

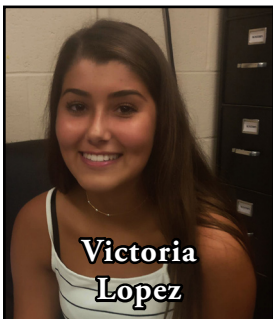
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AS THEIR FRESHMAN YEAR WINDS DOWN, FIVE STUDENTS TELL US HOW IT ALL WENT IN A “WELCOME FRESHMEN” FOLLOW-UP

The start of the 2018-2019 school year seems so far away since it is now June and the school year is finishing up. For our high school seniors, it was their last year at the high school, but for our Freshman, it was their first year there and was the start of something brand new.

In the September 21st issue of “Horizons” we asked five Freshmen to answer some questions on their first impressions, biggest surprises and fears about starting high school. Our panel consisted of ninth-graders: Victoria Lopez, Alexa Spiers, Sarah Dixon, Sarah Gregory and Sydney Paolillo. In general, these students said they felt that the upperclassmen were “super nice and helpful” and “welcoming.” They also felt that their first impression was the school would be scary and they might get lost. Surprisingly, they felt it wasn’t too hard to find their way around.

We followed up with the panel to see how they felt about their first year as Freshmen at the high school.



**Victoria
Lopez**



**Alexa
Spiers**



**Sarah
Dixon**



**Sarah
Gregory**



**Sydney
Paolillo**

Victoria Lopez

What was your biggest surprise in your Freshman year?

“How it wasn’t as bad as I thought it would be.”

How do you feel about your first year of high school, overall?

“I feel great about it. I made a lot of new friends and adjusted smoothly to the high school.”

What advice do you have for next year’s incoming Freshman class?

“Don’t be scared or stressed. It will go better than you think.”

Alexa Spiers

What was your biggest surprise in your Freshman year?

“How friendly everyone was.”

How do you feel about your first year of high school, overall?

“It went better than I thought.”

What advice do you have for next year’s incoming Freshman class?

“Get involved in the school.”

Sarah Dixon

What was your biggest surprise in your Freshman year?

“Upperclassmen being friendly.”

How do you feel about your first year of high school, overall?

“I think it was a good year and it opened up new experiences and meeting new people.”

What advice do you have for next year’s incoming Freshman class?

“To not stress about getting lost and do not be scared about asking for help.”

Sarah Gregory

What was your biggest surprise in your Freshman year?

"The amount of friends that I have made and how Freshman year wasn't as bad as you think it would be."

How do you feel about your first year of high school, overall?

"I think it was great. I tried a lot of new things and made great new experiences."

What advice do you have for next year's incoming Freshman class?

"I would tell them to be open and just to not be afraid of becoming a Freshman."

Greg Foster, High School Grade 9 Counselor, runs the Freshman Orientation each year before school starts. During the orientation, there are "Ignition Mentors" who help the Freshmen get acquainted with the school by giving tours and doing interactive activities in the gym. These students belong to the "Ignition" program which is for high school students to become mentors. They have over 100 mentors who are selected through an application and performance selection process. Throughout the school year, the mentors meet with Freshmen once a month to do interactive activities and act as role models for them.

When asked how he felt this year's transition was for the Freshman Class, Mr. Foster said, "I think this year was a tough transition for the Freshmen for many reasons, but I was really proud of the way they adjusted and really improved on many fronts as the year progressed." Mr. Foster also said that he feels the biggest challenges Freshmen face are "Freedom, peer-pressure, academic and athletic demands."

This year's Freshman Orientation will take place on Wednesday, August 28th. Mr. Foster feels that it is important for incoming Freshmen to attend. He said, "I think it really helps a lot as it is typically your first impression of high school and it's such a positive day and they get to meet so many great people."

Congratulations to our Freshman Panel and to all of this year's Freshman class on a successful and important transitional year!

Sydney Paolillo

What was your biggest surprise in your Freshman year?

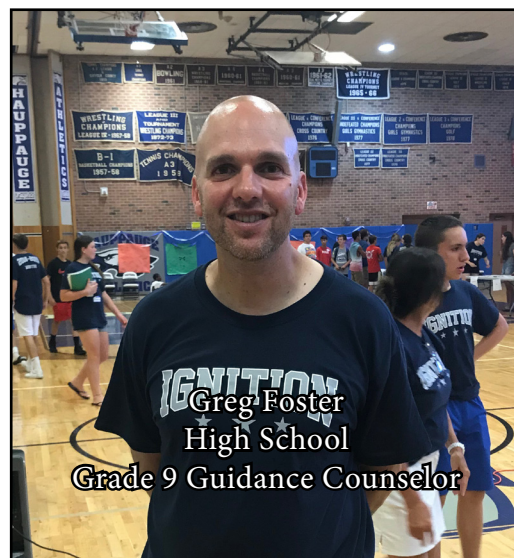
"How easily I adjusted to the layout of the high school."

How do you feel about your first year of high school, overall?

"It wasn't as bad as I thought it would be. I met a lot of new people in my classes."

What advice do you have for next year's incoming Freshman class?

"The upperclassmen are nice! Don't be afraid to ask for help or directions."



Greg Foster
High School
Grade 9 Guidance Counselor



"TEACHER SPOTLIGHT"

Janice Caffrey

Science Teacher
Middle School



Why did you want to become a teacher?

Ever since I was a little girl, I wanted to be a teacher. I use to set up my own classroom with a chalkboard and play "school". My parents also encouraged me to become an educator.

Where did you go to college?

I attended St. John's University- for my Bachelors degree, Dowling College for my Master's degree and SUNY Stony Brook for my Professional Diploma in School District Administration.

What did you like about college?

In college you get to study whatever you choose. I loved science and teaching so I received a degree in Environmental Science and a minor in biology education.

What is the best part of your job?

I love watching my middle school students become more knowledgeable as the year progresses. I love the energy and passion that they have about learning. I enjoy coming here each and every day. It is an adventure.

How long have you been teaching?

I have been teaching since 1994. So I just completed my 25th year. (I think) lol

What makes a good day at school for you?

When I see my students smiling, asking questions, and really getting into the subject matter- I know that I made a difference that day so that makes me happy.

What accomplishment fills you with pride so far this year?

The biggest accomplishment that I have had this year was implementing our new AMPLIFY! program. It is a very different way of teaching and learning. I was amazed at some of the discoveries and evidence based arguments that students made during the course of the year.

How does technology make teaching more simple or difficult?

The AMPLIFY! program uses an iPad for a lot of different science simulations that are real world connected. The students have fun changing all the variables in these simulations to create different outcomes. However, it is challenging to make sure that all of the students are on task.

If you could sit in on another teachers class for a day, who would it be and why?

I would probably sit in on one of Mike Florence's social studies classes. He is very animated and entertaining. I would like to see how he relates to the students.

Is there a piece of wisdom you would pass on to your students?

Put forth effective effort and you will always succeed and if you do not try, you will never know....

If you could take your students on a field trip anywhere in the world, where would it be?

Antarctica to study emperor penguins and whales.

What is one of your best memories of being a student?

Oh my, there are so many good memories- from playing the Gong Show in kindergarten to singing with the jazz ensemble with Kenny Rogers at the Westbury Music Fair. I really enjoyed school.

What advice would you give to new teachers?

"In order to earn respect, you must give respect." that was said to me while I was student teaching and it stuck with me all of these years.

Do you have any favorite books you would recommend to students to read?

My favorite book is "To Kill a Mockingbird," by Harper Lee. It is a must read! I read a lot of crime and mystery books as well.

Why did you choose Hauppauge Schools?

I was thrilled when I became a part of Hauppauge Schools. I always tell my students that I am not only here to teach science but to make them productive members of our community. As I grew up in Hauppauge, it means more to me to teach here, in my home town, than any other place.

Thank you, Janice, for a great interview!



PINES UKELELE CLUB STRIKES THE RIGHT CHORD

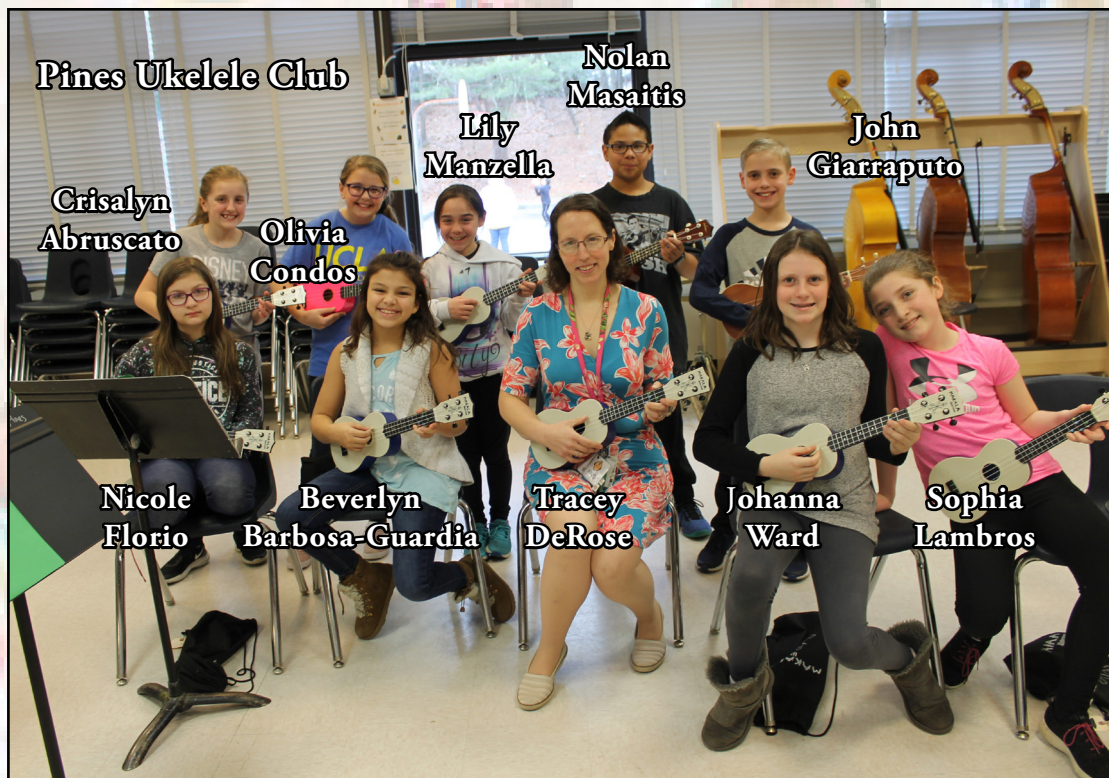
Pines Elementary School has a wonderful club and it is certainly a hit with many of their students! Tracy DeRose is the orchestra and band teacher at Pines Elementary and she started the "Ukelele Club."

Tracey said she became interested in the ukelele on a trip to Hawaii. She said, "While walking around a town, I noticed many people were playing the ukulele. Everywhere! On the beach, in the park, inside shopping centers. Of course, I was interested so I walked into a random music store and asked to see one. The store owner taught me 4 chords (the 4 basic chords that you can play for any song) and we both started jamming. It was so easy!"

Ms. DeRose said that she wanted to teach ukelele to students because it is an instrument that anyone can learn with no previous experience required. She said, "With just 4 chords, you can play pretty much any song on the radio. And you will sound good, even with a simple strumming pattern. Once you get those basics, it's easy for students to learn more chords and complex strumming patterns. When you mix up different strumming patterns, students can accompany themselves while they sing or perform with others."

When asked what she thought her students came away with this year while being a member of the Ukelele Club, Ms. DeRose said, "This year the Ukulele Club students learned 8 chords and 5 different strumming patterns. They learned how to read a chord chart so that they can teach themselves new chords in the future. We also learned how to compose and create new songs using the chords we know. On the last day of the club, we invited friends and family to see our performance. The students performed 10 songs including One Love, One Heart; Stand By Me; You are My Sunshine and Day-O."

We are sure this group of ukelele players will keep on strumming for years to come!



PINES STUDENTS ARE “WILD ABOUT CROCHETING”

Our Pines students definitely have learned that when they pick up a crochet hook, they start a chain reaction! That was a corny joke, but there is nothing corny about the wonderful work this club is doing!

Rosellen Enrico, Pines 4th grade teacher, started the Crochet Club. When asked how she became interested in crocheting, Ms. Enrico said, “After my son left for college, I felt like I needed a hobby. I got together with friends and went to classes. Since then, I have used Youtube videos to teach myself new patterns.”

Ms. Enrico also said that in starting this club, she wanted to expose a new generation to something new, but old. She said, “At first, there were some struggles with fine motor skills, but with patience and practice the task got easier. As time went on, the students came each time with their crocheting materials and an excitement to see each other. We talked, laughed, made new friends and learned how to crochet along the way.”

Ms. Enrico said that the best part about the club was hearing how the students connected with “older” members of their families. She said, “Many did not even know their grandmas could crochet!”



MIDDLE SCHOOL “FOOD TRUCK FESTIVAL” MAKES OUR EIGHTH GRADERS VERY HAPPY

The Middle School eighth-graders enjoyed a special treat on Wednesday, June 12th! The Family and Consumer Sciences Department sponsored an “in-school field trip” for them. The students were able to venture outside of the cafeteria and enjoy selections from a variety of food trucks.

During the school year, the Home and Careers students participated in their own classroom “Food Truck Challenge.” They had to come up with a name for their truck, logo, website, marketing plan and social media accounts. They worked in groups. Some of their trucks served cupcakes, macaroni and cheese, and “Soupendous Sandwiches.”

Today, there were trucks serving Burritos, Quesadillas, BBQ, Cheese Steaks and Sno-Cones. The students all lined up and enjoyed some delicious food!



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HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR IS A “STUDENT ON THE MOVE”

High School Senior, Tyler DiVilio, is truly a “student on the move!” Tyler will be graduating in June and will be attending the University of Utah in August as an Engineering student where he hopes to pursue a passion by studying prosthetics there.

Tyler is part of the Elite Team for DSUSA (Disabled Sports USA), which is the Snowboard Team for the National Ability Center. Tyler made “Team Utah” snowboarding after a tiring tryout at Snow Bird Mountain in Utah.

Tyler will be flying out this week to Mt. Hood, Oregon to train with the head coach of the U.S. Para-Olympic Team. Only a select few athletes (six in the nation) were invited to this camp, so he is very excited. The coach will be looking at these athletes to possibly be on the Para-Olympic team in the future.



Tyler DiVilio



Tyler’s mom, Christa, said “Tyler has been a stroke SURVIVOR since day 1 and continues to always give his best effort and a whole lot of Grit!

Tyler has some very special teachers. High School English Teacher, Shannon Moxham, said, “Tyler is an incredible young man. He has never let his physical condition stand in the way of what he wants. Because of this attitude and determination, I know he will achieve any goal he sets out to accomplish.”

High School Technology teacher, Brian Milleisen, said, “Tyler is the embodiment of hard work and determination. Tyler knows in his head and heart that he is bound by nothing and he is an inspiration to his classmates.”

High School Guidance Counselor, Heather Hiotis said this about Tyler, “Tyler exudes a truly larger than life personality, a contagious smile, and a tenacious drive about him. I am proud to say that in the four years that I have known Tyler, he has accomplished every single goal that he has set out for himself, not only as a student here at Hauppauge High School, but in life in general. Whether he was earning honors status in his classes, scuba diving, putting the finishing touches on his Eagle Scout project, or now training for the para-olympic snowboarding team, Tyler has done so confidently, passionately, and wholeheartedly.”

Kelly Barry, High School College Psychology teacher said this about Tyler, “Tyler is a wonderful young man with a positive spirit and uplifting energy. He is focused and determined to succeed in all tasks that lie before him. He is an inspiration to us all, classmates and adults alike. I am honored to have had the chance to be his teacher.

Chris Dowd, High School Technology teacher had this to say about Tyler, “Tyler has such a great attitude! He always walked into my classroom with a smile. During class he gives it his all. His attitude is infectious and made the classes he was in better!”

If you would like to read more about Tyler, [click here](#) for the National Ability Center website and [click here](#) for the Disabled Sports USA Profile on him.

Congratulations to Tyler on his upcoming high school graduation! We look forward to hearing about all his accomplishments in the future!

STUDENTS ARE RECOGNIZED AT SPECIAL BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING ON JUNE 11, 2019

Tuesday night was a very special Board of Education Meeting! As Dr. O'Hara stated in his Superintendent Update comments, "It's the most exciting Board of Education Meeting of the year as we recognize the achievements of our students and their effort, perseverance and their growth mindset. We will also be recognizing faculty members who are retiring for their years of service to our students. Also, as one of the most important tasks of a Superintendent, I will be recommending tenure for nine of our teachers."

This was certainly a very exciting night with a full house of students, parents, administrators and some faculty.

Congratulations to all those who were recognized for achievements in DECA, Math, Science, World Language.

Also congratulations to those graduating seniors who were recognized for their career paths in Technical Training!

Congratulations to our retiring faculty and staff! We wish them well in their new endeavors.

Congratulations to the fine group of teachers who received their tenure last night!

Finally, a special shout out to a graduating senior who is going to be entering the military. Lilyana Minero has made a very commendable decision to join the Army. We are so very proud of her and wish her well on her path in the military!

Click on each link below to view the lists of students recognized:

[Click here for Math](#)

[Click here for Science](#)

[Click here for DECA](#)

[Click here for World Language](#)

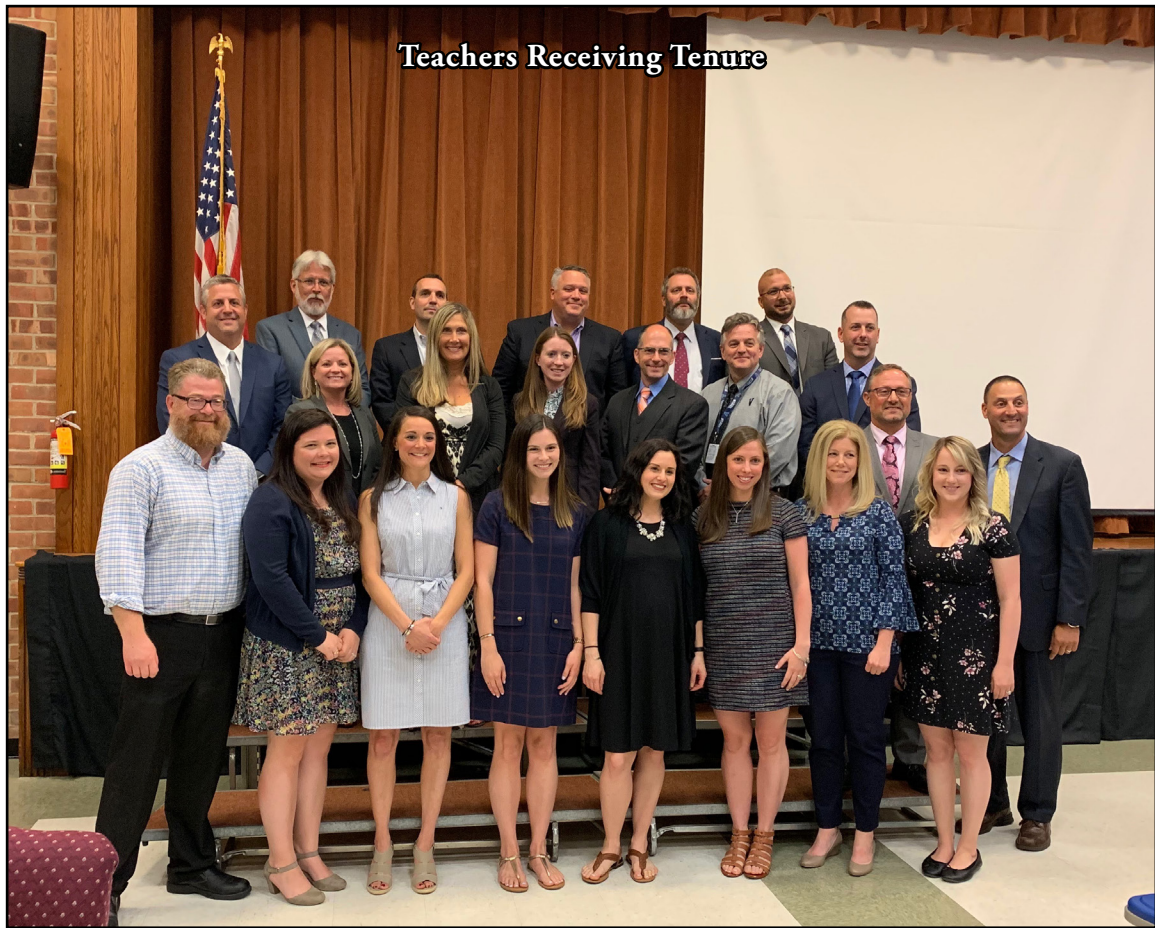


See more on next page . . .









congratulations!

WELCOME TO SUMMER READING 2019!



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English Language Arts class
during the 2019-2020 school year.**

**Click on the link below to find texts and assignments
that are motivating, engaging
and significantly challenging to capture your interest
and love of English Language Arts.**

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