



*An Environment for Effective Teaching & Learning Volume 2, Issue 9 11/16/18*

## **HAUPPAUGE STUDENTS HONOR**

### **OUR VETERANS**

Veterans Day is a day that is put aside to honor our military veterans for their service to our country. It is a day that we salute our heroes for the sacrifices they have made for our nation.

The origin of Veterans Day can be traced back to World War I. The Armistice with Germany, which formally ended the war, went into effect at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918. This is the origin of Veterans Day. Veterans Day, however, should not be confused with Memorial Day. While Memorial Day honors those who died while in the military service, Veterans Day honors all American veterans, living and dead.

Our three elementary schools, Bretton Woods, Forest Brook and Pines, recently held Veterans Day Assemblies to honor our Veterans. Students wore patriotic clothing and hats. There were guest speakers and local veterans who attended these events.

Hauppauge Public Schools has several employees of the District who are veterans. We thank them for their service:

Ted Chavis, Army - HHS

Timothy Horan, Marines - HHS

Frank Hufnagel, Air Force and Air National Guard - HHS

Rolando Lopez, Army - Pines

Ken Mott, Marines - HHS

Steve Nelson, Air Force - HHS



Pines Elementary School hosted a fundraiser to support United Veterans Beacon House. They asked students to “purchase” a flag for a minimum donation of \$1.00. Students “planted” their flags to display through Veterans Day!

Here are some highlights from the different assemblies that took place. As you can see from these photos, students took great pride in honoring our Veterans!





# VETERANS DAY ASSEMBLIES, cont'd



Bretton Woods Elementary School



Bretton Woods Elementary School



Bretton Woods Elementary School



Bretton Woods Elementary School



Pines  
"Flag Planting"



Forest Brook Elementary School



Pines Elementary School



Pines  
"Flag Planting"



Forest Brook Elementary School

Congressman  
Lee Zeldin



Forest Brook Elementary School



Pines  
Elementary School



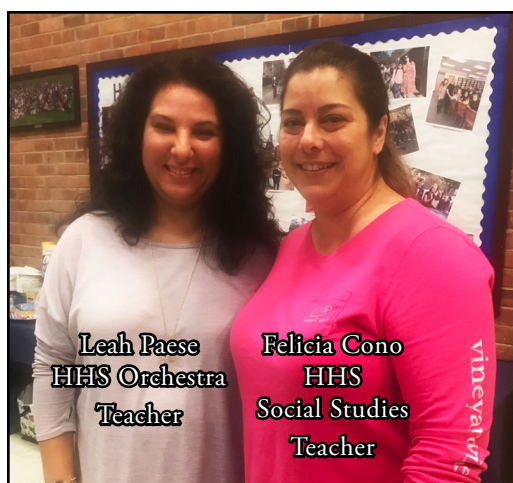
# “SEARCH INSIDE YOURSELF” TRAINING OFFERED TO HAUPPAUGE TEACHERS AND ADMINISTRATORS “THE UNEXPECTED PATH TO SUCCESS AND HAPPINESS AT WORK”

On Monday and Tuesday, November 5th and 6th, teachers and administrators were selected to participate in a very special and unique training: “Search Inside Yourself: The Unexpected Path to Success and Happiness at Work.” This training was developed by Google and is backed by science. It teaches how mindfulness is a win-win for effectiveness and well-being by building emotional intelligence. This training, formed by some of the world’s leading neuroscientists and mindfulness teachers, has now been taught in over a dozen countries.

“Search Inside Yourself” takes a unique approach: learning to live more skillfully by developing attention inward. Greater self-awareness forms the foundation for emotional intelligence competencies and teaches participants to navigate opportunities and challenges with more resilience, engagement and happiness. It’s about living and leading fully.

This program was presented by James Gallagher and Chris Borland of the SIY Leadership Institute. They presented a highly interactive program which contained small and exploratory group sessions which consisted of 1/3 content and 2/3 exercises.

I spoke to some of the participants in the training. I asked Leah Pease, High School Orchestra teacher and Felicia Cono, High School Social Studies teacher, for their impressions of the training. Leah said “I think it is fantastic! It is something that we as educators need so that we can make sure we are doing for ourselves what we can bring back to the kids. Mindfulness is something to bring to schools and students so that they can take things in and process them to be successful.”



**Leah Pease**  
HHS Orchestra  
Teacher

**Felicia Cono**  
HHS  
Social Studies  
Teacher

she felt the program helped her to center herself and be more effective in her position. Katie said, “Our jobs can be stressful dealing with others’ stresses and this will help with dealing with students and staff.”

Erik Clark, Middle School Guidance Counselor said, “The program is good to help re-focus and decompress and to help us re-center so we can pass this on to our students to help them manage their own stress.”

Kristen Reingold, Principal of Forest Brook Elementary said of this program, “I think they are engaging facilitators. There are lessons I can bring back to faculty about being present and mindful listeners, especially to faculty members in terms of structuring my meetings. We can do deep breathing at the start of the meetings.”

This program was truly a highlight for those who attended. Attendees will be able to use much of what was presented and share it back in their buildings with students and staff!



**Chris Borland**  
SIY Presenter



**James Gallagher**  
SIY Presenter

Felicia Cono, HHS Social Studies teacher said, “It is terrific! It is time well spent! I am looking forward to introducing some of these techniques into the classroom to increase student resiliency.”

I also spoke to Pam Ricotta who is a Social Worker at the Middle School. When asked her impressions of the program, Pam said, “I think it is great! Something good for ourselves to bring to students and staff.”

Jennifer Kalevas, also a Social Worker at the Middle School said, “I am learning a lot and I am getting time to de-stress here from the daily stresses of the building.”

Katie Locke, a Psychologist at the Middle School said



**Erik Clark**  
MS Guidance  
Counselor

**Pam Ricotta**  
MS Social  
Worker

**Jennifer  
Kalevas**  
MS Social  
Worker

**Katie Locke**  
MS School  
Psychologist

## HAUPPAUGE HIGH SCHOOL'S "IB DIPLOMA PROGRAM" PARTICIPATES IN "IB STUDENT'S ROUNDTABLE"

Students from Hauppauge High School's IB Diploma Program traveled to Locust Valley High School on Wednesday to participate in the first "IB Student's Roundtable." The Locust Valley IB Student Leadership Club welcomed Hauppauge students with breakfast and collegial discussions about the IB program. Students were led in exercises on mindfulness by presenter Cory Muscara, and then participated in conversations on classwork, college applications, CAS, and completing the Extended Essay. Students were accompanied by IB History teachers Mr. Harry Shehigian and Ms. Anne Stebbins. "I think it was a meaningful experience for our students, to be able to collaborate and problem solve with other students" said Ms. Stebbins about the day. "They are all taking very rigorous course schedules, and it was helpful, I think, for them to strategize with each other—what study methods work, how to approach major research projects, how to balance school and life. As teachers, we were able to take away some great ideas about how to help our students as well."

Locust Valley coordinators hope to continue Student Roundtables in the future.



Brad Hays  
HHS Senior

"IB Students Roundtable"

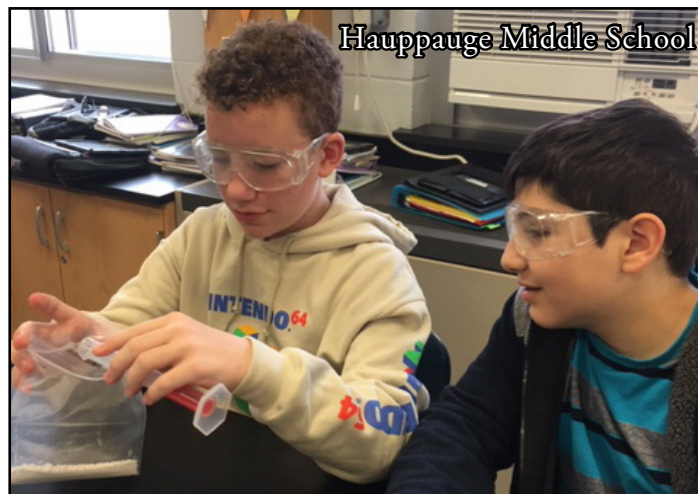
Sean Rorke  
HHS Junior

Jack Casey  
HHS Senior

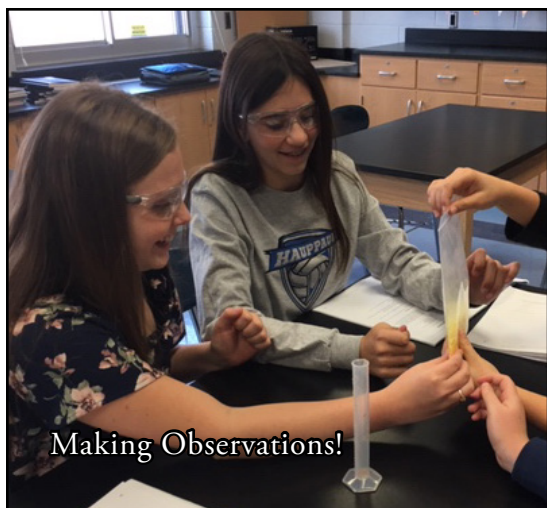
## THE "AMPLIFY" SCIENCE PROGRAM COMES TO THE MIDDLE SCHOOL!

Hauppauge Middle School seventh graders in Mrs. Caffrey's class engaged in a new, hands-on lab from their new program called "Amplify." The students were recently investigating chemical reactions using this new program. They are making observations, noting how heat energy is being released and how a gas is being formed causing the bag to expand.

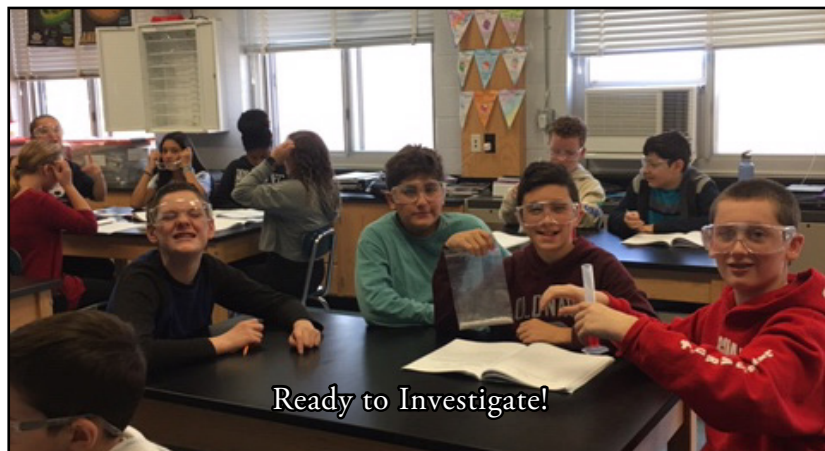
These students are learning and it looks like they are enjoying it!



Hauppauge Middle School



Making Observations!



Ready to Investigate!



# HAUPPAUGE HIGH SCHOOL'S "VALEDICTORIAN, SALUTATORIAN & TOP TEN" MAKE THEIR DEBUT!

High School Principal, Christopher Cook, has announced the Valedictorian, Salutatorian and Top 10 students of the Class of 2019!

Valedictorian is Michael Harrison. Overall, Michael's GPA through the end of his junior year was 103.26.

Salutatorian is Kaitlyn Moleti. Overall, Kaitlyn's GPA through the end of her junior year was 103.21.

Rounding out the rest of the Top Ten Students, in alphabetical order, are: Xavier Cheng, Danielle Gerardi, Owen Kells, Jasmine Kong, Linette Kunin, Christina Pontecorvo, Jared Shelby and Daniel Steinhart.

Congratulations to these very academically talented high school seniors!



## A SPECIAL "Q & A" WITH OUR VALEDICTORIAN AND SALUTATORIAN!



Hauppauge High School Seniors, Michael Harrison and Kaitlyn Moleti, were recently named the Valedictorian and Salutatorian of the Class of 2019! In view of this wonderful achievement, we thought it would be fun to interview them and ask them some questions so that we can get to know them better. Here is their interview!

***How has Hauppauge High School prepared you academically and personally for the future?***

**Michael:** Hauppauge HS has allowed me to explore various academic disciplines through AP and IB classes in the sciences and humanities. I have been able to engage with teachers who enjoy working with students to help them achieve their fullest potential. Personally, my experiences with different extracurricular activities have allowed me to work with my classmates and community members to have an impact on those around me. I am hopeful that my time at Hauppauge HS has prepared me for a future of personal and academic success by challenging me to be the best version of myself.

**Kaitlyn:** Hauppauge High School has prepared me for the future by helping me to become a well rounded student and person. I have learned how to balance academics with extracurricular activities, be a leader, stand up for what I believe in, think critically, and so much more. Thanks to Hauppauge, I feel well prepared for the next chapter of my life.

***What are your future plans?***

**Michael:** I plan on furthering my studies at a four-year college after I graduate high school while still staying involved in my local community. My intended interest of study is in the field of statistics.

**Kaitlyn:** As of now, I plan on majoring in behavioral neuroscience and I hope to become a neurologist. I'm in the process of college applications right now, like most high school seniors. I'm excited to see what school I'll end up at.

***What helped you focus in on what you wanted to do in the future?***

**Michael:** Taking higher-level classes in high school allowed me to get a sense for what I might want to study at college and pursue as a career. Specifically, hearing of how others had benefited from pursuing their passions (e.g., former German students traveling abroad), often from my teachers, helped me to focus in on what I want to do in the future.

**Kaitlyn:** I've always been interested in the brain and how it functions. The science classes I've taken throughout high school have confirmed my decision that I want to focus on science as a career path. I'm also taking college psychology this semester which is preparing me for the types of courses I will take in college as a neuroscience major.

***What is your favorite memory of Hauppauge High School?***

**Michael:** My 5th grade class field trip to New York City to see the musical Wicked stands out to me. I and my fellow students from Forest Brook ended our time in elementary school in a very memorable way.

**Kaitlyn:** I cannot narrow down all the sweet memories I've had over the years, but I think some of my favorite times have been during the spirit weeks. It is always so enjoyable to show off your spirit during each of the themed days and then celebrate the community at Homecoming. To top it off, the best part is always performing with the kickline team that weekend.

***Who do you admire at Hauppauge HS? Who has influenced you the most and how?***

**Michael:** I admire the level playing field that exists for all incoming students. When the lines between wealth and inherent skill are blurred and are replaced with a chance to show your dedication and your true character, we all stand to benefit. I think my peers - collectively - have influenced me the most. Watching the personal growth of others and relying on them for support and encouragement allows me to see the importance of being a 'team player' in any school community.

**Kaitlyn:** Mr. Gillen is the teacher that has influenced me the most. He was my English teacher for three years and over that time he has taught me so much. Not only has he taught me how to analyze literature and use voice in my writing, but he has also taught me how to be a better student overall. From him I have learned to be more confident with my ideas, and to voice them without fear of whether or not they're considered right. Teachers like Mr. Gillen are ones whose impacts will never be forgotten by their students.

***How does it feel to be awarded this honor?***

**Michael:** Receiving this kind of recognition is deeply humbling; I can say that I never imagined being awarded this honor when I began my academic journey with this school district 12 years ago. I can only hope that others will see this as an inspiration to do their best while remaining faithful to the values they have been raised with. Accordingly, this honor isn't so much about scholarship and academic success as it is about perseverance - and that is how I view it. It's not an end, but a beginning as I look forward to my post-high school life.

**Kaitlyn:** It feels so amazing to know how my hard work for the past years has all paid off. It does feel strange though because this means high school is almost over!

***Do you have any advice to give to your underclassmen?***

**Michael:** Always be true to yourself. If you treat others with respect, realize that long-term satisfaction usually comes from present sacrifice, and don't forget the people who sacrificed on your behalf - you can be certain that the successes you have in life will be meaningful. Just as high school is a journey, the relationships you have with family and friends are equally complex at times.

**Kaitlyn:** My advice would be to make the most out of your high school experience. Join activities that you are genuinely interested in. It will make all the long days of school worth it and help you understand what you want to do once high school is behind you.

***What is one thing you would change about the world if you could?***

**Michael:** I would seek to end global poverty.

**Kaitlyn:** Something I would change about the world is making sure every child has the right to an education. Everyone should have the right to an education because it is fundamental for human development and ultimately allows for each person to fight for their other indispensable rights.

### *If you could be someone else for a day, who would it be and why?*

**Michael:** A Foreign Service Officer- as someone who is interested in government affairs and volunteering, I think this would afford me the opportunity to experience both (and learn a thing or two about sacrifice and living abroad).

**Kaitlyn:** I would like to be the President of the United States for a day. I am not interested in a career in politics, but I feel like it would be interesting to see what it's like to handle all that responsibility and power as the leader of a nation.

### *What do you like to do in your spare time?*

**Michael:** In my spare time I enjoy learning about German culture through television and film. I've also enjoyed reading nonfiction books related to historical figures and events.

**Kaitlyn:** In my spare time, you'll mostly find me dancing with the kickline team or my dance team outside of school. I also spend time with friends and family.

### *What type of community service have you performed?*

**Michael:** I have volunteered at several local libraries and assisted in many ways. These range from helping with the Hauppauge Public Library's summer reading program to the Smithtown Public Library's annual blood drive. I've also participated in service projects with the Hauppauge HS German Club related to fundraising for local nonprofits.

**Kaitlyn:** I have done community service for Long Island Cares, in which I organized food that was donated to local families, and Junior Achievement, in which I taught elementary school students business lessons. I have also volunteered at craft fairs through the PTA and altar serve at my church. For my IB CAS project, my friend and I organized a food drive in which over 200 pounds of food were donated to Long Island Cares.

### *Do you participate in any extra-curricular activities at Hauppauge HS?*

**Michael:** German Club, History Club (former member), National Honor Society, German Honor Society.

**Kaitlyn:** Yes I am the captain of the Varsity Kickline team, Vice President of Student Council, and Secretary of the Class of 2019. I am also involved in National Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society, Science National Honor Society, and Ignition.

### *What class at Hauppauge HS had benefited you the most?*

**Michael:** IB English Language & Literature - this class encouraged me to push myself as a writer and critical thinker.

**Kaitlyn:** IB Language and Literature has benefitted me the most because the class has taught me so much about how to communicate ideas effectively and how to critically think. Even though my future is focused on science, this class will help me with my everyday life. I certainly feel as if I have overall learned how to just stay informed in today's political climate.

### *If you could go anywhere in the world, where would you go and why?*

**Michael:** I would travel to Germany. Although I haven't participated in the exchange program through Hauppauge HS, I still would love to experience life in a country that I've come to know quite a bit.

**Kaitlyn:** There are many places I would love to go, but probably the first place is Ireland. I've always wanted to travel there to experience the culture, learn about my heritage, and reconnect with distant relatives.

### *Where do you see yourself in 10 years?*

**Michael:** I see myself living a modest but meaningful life - perhaps still furthering my education in some capacity.

**Kaitlyn:** In 10 years, I see myself finishing up my schooling to become a neurologist. Following that, I would probably want to get a job in a hospital or a private practice.

A very big thank you to Michael Harrison and Kaitlyn Moleti for taking the time to answer these questions! As we can see, these two students have varied interests and career paths, but what they have in common with all of the Class of 2019 is that they are "soaring eagles!" The Hauppauge community is proud to call them our own!



# THE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING OF NOVEMBER 13TH HAD BEAUTIFUL MUSIC, RECOGNITIONS AND “A THANK YOU FOR CARING”

At the Board of Education meeting on Tuesday, November 13th, the High School Chamber Choir, under the direction of Mark Kimes, gave a beautiful vocal performance! After their performance, several of the students in the Choir were honored as having received the honor of being selected to represent Hauppauge at the 2018 NYS-SMA All-State Conference in Rochester, NY taking place November 29th through December 2nd. Thousands of students from across New York State auditioned for this opportunity last spring. The NYSSMA All-State Participants and alternates are: Christopher Arcoleo, Sophie Epstein, Angelica Zara, Gabriella Cavallaro, Christine Master, Kyla Drum, Caroline Fortmeyer, Patrick Silk, Patrick Caffrey, Rene Kozlowski, Rose Recce, Alexander Amirhamzeh. Also honored was Emily Pandal who was named “Long Island Scholar Artist.”



Board of Education NYSSMA Recognition



Dr. Donald  
Murphy

Dr. Dennis  
O'Hara

Joseph  
Tasman

Dr. Laura  
Landor

A special presentation and recognition to several of our Administrators was given. The award given was titled, “Employer Support for Guard and Reserve Award.” Presented with this special honor were Superintendent Dr. Dennis O'Hara, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Donald Murphy, Assistant Superintendent Joseph Tasman, Middle School Principal Christine O'Connor and Director of Fine and Performing Arts Dr. Laura Landor. They were thanked for their support of the military and for supporting other service members of the Hauppauge Public Schools, service to our country.

Finally, Hauppauge High School's teachers have a great partnership with “Long Island Cares” in raising money for them and the work they do. “Long Island Cares” last year supported 567 community agencies; supported 910 veterans with food, personal care

items, household supplies and pet food; provided 36,384 meals to 507 children at 15 sites through their “Pack It Up For Kids” supplemental weekend food program; provided through “Kids Cafe” sites 1,044 children with 91,427 meals; distributed 39,561 meals to 7,791 individuals through their Mobile Outreach Resource Enterprise programs and distributed 135,907 pounds of pet food through “Baxter's Pet Pantry.” Long Island Cares distributes 6.71 million pounds of food annually. Jeff Yablon, HHS Science teacher, is on their Board of Directors and is instrumental in the fundraising efforts that take place in our school district. Jeff was on hand as Hauppauge Teacher Association President, Kevin Giachetti, presented Cheryl Steinhauer, Special Events Manager for Long Island Cares, with a check for \$1,002.00. Thank you to all who participate in the fundraising activities for “Long Island Cares!”



Donation to Long Island Cares





2018 - 2019  
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