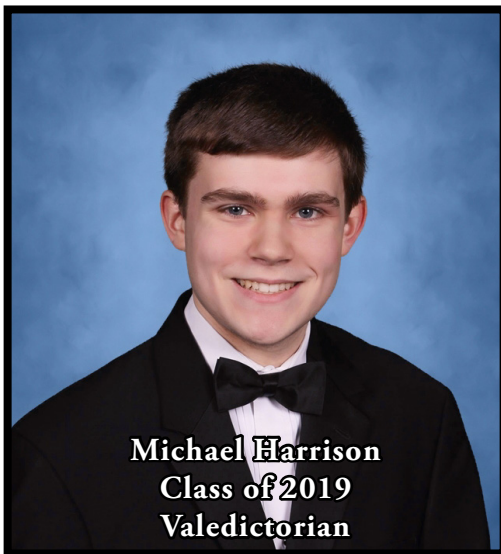




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Graduation Class of 2019

Meet our Valedictorian and Salutatorian



Michael Harrison
Class of 2019
Valedictorian



Kaitlyn Moleti
Class of 2019
Salutatorian

Michael Harrison is a very accomplished high school senior and is the Class of 2019 Valedictorian. Michael is a member of the Hauppauge HS Chapter of the National Honor Society which promotes service, leadership, character and scholarship, both in and out of school. Michael is also a member of the German Honor Society. As a member, he had to maintain a certain grade point average for his German class, volunteer at club events, which included "Sprachfest" - a yearly event that brings together German students from several school districts for German-speaking competitions, and commit to studying German for all four years of high school. He is also a member of the German Club which encourages the study of the German language in the community. They also hosted fundraisers to raise money for local non-profit organizations.

Michael is also a member of the History Club in which he participated in weekly activities to promote historical events.

Michael was a volunteer at the Hauppauge Library for his Economics and Personal Finance community service project. He was involved in programs that ranged from general housekeeping at the library to decorating pens and posters for hospital patients. Besides this, Michael helped with the annual summer reading program for young children.

Michael is an AP Scholar with Honor which is granted to students who receive an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams.

Michael is also a National Merit Scholarship Finalist. A select group of high-scoring seniors are notified each September on the basis of their PSAT scores by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation of their standing as semifinalists in the National Merit Scholarship Program. Students may advance to finalist standing after being endorsed by their high school, writing an essay about a period of personal growth, and submitting their extracurricular/work history.

Michael took the AATG National German Exam Level 5 and scored in 1st Place.

Congratulations, Michael, on achieving the status of Valedictorian of your class and good luck in all of your future endeavors.

Kaitlyn Moleti is the Salutatorian of the Class of 2019. Kaitlyn is an IB Diploma Candidate. She is also a member of the Hauppauge High School National Honor Society, as well as the Science Honor Society and the Spanish Honor Society.

Kaitlyn is also a member of the Hauppauge “Ignition” program. She served as a mentor who helped incoming Freshmen transition into high school through orientation and bonding activities. She participated in many school-run events and community service.

Kaitlyn is also a member of Student Council having served as Treasurer and currently Vice President, and helped to organize fundraisers which benefited Hauppauge families. Through Student Council, Kaitlyn said she learned about organization, commitment and leadership.

Kaitlyn is a member of the Class of 2019 Club and has been since 2015. She served as Class Secretary each of those years and helped to organize fundraising activities such as Spirit Night, proms and banquets.

Kaitlyn was also a member of the Hauppauge Varsity Kickline in which she helped to create choreography, prepare the team for performances, lead practices, organize fundraisers and collaborate with the band for football halftime performances as a captain. She participated with the Varsity Kickline Team at school performances and competed with them at regional and national competitions.

Congratulations, Kaitlyn, on achieving the status of Salutatorian of your class and good luck in all of your future endeavors.

To read the Michael Harrison’s Valedictorian speech, [click here](#).

To read Kaitlyn Moleti’s Salutatorian speech, [click here](#).



CLASS OF 2019 GRADUATION

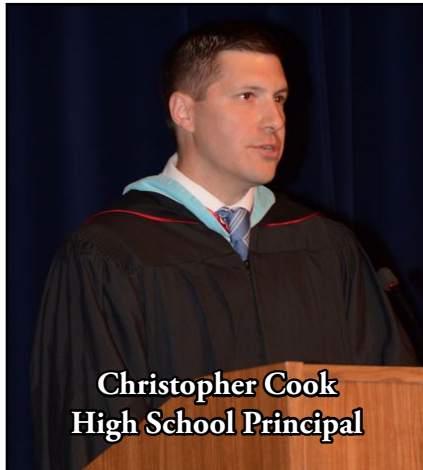
JUNE 28th, 2019

On Friday, June 28th, the Hauppauge High School Class of 2019 took their final bow at their Commencement Ceremony which took place in the high school auditorium.

Before the ceremony, graduates arrived with their parents, siblings and relatives. They streamed into the school with much excitement for their final walk.

The gym quickly filled with graduates talking with their friends and taking photos to commemorate what was to be their last occasion of being assembled as the Class of 2019.

At 6:00 pm, the ceremony began with *Pomp and Circumstance* ringing out and our graduates happily filing into their seats. Chris Cook, High School Principal, welcomed all present. It was Principal Cook's first year at Hauppauge HS, and he thanked the graduates and all of those present for making it his first year so inspiring. Principal Cook said, "I am excited by what Hauppauge is, where we are and where we are going!" After welcoming those present, Principal Cook turned the podium over to Wendy Cavanagh, a former Hauppauge HS graduate, parent of a graduating senior and PTSA President. Ms. Cavanagh said to the Class of 2019, "You did it! You should be very proud of all you have accomplished here. All roads have led to this moment, but remember, this is only the begin-



Christopher Cook
High School Principal

ning." Ms Cavanagh thanked everyone in the District for their support on behalf of the PTSA over the past year.

Next, Dr. Dennis P. O'Hara, Superintendent, began his remarks. He thanked the Board of Education for allowing him to be "the very proud Superintendent of the Hauppauge School District" and said "Being part of this wonderful community remains as one of my greatest privileges." Dr. O'Hara told the graduates that they are soon to be a part of the "Long Blue Line" of Hauppauge HS graduates.

Dr. O'Hara took a moment after his remarks to pay a special homage to a graduating student. He recognized Lilyana Minero who will begin her service to our country in the United States Army on Wednesday, July 3rd, when she will take an oath to support and defend the constitution of the United States. Lilyana will travel from Brooklyn, NY to Fort Sill, Oklahoma where she will begin Basic Training as a Private 2nd class. Dr. O'Hara thanked Lilyana "for her service to our nation and for the protection she will soon provide countless Americans."

Senior Class Officers, Colleen Buckley, Emma Casey, Kaitlyn Moleti, Lauren Romito and Serena Wernert offered their greetings to the Class of 2019 and announced that their class gift will be a tree to be planted on the school

HAUPPAUGE HIGH SCHOOL



COMMENCEMENT PROGRAM

Friday

June 28, 2019

6:00PM

Hauppauge High School

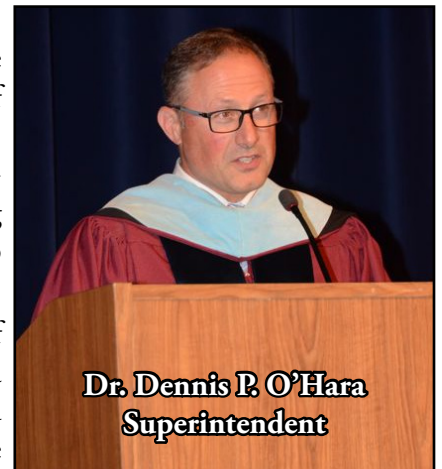
Hauppauge, New York

Sonnet III

Graduation Shakespearean Sonnet

By Alena Smith

From the great promise of tomorrow's fresh air
Shall come the joyous flight all men seize
Beyond those strong and noble bricks we share
Will thy fate emerge soundly with ease?
Good fortune to the merry and the hushed,
Whom may leap to valleys of emerald shine
Or graze great riverbanks with glory not rushed,
Bearing power like an eagle, similar to thine.
But thy will can never pass nor fade
Unlike the goodbye kiss of a fallen feather
From those stout wings that gives beauty aid,
Comes a beauty that strives so untethered.
As long as the sun glows with gold
Shall great soaring always be near to hold.



Dr. Dennis P. O'Hara
Superintendent

grounds to “show the growth of the tree like we have achieved through our time here, too. We also wanted to improve the beauty of the school.”

Michael Harrison, Class of 2019 Valedictorian, gave his address to the graduates saying in part, “I hope you will leave tonight feeling optimistic about that destination you’re yet to reach. Looking in the rearview mirror may be tempting, but you will lose sight of what’s in front of you. Know that there is no time like the present to make a difference, pick up some new passengers, and make a U-turn, if necessary. Because when you get right down to it, you will never have more energy or enthusiasm, hair, or brain cells than you have today. (In the interest of full disclosure, I have to say I borrowed that line from a recent commencement ceremony I watched after somewhat frantically googling best jokes for graduation speeches.)”



Wendy Cavanagh
PTSA President



Lilyana Minero
Graduate Entering
U.S. Army

Kaitlyn Moleti, Class of 2019 Salutatorian gave her address to her fellow graduates. She said, “Continuous effort has led all of us to this moment. This moment, in this auditorium, with our blue caps and gowns, is what we have been encouraged to work towards.”

Tom Postilio, Distinguished Alumni of the Year, gave a wonderful, rousing address to the graduates. He said, “Go out there in the world and make a difference! Get involved and make this world a better place!”

Board of Education Member, Stacey Weisberg, told the graduates, “As I look out I see future Doctors, Hair Stylists, Plumbers, Lawyers, Retail Associates, Educators (my personal favorite), Lawyers, Nurses, etc., etc., and could not be more proud – Just remember as you go onto your post High School endeavors – it is not where you are planted, it is how you blossom, it is how you grow....I know you will

all make Hauppauge proud but most importantly it is that you make yourselves proud!”

Principal Cook presented the Class of 2019 and the presentation of diplomas began. Dr. O’Hara then certified the Class of 2019!

The graduates filed out of the auditorium and it was the last time the Class of 2019 was going to be together. We wish these young and energetic young people all the best the world they are about to enter has to offer!



Stacey Weisberg
Board of Education
Member



Senior Class
Officers



Michael Harrison
Valedictorian



Kaitlyn Moleti
Salutatorian

[Click here](#) to view the 2019 Graduation Program.



Graduation Photo Highlights









HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION 2019

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI SPEAKER

TOM POSTILIO, CLASS OF 1988

Each year, Hauppauge High School hosts a Distinguished Alumni Speaker. This year, we were proud to announce that Tom Postilio of the Class of 1988 would speak at this year's Class of 2019 Graduation.

We wanted to know more about Tom and his time spent here at Hauppauge High school. He was happy to participate in a little "Q&A."

What is your most lasting memory of Hauppauge High School?

My most lasting memory of Hauppauge High School is how so many of my friends and fellow students rallied around my idea of creating and producing a talent show for anyone and everyone to participate in during my senior year in 1988. I loved the school's music program, which was an important part of my high school experience, but I wanted to see a format that would allow students to select their own material, and we made it happen!

Which teacher had the most impact on you at Hauppauge HS that you still think about today?

There are two teachers I must single out. The first is Susan Hall. Her chorus program was a refuge for me, and she was and is the most loving and supportive human being. (A group of fellow 1988 grads and I just had dinner with Susan prior to our 30th class reunion last fall.) The other is Roberta Fischman. She was the head of the student government at the time, and she's the person I reached out to with my idea about a student talent show. She sent me back a lovingly gruff note saying that I should get myself to the next meeting in her classroom and "get involved" to "make it happen." And so we did!



Tom Postilio
Distinguished Alumni Speaker
Class of 1988



LOUD AND CLEAR: Hauppauge High School cheerleaders and Tom Postilio rehearse their show stopper for the Student Council "Talent/Variety Showcase '88" to be presented June 2 at 8 p.m. in the auditorium. The show will feature students and faculty in song, dance and comedy sketches. Tickets to benefit the Scholarship Fund are \$3 and will be

What was your first paying job as a teenager?

Working as a busboy at the Villa Russo Restaurant in Ozone Park, Queens. By the time my family moved to Hauppauge, I had started a DJ business playing music at private parties. (My brother Chris, class of 1991, has since grown the business into one of the biggest and best entertainment companies in the area, "Long Island Sound.")

What did you do for fun when you lived here?

Times were a bit simpler in the mid to late 1980s. For fun, we'd go to the movies and then to the diner, of course. Mozzarella sticks and cheese covered French fries were the meals I remember most.

What motivates you every day?

The desire to succeed, to always do better than the day before, and to show love and respect for my family, friends, and fellow human beings.

What one word would you use to describe yourself?

One word to describe myself? Wow, that's a tough one. Empathic.

Do you have a favorite quote?

"To laugh often and love much; To win the respect of intelligent people and the affection of children; To earn the approbation of honest critics and to endure the betrayal of false friends; To appreciate beauty, to find the best in others; To leave the world a bit better, whether by a healthy child, a garden patch, or a redeemed social condition; To know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived. This is to have succeeded."



You have done so many interesting things in your life. Is there something that you would still like to accomplish?

I could never have dreamed I would accomplish what's brought me to this place, so I can only wonder about what lies ahead. The best is yet to come!

What do you wish you knew when you were sitting in your cap and gown at Hauppauge HS graduation?

On graduation day in 1988, I wish I had known that life doesn't necessarily go according to plan, and that all the worries that punctuate life's journey are not worth the energy we lavish on them. Disappointment often cultivates opportunity, and flexibility is the hallmark of good mental health. The road may bend, we may change course and take another route to our destination, but along the way, the secret of life is to enjoy the ride.

Thank you, Tom Postilio, Class of 1988, and Hauppauge High School Class of 2019 Distinguished Alumni Speaker for a wonderful interview. We are so happy to be able to call you our own!

To read Tom Postilio's address to the Class of 2019, [click here](#).

HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2019 AP SCHOLARS

The following list of Class of 2019 students have achieved AP Scholar recognition:

Liam Armstrong
Xavier Chent
Matthew DellaRocca
Courtney DellaRocca
Brandon Dennis
Julian Dennis
Jillian Doherty

Brendan Giordano
Bradley Hays
Lily Johansson
Victoria Manfredi
Joshua McDonald
Jennifer Moks
Surupi Nandi

Colleen Nugent
Baily Orehosky
Joshua Segal
Benjamin Simon
Kate Tacca
Erica Varley

The following list of Class of 2019 students have achieved AP Scholar with Honor recognition:

Kerry Deasy
Kira Dove

Andrew Ge
Michael Harrison

David Wellisch

The following list of Class of 2019 students have achieved AP Scholar with Distinction recognition:

Jenna Beuchert
Danielle Gerardi

Owen Kells
Linette Kunin

Jessica Zhu



THE CLASS OF 2019 HAS SELECTED THEIR PATHS AND THEY ARE ON THEIR WAY

The Class of 2019 celebrated “Decision Day” on Thursday, May 2nd. All high school staff and students, as well as staff and students throughout the district, were invited to wear their apparel to school to celebrate decisions for colleges, universities, military, careers or trades. Students and staff throughout the District were happy to celebrate the “Class of 2019” and their future plans!

If you would like to get a look at the “Future Plans of the Class of 2019” [click here](#).



Congratulations
Class of 2019

CLASS OF 2019 “TOP STUDENTS” HONORED AT ACHIEVEMENT DINNER

Class of 2019 “Top Students” were recently honored at the Hauppauge Public Schools 2019 Achievement Dinner on June 18th, 2019.

Also, as part of the celebration, Educator Impact Awards were given to those teachers who made an indelible impact on these high-achieving students.

[Click here](#) to view the program.





Congratulations Class of 2019

2018 - 2019
Board of Education

David Barshay, Esq.
President

Rob Scarito
Vice President

Michael Buscarino
Dr. Lawrence Crafa
Gary Fortmeyer
James Kiley
Stacey Weisberg

Lori DeGeorge
District Clerk



Central Office

Dr. Dennis P. O'Hara
Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Donald B. Murphy
Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum,
Instruction and Technology

Jacqueline I. Pirro
Assistant Superintendent for Business and Operations

Joseph C. Tasman
Assistant Superintendent for Personnel
and Administration

Dr. Carolyn J. Probst
Assistant to the Superintendent for Educational Services and
Student Outcomes