



**HAUPPAUGE SCHOOL DISTRICT • JANUARY 2018**

## **HPS Counseling is Unique and Exceptional**



Under the leadership of the Assistant to the Superintendent for Educational Services and Student Outcomes, Ms. Carolyn Probst, the counseling department of the Hauppauge Public School District is dedicated to increasing post-secondary opportunities for all students. The mission is to expand the number and variety of college acceptances and the offers received and to help open doors of find ways to make private colleges more in line with SUNY schools for affordability. Counselors work with students to understand the rationale behind considering a two-year school, a four-year school, the military, or pursuing a trade. What makes Hauppauge special is that, unlike other school districts on Long Island, the focus begins with students in the elementary schools. For more in-depth information, please, find the 1-5-2018 issue of the "Horizons On-Line Newsletter" under the "Community" tab on the District website at <https://www.hauppaugek12.ny.us>.

## ***Kicks for Cancer Has Raised Over \$300K!***

Hauppauge High School Health Teacher and Girls Varsity Coach Ms. Jessica Kulesa has been organizing an annual fundraiser for the last ten years called *Kicks for Cancer*.

Ms. Kulesa talks about how the event got started saying, "*Kicks for Cancer* began at Hauppauge High School in 2008 as a way to honor and support Courtney Tomkin, a junior that was diagnosed with brain cancer the previous spring. After we make this year's donations, we should surpass the \$300,000 donation mark. This event has become incredibly successful growing more and more each year with the help of our entire Hauppauge soccer family. The money raised by the event is split amongst The Making Headway Foundation, The American Cancer Society, The American Lung Association, The Make a Wish Foundation, The Courtney Tomkin Courage Scholarship and local families that may be suffering with a loss or diagnosis of cancer."



***To Our Community...***

**Happy New Year...enjoy all of life's best !**



## ***Superintendent's Message***

As I reflect upon how much has been accomplished over the past months, I look forward to the second half of the year with great optimism for the many exciting endeavors of our students, faculty and administrators.

I continue to spend time in each of our schools and remain proud of the effort our students and teachers put forth each day. We are fortunate to have students eager to learn and teachers eager to improve their craft. Our community remains supportive of our schools and is willing to do all we can to provide the best possible experience for our children.

It is always a joy to watch our students perform in drama productions, musicals and concerts. Additionally, our student-athletes excelled through the Fall season. Most importantly, our students are excelling in the classroom as well. Recent college-application data show students' commitment to continuing their learning beyond high school. Our students have applied early-decision/early-action in greater numbers than ever before, and are applying to more competitive institutions of higher learning. Specifically, the number of applications submitted by a November 1st deadline more than doubled from a year ago. Students across our District are on their way to becoming lifelong learners, and we expect this trend to continue to grow.

It continues to be my pleasure to serve the students and community of Hauppauge, and on behalf of the Board of Education I thank you for your support, and for partnering with us as we strive to provide our children an education that will propel them to a fulfilling life.

Please accept my best wishes for a Happy New Year as we make even greater strides in 2018!

Sincerely,  
Dennis P. O'Hara, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

## **The HHS Soccer Boys are Suffolk County Champions**



The weather was perfect on Thursday, November 2, as the Eagles' Boys Varsity Soccer Team journeyed to Islip High School to face off against the Warriors of Amityville High School in the Suffolk County Championship. The Warriors came ready to play and fought hard all game, but ultimately fell to the Eagles by the score of 2 to 1.

The eagles were well prepared going into the game thanks to the exceptional coaching of Head Coach Jamie Edson and Assistant Coach Jessica Sheehan. The coaching staff has established a

tradition of winning for the Hauppauge Soccer program. The Boys Soccer Team celebrates four years in a row as league champions. The team's record for this year was 16-2. They were undefeated in league games this season. Many players went above and beyond garnering many accolades. Matt Bogashewicz and Nick Pozo were cited as All-League players. All-Conference honors went to Shawn Coles, Tyler Grippo, Jeremy Contreras and Brett Boller. Shawn Coles and Tyler Grippo were named All-County. Shawn Coles was chosen as the League-5 Player of the Year and Tyler Grippo was the Suffolk County Championship Game MVP. Justin Rutley earned the distinction of All-County Academic.

The positive leadership and character of the coaches is augmented by the leadership within the team by the players themselves. The team captains are Jeremy Contreras, Brett Boller, Jake Tursellino and Tyler Grippo.

**Congratulations to the Boys Varsity Soccer Team on another stellar season.**



# Amazing Achievements

## Forest Brook Has the Top Reader in the Nation



**Forest Brook Principal Kristen Reingold said, “I am incredibly proud of the students’ effort and perseverance. Every one of our classes placed in the top 15 in the country.”**

This year, again, Forest Brook had the top reader in the nation. Congratulations to Katie Cimato, a fifth-grade student who read an astonishing 5,718 minutes during the challenge. Katie was also the PARP winner for the month of October.

Many students distinguished themselves with their individual reading. In fact many Forest Brook students were top twenty readers in the nation. Here are the rest of the Forest Brook students who placed individually in the top twenty:

5.Sara Coinquet - 2,472 minutes, 6.Andrew Congema - 2,356 minutes, 8.Aidan Kildale - 2,272 minutes, 10.Benjamin Galdamez - 1,901 minutes, 11.Ryan Sapugay - 1,884 minutes, 12.Jenna Romito - 1,773 minutes, 14.Brandon Reidy - 1,714 minutes, 15.Joseph Bono - 1,702 minutes, 16.Emilia DeLuca - 1,691 minutes, 19.Reagan Henselder - 1,682 minutes, 20.Emily Messana - 1,681 minutes

Forest Brook was competing against some schools that had over 500 students. Despite the smaller number of students, Forest Brook won the \$1000 in e-books prize by placing number three of all participating schools in the country.

## Bretton Woods Wins the Islanders’ Day Contest



**“Think twice and be nice!” “Act like a champion!”**

At Bretton Woods Elementary School in Hauppauge, NY these are more than words. We live out these mottos every day. Students and staff hear this message on the morning announcements and on posters throughout the school. We know that acting like a champion is not just about winning.

Members of the Bretton Woods Community Service club act like champions every week when they visit a local assisted living facility and provide companionship and conversation for the residents there. Teachers and staff model how to be nice and think twice through the Bretton Woods school mentoring program when adult mentors and their students meet monthly for games, crafts, and community service projects. The entire faculty and student body strive to live with a growth mindset by being aware that learning takes hard work and effort.

Just like the Islanders, all of us at Bretton Woods truly act like champions every day by setting goals and never, never, never giving up! We have set our goal to welcome the Islanders to Bretton Woods for an Islanders School Day! We can’t wait to wear blue, orange, and white to show our Islanders spirit and learn from professional athletes how to “think twice and be nice” and to always “act like champions.” - Ms. Fey’s Class

## Pines Coins for a Cause Challenge

The students at Pines Elementary School participated in a Coins Challenge during the week of September 25th to benefit Hurricane Relief Efforts in Houston, Florida and Puerto Rico. The Pines PTA asked students to bring in a different coin for each day of the week (Monday - pennies, Tuesday - nickels, Wednesday - dimes, Thursday - quarters, Friday - any coin they wanted). An accounting was taken for each class at the end of the week, and the students in the winning class in each grade received raffle tickets that they could use at the Fall Book Fair. Due to the overwhelming generosity and kindheartedness of its students, Pines Elementary raised over \$3800. The Pines PTA would like to thank the students and parents for making this challenge such a huge success. We are so proud of our school community for making such a tremendous difference to those in need.





# Class of 2018 Top Ten Students Named

Hauppauge High School is proud to announce the Class of 2018 Valedictorian and Salutatorian as well as to congratulate the top ten students for their hard work and outstanding academic achievements:

Valedictorian: Erin Fan  
Salutatorian: Andrew Crecca  
Sara Drake  
Jade Carvahlo  
Kevin Bie  
Robert Podmore  
Justin Grunthal  
Jade Dyer-Kennedy  
Samantha Suazo  
Justin Rutley



"These talented young women and men have demonstrated an unwavering commitment to their education," stated Principal Christine O'Connor. "The entire Hauppauge School District community is honored to congratulate them and their families on this prestigious recognition and to wish them every success as they continue their pursuit of academic excellence going forward."

## Eagles' Boys Varsity Volleyball Team Wins the Suffolk County D2 Championship



A cold soaking rain was falling outside the sports complex on the Brentwood campus of Suffolk Community College on Thursday, November 2. Inside, the weather was soon forgotten as the Eagles' Boys Varsity Volleyball team was red hot facing off against Sayville High School in a battle for the Suffolk County Championship. The Eagles swept the best of five competition with three straight wins.

Head Coach, Mr. Chris Varthalamis, had this to say about his team: "I am so very proud of our Boys Volleyball team this year. The boys found a way to overcome the many obstacles faced throughout this season. When we met in August to discuss goals, work ethics, schedule, practices, and overall commitment, they made it very clear to me that they were 'all in' as individual players and in agreement with what they would ultimately have to accept as roles for this team to succeed.

This team had the hardest schedule of all Suffolk County Volleyball teams both Division 1 and Division 2, having played the Top 6 Division 1 teams to win the Division 2 championship title. With this talent and overall commitment, it is no surprise that this team won the County Championship and represented Suffolk County in the Long Island Championship. I am so very proud of them."

## 7th Graders Gain a World of Knowledge in a Day of Discovery

On Friday, September 29th, Hauppauge Middle School hosted an Exploration Day for the entire 7th grade class. During this day students participated in a variety of stations that were created by teachers, high school students, museums, and organizations.

The stations included: Magellan's voyage, Star Lab from the Cradle of Aviation Museum, Shipbuilding, Scrimshaw, Tinsmithing, Paint from Plants, Finding our way Maps/Compasses from the Whaling Museum, Orienteering and farm animals from the Cornell Cooperative, Aquatic Touch Tank from The Waterfront Center, exploration in the Virtual World, scientific exploration, Columbian Exchange, Mariner's Quadrants, cooking, Oregon Trail, clay pots, reasons for exploration, New York explorers, and watercolors of exploration.





## Hauppauge High School Artists, Writers and Musicians are Celebrated



**David Fresolone, is a NYSTEA Playwright.** His play, "Sole Reader," will be performed at the New York State Theatre Education Association (NYSTEA) Student Theater Conference this January. Congratulations to David Fresolone and his teacher, Ruthie Pincus, on this wonderful recognition.

Hauppauge High School student-musicians were recognized by NYSSMA - three of whom represented the District at the 2017 NYSSMA Conference in Rochester, New York in December 2017. These All-State musicians were selected from thousands of students who auditioned for this honor at solo festivals held throughout New York State in spring 2016. The selection process is extremely competitive and based upon a student's superior score for NYSSMA solo auditions. Kate Tacca scored a perfect 100 on Level IV piano.

### 2017 All-State Musicians and Alternates

Patrick Caffrey, Daniel George, and Kate Tacca. - Performers. Chris Arcoleo, Evelyn Beltrani, Emily Caminiti, Rene Kozlowski, and Jillian Stern - Alternates

"Congratulations to all of our student musicians for achieving this prestigious honor for themselves as well as for Hauppauge School District," said Dr. Laura Landor, Director of Fine and Performing Arts.



**Frank Hufnagel**, a student in the High School film program, has been named a **Winner of the Long Island Scholar-Artist** program. Frank is the student of Dave Schaeffler and an extremely active member of our film and media program.

## The Hauppauge Rotary Club Honors Outstanding HHS Students

The Rotary Club is proud to select Diana and Christina Musco as the first honorees in the newly re-instated "Student of the Month" for October. The next selection was revealed at the November 29th Rotary Meeting. Katlyn Foley was honored. The December honoree is Jake Tursellino.

Rotary's programs are developing the next generation of leaders, providing funding to make the world a better place, and making peace a priority. And their programs are not just for club members.

Learn how you can make a difference in your community through Rotary. Visit <https://www.rotary.org/> Help Rotary End Polio. Visit <https://www.endpolio.org/>





## HAUPPAUGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

495 Hoffman Lane  
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Hauppauge, NY 11788

### Board of Education

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## Emergency School Closing/Delayed Opening

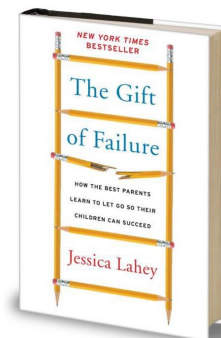
In the event that a school closing, delayed opening or early dismissal is needed due to inclement weather or hazardous road conditions, announcements will be made on the Hauppauge School District website: <http://www.hauppauge.k12.ny.us>, the Superintendent of School's Twitter feed @OHara\_HPS and on the following radio/TV stations:  
WALK (1370 AM, 97.5 FM)  
News 12 Long Island  
Verizon FIOS1 News

## DATES TO REMEMBER

January 8-12	Kindergarten Registration Packet Distribution
January 9	Board of Education Business Meeting
January 10	Middle School Science & Technology Fair
January 15	Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Schools Closed
January 17	Dr. O'Hara's Community Book Read
January 19 - 20	Middle School Musical Production Middle
January 22	Middle School Ensemble Concert
January 22- 26	Elementary/Middle School College & Career Week
January 23	Board of Education Community Meeting
January 22- 26	High School Regents, Midterms & Final Exams
January 27	LISFA Elementary Concert
February 5-9	Forest Brook Kindergarten Registration
February 6	Board of Education Business Meeting
February 12- 16	Pines Kindergarten Registration
February 19-23	Mid-Winter Recess
Feb. 26-March 2	Bretton Woods Kindergarten Registration
February 27	Board of Education Budget/Community Meeting

## Join Dr. O'Hara for a Community Book Read

Wednesday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018  
7:30PM in the James Baxter Board Room,  
Whiporwil School



Share in the joy of reading as Dr. O'Hara leads a discussion of "The Gift of Failure" by Jessica Lahey on Wednesday, January 17 at 7:30 pm.

Please, RSVP with Ms. Lyons at (631) 761-8200



## Board of Education Meetings and Presentations

The Board of Education welcomes and encourages community participation. Please, visit the District website for a list of Board of Education meeting dates and accompanying presentations. If there is any topic a community member would like to see presented at a future meeting, please send that request to [boardofed@hauppauge.k12.ny.us](mailto:boardofed@hauppauge.k12.ny.us).