

Superintendent Highlight of the Week January 10, 2014

Let me introduce you to one of many outstanding students participating in our Science Research program. Reva Butensky, a senior at Plainview-Old Bethpage John F. Kennedy High School, has been named a semifinalist in the 2014 Intel Science Talent Search. Reva earned the highly prestigious honor for the outstanding research she conducted at Michigan State University during the summer of 2013. She is one of 300 semi-finalist from across the country to receive this prestigious honor.

All semifinalists, including Reva, will receive a \$1,000 award for their research. Forty finalists from the current group of semifinalists will be invited to the 2013 Intel Finalist stage in Washington, D.C. in March 2014. The students will have their research displayed to the public and judged in the final round. In addition, the students will meet with notable scientists and compete for the top award of \$100,000. We wish her all the best.



Her research on the *Evaluation of Novel Polyacrylamide Gel for Studies on Biological Redox Reactions* is quite a mouthful but if you want to know more about it, please join us at the January 13, 2014 Board of Education meeting where Reva, along with other students will be recognized for their accomplishments.

Reva is one of those scholars that we hope all students will become as she has immersed herself into the life of the school. She is currently on JFK HS's Executive Board of Student Government and Vice President of the High School, Varsity Captain of the Quiz Bowl Team, President of the National Honor Society, Managing Editor of the *Hawkeye* School Newspaper, Co-President of the Science Honor Society, Secretary of the Mathletes Team, Mechanical Engineer of the F.I.R.S.T Robotics & Engineering Club and a member of the *Drastic Measures* A Cappella Group and the Spanish Honor Society. She has already been accepted early action to Massachusetts Institute of Technology, a fine institution for her to continue her research.

We are extremely proud of Reva's accomplishment. It is a shining outcome for the exceptional efforts demonstrated by students and staff in our research program. We are fortunate to have a community that fully supports great programs for our deserving student body.