS 2016 Valedictorian and Salutatorian!

Michael Crawbuck and Anna Vaynrub have been named the valedictorian and salutatorian for the Class of 2016 at John F. Kennedy High School, respectively. Finishing at the top of the class academically speaks volumes of the intelligence, commitment and discipline possessed by Michael and Anna, and all of us at POB couldn't be more proud.



Valedictorian Michael Crawbuck has been a student in the District since kindergarten. He was named an Advanced Placement (AP) Scholar, graduated with honors and will attend New York University Stern's School of Business in the fall. Michael was active in the school's

DECA Chapter, placing sixth at the 2015 DECA international competition and earning second place at both the 2015 and 2016 New York State DECA competitions. Michael was president of the Spanish Honor Society, co-vice president of the Business Honor Society and a member of the tutoring committee for the National Honor Society. He was also a member of Best Buddies and the Science Honor Society. Outside of the classroom, he played varsity football and lacrosse. In addition, Michael manages his own website, Foodie Finders NYC.



Anna, this year's salutatorian, graduates with many academic achievements and will attend Harvard University in the fall. Anna recently received the Child Mind Institute Rising Scientist Award after conducting research with a science professor at Stony Brook University, where she was

the youngest researcher on a team of graduate students. She was also a National Merit Finalist, won a gold medal for her performance on the National Spanish exam and placed second in this year's Long Island Science and Engineering Fair. Anna was vice president of the Science Honor Society and secretary for the Science Olympiads. She also has served as chair for the school's Model United Nations (METMUNC) club, and she was editor for the school's newspaper. Her volunteer work includes working with Kids Versus Cancer, advocating for legislation to allow pediatric cancer drug trials.

# WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE? POBJFKHS CLASS OF 2016

Adelphi University Adelphi—7 Yr. BS/DO Program Alfred University American University Bentley University **Boston University Bucknell University** Carnegie Mellon University Case Western Reserve University Coastal Carolina University Columbia University Cornell University **CUNY Baruch College CUNY City College CUNY Hunter College CUNY Kingsborough CUNY Macaulay Honors** College **CUNY NYC College** of Technology **CUNY Queens College** CUNY Queensborough **Drexel University Duke University** East Stroudsburg Univ. of Pennsylvania Elon University **Emerson University Emory University** Florida Atlantic University Florida State University Fordham University Grinnell College Harvard University

Hofstra University Indiana University Indiana University— South Bend Iona College Ithaca College Johnson & Wales University Lafayette College La Roche College Lehigh University LIU Post Manhattan College McGill University Miami University, Oxford Michigan State University Misericordia University Molloy College Mount Saint Mary College Nassau Community College The College of New Jersey **NYIT** New York University Northeastern University The Ohio State University Pennsylvania State University Pratt Institute Purdue University Quinnipiac University Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Rochester Institute of Technology The College of Saint Rose San Diego State University Sacred Heart University

School of Visual Arts St. John's University Stevens Institute of Technology SUNY Albany **SUNY Binghamton SUNY Brockport** SUNY Buffalo SUNY Buffalo State SUNY Cortland SUNY Farmingdale **SUNY FIT** SUNY Fredonia SUNY Geneseo SUNY Geneseo—7 Yr. **BS/DO Program** SUNY New Paltz SUNY Old Westbury SUNY Oneonta SUNY Oswego **SUNY Potsdam SUNY Purchase** SUNY Stony Brook SUNY Stony Brook—8 Yr. BS/MD Program Syracuse University Temple University Towson University **Tufts University** Tulane University University of Alabama University of Arizona University of California— Davis University of California— Los Angeles

UMass—Amherst University of Chicago University of Connecticut University of Delaware University of Florida University of Georgia University of Hartford University of Maryland University of Michigan University of Minnesota-Twin Cities University of New Haven University of North Carolina—Chapel Hill University of Pennsylvania University of Pittsburgh University of Rhode Island University of South Florida—Tampa University of Tampa University of Texas—Austin University of Vermont University of Wisconsin Ursinus College Vanderbilt University Vaughn College of Aeronautics & Technology Villanova University Virginia Tech Washington University—St. Louis West Virginia University Worcester Polytechnic Institute









# COMMUNITY SCHOLARSHIPS

Office of the NYS Attorney General Triple "C" Award

Ethan Teper Anna Vaynrub

Nassau County Comptroller Achievement Award

Zackary Berkowitz

Nassau County Legislature Citation – Community Service

Zachary Goldstein

Office of the NYS Comptroller Achievement Award

Brett Hollander

Office of the County Executive Community Service & Academic

Excellence Award
Jamie Simon

Senator Kemp Hannon Citizenship Advancement Award

Cole Masler

Nassau County District Attorney Shield Award

Puneet Arneja

**Swimmer-Scholar Award** 

Brent Israel

Jordan Abramowitz Memorial

**Scholarship**Brooke Sender

**Art Guild Scholarship** 

Molly Davis

Brian Harley Assa Memorial Scholarship

Talia Weiner

**Janet Baumgarten Memorial** 

Jason Hymowitz

**Kevin D. Berkowitz Memorial** 

**Scholarship**Tal Moriah

Leonard & Miriam Berkowitz Memorial

Evan Lander Anna Vaynrub

**Paul Rubin Memorial** 

Elizabeth Varghese

**Brooke Zimmerman Memorial** 

Aidan Spencer

Class of '71 Unity Scholarship

Gyu Ri Lee Talia Weiner

Concerned Citizens of the Plainview-Old Bethpage Community, Inc.

Cori Dauman

**Harlean Cort Memorial** 

Guadalupe Angel

**Crestwood Country Day School** 

Jessica Lagnado Amanda Werman

Dr. Scott DeMel Memorial Scholarship

Dara Gleeson

Michael Eichenbaum Memorial

**Lacrosse Scholarship** 

Charles Mazzocchi

**Jonny Feinstein Memorial** 

Erin Curran

**Philip Ferris Memorial** 

Jaide Lichtenstein

Frisch Financial Scholarship For Excellence in Finance

Benjamin Green

**Ruth Gaiptman Memorial** 

Samantha Weiser

Joshua Golbert Memorial

**Award in Music** 

Matthew Leo

Maury D. Golbert Music Award

Courtney Hedgecock

Hal Goldman Memorial Scholarship

Jordan Fried

Mark Koehler Scholarship

Andrew Pfeiffer

**Long Island Blood Services Scholarship** 

Services Scholars

Sydney Abelow Emily Zucker

**Jeffrey Miller Memorial** 

Shakeel Faizy

Music Association of Plainview-Old Bethpage

**Band Award** 

Matthew Leo

Choir Award

Kristin Lunt

Orchestra Award

Jessica Herman

Continuing Music Study in College

Courtney Hedgecock

Community Service

Cassandra Edelstein

Richard H. Hague Four Year

**Music Award** 

Matthew Leo

**Tri-M Music Honor Society** 

Jenna Goerke

Stephanie Handschu

Courtney Hedgecock

Jessica Herman

Matthew Kessler

Jason Kimmel

Matthew Leo

Matthew Let

Ethan Teper

NEFCU – Making a Difference High School Scholarship

Megan Wolyniec

**Northwell Health** 

**Nursing Scholarship** 

Sherin George

Northwell Health Medical Scholarship

Dara Gleeson

#### **Opa Grille Scholarship**

Elisabeth Stein

#### Francis L. Phillips P.E. **Engineering Scholarship**

Evan Lander

#### Plainview Little League Scholarship

Julia Costarella Drew Kaplan Bryan Safer Jake Supran Kyle Supran

#### Plainview-Bethpage Lions Club

Chloe Ferney

#### **Plainview Diner Award**

Steven Klausner Justin Koo

#### Plainview-Old Bethpage Chamber of Commerce & Astoria Bank

Dylan Karul

#### **Plainview-Old Bethpage Chamber of Commerce**

Victoria Tramontana Megan Wolyniec

#### **Plainview-Old Bethpage** JFK High School PTA Scholarship

Shakeel Faizy Ye Eun Koh Aaron Levine Cole Masler Andrew Pfeiffer Michael Rubin Amanda Schechter Jordyn Schor Brooke Sender Claire Shamul Dana Silverstein Jessica Unterlack Elizabeth Varghese Megan Wolyniec

#### **Harold Yacker Memorial**

Cuong Bui Ariella Yadegar

#### Plainview-Old Bethpage Senior Citizen Club

Ye Eun Koh Joshua Tabak

#### Plainview-Old Bethpage Soccer Club

Puneet Arneja David Gever Jonathan Messinger Ashley Pajer

#### Plainview Unit of the Nassau County Police Activity League (PAL)

Michael Crawbuck Bryan DeGennaro Danielle Fasano Jordan Fried Matthew Leo Charles Mazzocchi Jonathan Messinger Christopher Montgomery Amit Nacson

Jason Napoli Ashley Pajer Kevin Pastier Bryan Safer Erik Stalzer Nicole Yuen

#### **POBHS Class of 1975 Scholarship Fund**

Jamie Simon Daniel Solnik

#### **Steve Pollicino Memorial Scholarship**

Samuel Iryami

#### R.A.G.E. - Residents Against **Garbage Expansion**

Thomas Bak Molly Davis

#### **Rechler Equity Partners Scholarship**

Jordyn Schor

#### Rae Saltzman Scholarship

Jonathan Messinger Elizabeth Varghese

#### Michael Secko Memorial Scholarship

Zackary Berkowitz Alexa Schaumburg

#### **SEPTA Scholarship Awards:**

**Prospective Education Award** Jason Hymowitz

Volunteerism/Community Service

Award

David Lieberman

Prospective Vocational Award

Cara Hayman

#### Rising Star Award

Alexander Rabinowitz Matthew Schnitzer Most Improved & Exceptional Effort Award Katie Corbett

PAL/SEPTA Award

Ilana Foster Zachary Gorfinkel David Kralstein Award Michael Arrow

#### Benjamin W. Sofe Memorial

Claire Shamul

#### **Spencer Cares Scholarship**

Gyu Ri Lee Elleni Katehis Brooke Sender Megan Wolyniec

#### Stacy's Warriors Scholarship

Melanie Gulbas Ryan Kerley Megan Wolyniec

#### **Trio Hardware**

Benjamin Green

#### **U.S. Figure Skating Gold Level Graduating Senior Award**

Rebecca Kniffin

#### Owen B. Walsh WE CARE Scholarship from the Nassau **Bar Foundation**

Ryan Kerley

#### **Howard Weinstock Memorial**

Jessica Herman

#### Winthrop University Hospital **Sports Medicine Award**

Nicholas Mueller

#### **SCOPE Education Services Scholarship**

Michael Crawbuck

#### Principal's Award

Stephanie D'Onofrio Arianna Flamer Jake Friedman Sae Fukuda Matthew Klausner Jessica Lee Vivian Lin

# What's Happening in Our Schools

#### K-Center Celebrates Final Moving-Up Ceremony

After years of serving the community and shepherding the youngest members of the Plainview-Old Bethpage School District into elementary schools, the **Kindergarten Center** held its final Moving-Up Ceremony in June. The ceremony, as it is every year, was a way for family members to congratulate children on the completion of a successful year learning how to read, write, add, subtract and be a good friend. This September, POB will welcome the POBJFKHS Class of 2029 as they begin their academic journey in their home schools. We are so excited to follow them on their adventures!





#### From Egg to Hen

Second grade students at **Old Bethpage Elementary School** recently were able to experience the wonder of life. In a lesson that stressed multiple facets of the District's work with S.T.E.A.M.—or, science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics—the children raised chickens, starting with nurturing the eggs until they hatched. In order to accomplish this, the students designed blueprints for brooders that were built by POBJFKHS students and observed the eggs as they gestated. The project represented a great way for the students to experience the science principles they had been studying put to effect in real life, and all who took part had a memorable experience.

#### As School Year Draws to a Close, Parkway Students Reflect

Throughout the month of June, fourth graders at **Parkway Elementary School** rehearsed diligently in preparation of their year-end Moving-Up celebration, so that when the big day arrived, they

would be ready to go. At the ceremony, students impressed the crowd in attendance with performances of three musical pieces, all under the direction of Judith Rilling. Additionally, Superintendent of Schools Dr. Lorna Lewis and Board of Education Trustees Ginger Lieberman and Lauren Sackstein shared congratulatory remarks. But perhaps the most memorable part of the ceremony occurred at the end—when four student representatives, one from each class, spoke of their Parkway memories and provided a poignant end to another wonderful school year.





#### Pasadena Students Show Their Spirit During Field Day

Students from **Pasadena Elementary School** finished a week-long celebration of spirit with their annual field day. Students competed on teams, wearing their school colors, in a number of relay races and activities to foster school spirit and teamwork. Activities included a scooter relay, run-for-fun activity, "any which way" race, tug of strength, potato and spoon relay, football relay, "big ball partner roll" event and a "looney lax scoop" relay. The students competed in front of a cheering section of fellow classmates, faculty, staff, friends and family members. Field Day is part of the school's annual "Spirit Week," during which the students take part in different themed days and activities to raise school spirit.

#### Send in the Clowns!

More than 70 fourth grade students at **Stratford Road Elementary School** transformed into stilt-walkers, plate spinners, clowns, tight-rope walkers and more during the school's 10th annual Fourth Grade Circus. After practicing for one week, the students welcomed friends, family and members of the community to witness incredible displays of skill, athleticism, balance and more. Circus skills are part of the students' physical education curriculum, meant to help improve balance and coordination, while also helping students build confidence and encourage teamwork. The performance also included artists from the National Circus Project. The Stratford Road Elementary School PTA organized this cultural arts program with physical education teacher Jodi Horowitz to provide an experience for all children.



### Oui, oui! Mattlin Students Excel in National French Contest

Mattlin Middle School students Eli Blum, Allison Scher, Allison Taub and Eshwin Varghese were recently recognized for placing within the top ten in the entire country in the National French Contest. Students were awarded with bronze and silver medals for their aptitude with the French language. The contest was open to all students grades 1-12 in the United States and abroad. The National French Contest is a competition sponsored by the American Association of Teachers of French. Students are required to take a written exam and compete against other students for different prizes. The students are tested on grammar, reading and oral comprehension, and French culture. Congratulations, Eli, Allison, Allison and Eshwin. Or should we say, *félicitations à vous*!





# Shipping Up to Boston: Students Explore the History and Culture of Boston on School Trip

Recently, students at Plainview-Old Bethpage Middle School, along with their friends at Mattlin Middle School, had the chance to discover the many historical and scientific lessons that Boston, Massachusetts has to offer. Students took in the culture while touring some of Boston's oldest neighborhoods and visiting some of its many museums. The trip also included trying local cuisine, including—of course—New England clam chowder.

During the trip, students followed Boston's Freedom Trail, stopping at Paul Revere's House and exploring the historic North End, Faneuil Hall and the State House before eating

in famous Quincy Market. Students also observed sea lions, seals, sea turtles and hundreds of fish at the New England Aquarium, explored the nautical side of Boston on a Duck Tour and visited the Boston Museum of Science.

#### John F. Kennedy High School Class of 2016 Graduates!

The Plainview-Old Bethpage Central School District held its commencement ceremony for the **John F. Kennedy (JFK) High School** Class of 2016 at Long Island University-C.W. Post's Tilles Center on Sunday, June 26, 2016. More than 375 students gathered in graduation gowns and decorated caps to celebrate the completion of their POB careers.

Superintendent Dr. Lorna Lewis, Principal James Murray and Board of Education Trustee Emily Schulman addressed the graduating class with words of wisdom as the students now move onto the next stages of their lives. JFK High School's Class of 2016 valedictorian Michael Crawbuck, salutatorian Anna Vaynrub, senior class president Jamie Simon and school-

wide student government president Jason Kimmel reminisced and discussed the future awaiting fellow classmates during their speeches.

Graduates and guests were treated to a violin performance by graduate Gyu Ri Lee during the ceremony. Gyu Ri has received numerous accolades for her musical talent throughout her high school career including earning recognition as concertmaster for the NAfME (National Association for Music Education) All-National Honors Orchestra, the Division 5 All-County Orchestra and the POBJFK High School Orchestra. She was also the 2016 recipient of POB's National School Orchestra Award, is an alumna of the Mannes School of Music Pre-College Division in NYC and has performed at Carnegie Hall as a winner of four international competitions.



### ARTS IN THE DISTRICT

#### **POB Takes Home the Gold!**



More than 65 student musicians from Plainview-Old Bethpage School District recently received the highest rating possible after competing in the 2016 New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA) Major Ensemble Evaluation Festival. Both string ensembles at Plainview-Old Bethpage JFK High School, the full string orchestra and the chamber orchestra competed and received "gold with distinction" ratings. Only two percent of all competing ensembles performing statewide receive this rating each year.

Under the direction of teacher Glenn Rubin, the students performed 30-minute programs for two adjudicators at Hofstra University in Hempstead, NY. The ensembles were graded based on tone, intonation, balance, technique, accuracy, rhythm and interpretation. Congratulations to all those involved on this tremendous accomplishment!

### 'B-Sharps' Wow the Crowd!



The "B-Sharps," an esteemed a cappella group from POBJFKHS, recently performed during the Nassau Association of District Curriculum Officials' year-end luncheon. School superintendents from neighboring districts were in awe of the students' abilities and inquired about POB's a cappella program. The "B-Sharps" is one of eight a cappella groups at POBJFKHS.

### District Says Goodbye to Longtime Principal Ronelle Hershkowitz as She Begins New Role with Board of Education



The end of every school year is a bittersweet time; as much as we look forward to the memories we'll make over summer, we hate to have to say goodbye to those we have known for so long. This year, it was particularly tough to say goodbye to Ronelle

Hershkowitz, principal at Parkway Elementary School, who retired from the position she has held for the last 29 years. Everyone in the District would like to say thank you for your three decades of tireless service and best of luck in your new great adventure.



# GRADUATING FROM PLAINVIEW-OLD BETHPAGE

A Family Tradition

POBJFKHS Class of 2016 valedictorian Michael Crawbuck (center) is a third generation POB graduate preceded by his parents and grandparents.