

COLD SPRING HARBOR



VOLUME 39, NUMBER 5

A REPORT ON OUR SCHOOLS

SUMMER 2016

BIDDING FAREWELL...

Proclamation Presentation

Dr. Judith A. Wilansky...

Dr. Judith A. Wilansky was honored by Legislator William Spencer with a Proclamation at the Board of Education Meeting on June 14th. Presiding over her final Board of Education meeting, Dr. Wilansky is retiring after a career that spans over 30 years in education. Legislator Spencer took privilege in recounting her dedication and service to the school community, her strides in the advancement of Special Education, Foreign Language, and Health Education, and noted her hallmark achievement of district-wide emphasis on Social Emotional Development. He was proud to call her a friend, and shared, "Judy is a great leader, who is passionate, approachable, and extremely insightful." Many of the Board members shared emotional words of praise for her expertise... and gratitude - for years of advice and counsel. Anthony Paolano said, "It is simply impossible to put into words all you have done and all I would like to say...You have set the bar, and it's a high one." As the first female Superintendent to date, you have secured your mark Dr. Wilansky, and you will long be remembered for all you have achieved. Thank you for your many years of service to this District, you will be missed! □



"It is simply impossible to put into words all you have done and all I would like to say...You have set the bar, and it's a high one."

- Anthony Paolano



Farewell seniors... (Graduation spread)

Board of Ed Member Retires

The community and Board of Education bid farewell to longstanding Board member, **Robert C. Hughes**, who stepped down after nine years of service to our District, twice as Board



President. Robert has served for nearly 15 years as Town of Huntington Historian, earned his juris doctorate from Fordham Law School in 1986, and

was first elected to the school board in May 2007. August will mark his 50th year as a resident in CSH - all in the same house. His kindergarten classroom now serves as the Superintendent's office! Roberts shared, "It has been a pleasure to serve the community for the past nine years. After three terms on the Board, I think it is time to give parents who still have children in the schools a chance to carry on the great educational traditions in Cold Spring Harbor." Superintendent, Dr. Judith A. Wilansky expressed, "Mr. Hughes has been a consummate Board member and leader. His keen intelligence, sense of perspective and knowledge of governance has contributed significantly to the District's accomplishments. Moreover, he is a gentleman with a wonderful sense of humor; I have thoroughly enjoyed working with him." It is with deep appreciation that we all say goodbye. You will certainly be missed. □

Honors . . . Honors . . .

Tenure Granted

Congratulations to the following teachers and administrator who were granted tenure at the recommendation of the Superintendent at the June 14th Board of Education meeting: **Michael Bongino** (in the tenure area of Director of Physical Education Health and Athletics), **Jennifer Coniglio** (in the tenure area of L.O.T.E.), **Patricia Connolly** (in the tenure area of Business), **Christine Parent** (in the tenure area of Health), and **Ryan Towers** (in the tenure area of Social Studies). Dr. Wilansky was proud to grant tenure to Mr.



Bongino sharing, *"Mike has been a "tour-de-force" since his arrival, and his impact on district programs continues to gain momentum."* Mrs. Massimo was honored to present Ms. Coniglio with tenure, *"Starting as a part-time teacher eight years ago, she has planned curriculum for all grades in Spanish, she keeps the kids motivated, engaged and embracing the language. She chaperones concerts, helps with musicals, is a student council advisor and runs the school store!"* Mr. Matuk shared his congratulations for Ms. Patricia Connolly, who now has received tenure in both Math and Business! *"Her patience, perseverance, and willingness to innovate and experiment, are some of the many qualities that make her a superb teacher."* Although Christine Parent could not attend the meeting, Mr. Bongino highlighted that after 20 years as an elementary teacher, Ms. Parent was hired as a health teacher in 2014. He shared, *"An immediate impact occurred, she introduced interactive lessons, essential topics and lessons and she is a consummate professional."* Lastly, Mr. Matuk shared his thoughts as a fellow Social Studies teacher for Mr. Ryan Towers. *"Ryan is one of the most engaging, well-liked, earnest, thoughtful, and dedicated instructors in the building. He is a valued coach, avails himself to numerous professional training opportunities, and he loves his job."* Congratulations to all – very well deserved! □

- **Dean Safran** (5th Grade) won Best in Grade for the Tulip Festival contest *"Huntington in Bloom: A Depiction of Spring in Huntington."* Astoria Federal Savings Bank sponsors this event each year where students are encouraged to independently interpret the theme and created personal reflections of springtime in Huntington.
- **Julia Kopp** (8th Grade) won First Place in the *Huntington Youth Writes 17th Annual Youth Writing Competition 2016* for her essay *"Not What You Think."* Over 850 students entered for grades 6-8 in the essay category. Congratulations!

- **The Long Island Language Teacher's Student Foreign Language Competition** awarded first place to Lloyd Harbor 5th grader, **Hayden Calabretta** (in the category of Spanish Tongue Twister Recitation), second place to 4th grader, **Margaret Nemazi** (in the category of Spanish Poetry Recitation), and third place to 5th grader, **Gabby Emsden** (in the category of Spanish Poetry Recitation). Caroline Coyne (6th grader) received Honorable Mention (in the category of Spanish Poetry Recitation). Congratulations to all.



The Exemplary Service Award

The Exemplary Service Award was presented to **Kelley Meagher**, (Administrative Assistant Department of Human Resources) at the June 14th Board of Education meeting. Every year, at this time, the Board wishes to honor an employee who supports, with great distinction, our school community. The criteria for eligibility established in order to be considered for the

"She is kind, compassionate to her colleagues, goes above and beyond, and has a strong sense of right and wrong."

- Board President, Robert Hughes

award includes having worked in the district for at least five years, have the unanimous recommendation of the administration and the Board, and exemplify leadership and excellent character among others. Board President, Robert Hughes, was very pleased to recognize Kelley for her many years of dedication and service, and impressing everyone with her efficiency and professionalism. He shared, *"She is kind, compassionate to her colleagues, goes above and beyond, and has a strong sense of right and wrong."* Congratulations Kelley for this well-deserved honor. □

Honors . . . Honors . . .



Junior Book Awards

At the June 14th Board of Education meeting, fourteen students were presented with the class of 2017 Junior Book Awards by the Director of Guidance, Andrew Rosenberg, designated by colleges to juniors with the highest levels of academic achieve-

ment. The honors went to: **Sarah Hubner** (Brown University), **Daniel Battillo** (Clarkson University), **Joseph Hubner** (College of the Holy Cross), **Alec Israeli** (Cornell University), **Owen Toomey** (Hamilton College), **Grace Costa** (Miami University of Ohio), **Anand Subudhi** (Princeton University), **William Reed** (Rensselaer Polytechnic

Institute), **Ryan Burns** (St. Lawrence University), **Isabelle Morris** (St. Michaels College), **Mikayla Hubner** (University of Notre Dame), **Justin Antolin** (University of Rochester), **Connor Lynn** (University of Pennsylvania), **Ezra Brody** (Yale University). □

- **US News & World Report 2016 Best High Schools** ranked CSHHS #185 of 21,000 schools nationwide (top 1%), with a NY State ranking of



#34 out of 1,259 schools (top 3%), which is a GOLD status rating for the top 500 schools based on highest college readi-

ness. Principal Matuk shared, *“Congratulations and thank you to the entire staff for a job well done!”*

- **John Rey Martin**, (Grade 7) violinist was chosen to receive the **LISFA Private Study Scholarship Award** from the Long Island String Festival Association (LISFA), a professional organization that helps promote string education on Long Island. and grants several annual awards to deserving students who were invited to perform in their Honor Ensembles.

- **West Side Run:** Congratulations to 6th grader, **Will Dimaio**, and 3rd grader, **Megan Jasinski**, the school’s overall winners in the 1-mile race. Will Dimaio, also placed 1st in the 5K. Congratulations to all who participated in this year’s West Side Run! There were 254 runners. A huge thank you to committee members: Ted Hilton, Scott Bowden, Carol Solinger, Jack Sergi, Nancy Fastuca and Ana Shammah.
- **NYS AFLT Virtual Video Contest winners:** Congratulations to 6th grade students from Lloyd Harbor, **Sarah Bolton, Aidan McKean, Theodore Packert, and Lindsay Stimpfl** for winning first place with an authentic song in Spanish, with guidance from their teacher Ms. Jennifer Coniglio, Bravo! Congratulations to West Side FLES students of Ms. Tassani. The following took first place in the category of Song: **Graham Lynch, Finnegan Moriarty, and Sutton Stella**, in the category of Poetry Recitation:

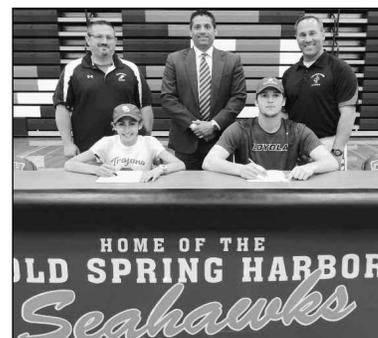
- **Alexandra Pultz**, and in the category of Authentic Speaking: **Isabelle Apostolakis**.
- **Long Island Ducks Game:** On May 28th the Lloyd “Harbortones” (select chorus) performed under the direction of Ms. Stephanie Visceglie, during the 7th inning stretch! Cold Spring Harbor families were there to enjoy the performance and an evening of fun, where the CSH Varsity Cheerleaders also were privileged to perform their routines and lead the crowd in spirit and cheer!
- **Lloyd Harbor Music Honors:** On June 3rd musical Directors Chris McKee and Rebecca Engesser and the student group the “Harbortones” attended *Music in the Parks* in Pennsylvania. They earned a rating category of “excellent” and they also won Best Overall Elementary School Chorus. Congratulations to our dedicated singers! □

Honors . . . Honors . . .



STATE CHAMPIONS!

The Boys Varsity Lacrosse NY State Class “C” Championship Team was officially honored at the Board of Education Meeting on June 14th. Congratulations to our Seahawk boys and coaches, Dennis Bonn, Christian Lynch, and Mike Hungerford for winning back-to-back State Championship Titles. Director of Athletics, Mr. Michael Bongino said, *“It is with tremendous honor that I introduce the 2016 boys lacrosse state champions. Most athletes can only dream of this accomplishment, and to attain back-to-back titles places CSH in very elite company!”* Mr. Bongino praised head coach Dennis Bonn, for instilling a commitment to excellence in his athletes leading to this achievement. □



National Letters of Intent

Seniors Daniela LoCastro and Riley Cox signed their National Letters of Intent, which is a binding agreement between the student and the Division I college. This is quite an honor, and CSHHS had two athletes this spring who earned this recognition, joined here with their coaches. Daniela will continue her athletic track & field career at USC (University Southern California), and Riley will be playing lacrosse at Loyola University in Maryland. Congratulations!

HUNTING-TONY AWARDS

Congratulations to **Theodora Segal**, who tied for Best Female Vocalist for her performance in “Jekyll & Hyde.” The sixth annual ceremony was held at the Engemann Theater on June 6th sponsored by Town of Huntington Councilwoman Susan Berland and Councilman Mark



Cuthbertson, who shared, *“This awards ceremony celebrates the dedication, talent and hard work exhibited by all of the students involved in their high school productions.”*

Timothy Sherlock sang a powerful rendition of “This is the Moment” from Jekyll & Hyde, sharing the stage with so many talented students from nine high schools in our local area. Congratulations to all.... □



• **Music Honors: Wind Ensemble Director, Dr. Gerald Felker, and Chamber Orchestra Director, Mr. Timothy Jenks**, were proud to congratulate their students for their outstanding performances at the New York State Music School Association Major Organization Evaluation Festival at Hofstra University on May 17. Each groups’ performance was evaluated by visiting adjudicators who rewarded the Wind Ensemble with a rating of Silver and the Chamber Orchestra, Gold. Hats off to these fine young musicians.

Honors . . . Honors . . .



• **The Harbor View wins 1st prize for best High School newspaper** from the annual *Press Club Society of Long Island’s Journalists* competition! They tied with Elmont HS, and were honored at a ceremony in June. Mr Matuk shared, *“This is truly a wonderful achievement, and I am very proud of the students and advisors, Joyce Schmieder and Karen Uhl-Smith!”* (photo: Karen Uhl-Smith, Peter Markotsis, Sarah Kopp, Brittany McGowan, and Joyce Schmieder)



• **John Sepanski and Lauren Paolano** were the recipients of the 2016 *Town of Huntington Scholar Athlete Award*, presented to student athletes that exemplify excellence in the classroom and in athletics.

• **Seahawk Devin Burdo** – was the recipient of the James C. Metzger Leadership Award at the Nassau County boys lacrosse championship game. Burdo is a senior goaltender, who earned the award for the characteristics of tenacity, honesty, commitment and positive attitude. This award is presented to one player on each of the six teams that compete for the Nassau County title. □

Congratulations to the 2016 Long Island Press High School **Journalism Award winners:** **Emily Krusos** (1st place Q&A *“Former CSH Graduate Inducted Into Athletics Hall of Fame,”* **Sarah Rush** (1st place Q&A *“AIDS Awareness With Mr. Homer,”* Madison **Ugan** (1st place Comic Strip) *“Valentine’s Day Cookies,”* **Alec Israeli** (2nd place Opinion Piece School) *“Honestly, I Don’t Care If White Gowns Are Pretty,”* **Brittany McGowan, Sarah Kopp, Shannon Gallagher, and McLean Carlin** (2nd place School Spirit) *“Homecoming 2015,”* **Alec Israeli** (3rd place Education-National Issues) *“High Pressure, High Profits: The Pressure of Standardized Testing”*

ASSET Award

On May 25th the Association of Suffolk Supervisors for Educational Technology (ASSET) held its annual scholarship luncheon, and honored Dr. Judith A. Wilansky on the occasion of her retirement. Director of Technology, John Contess, stated *“Dr. Judith Wilansky is retiring as Superintendent of Schools at Cold Spring Harbor after more than 35 years in education. Dr. Wilansky’s dedication to the students was evident in her strategic planning and everyday actions. She has tirelessly defended the rights of students and expanded the district’s offerings to enrich the educational experience of every child. Her support of various*



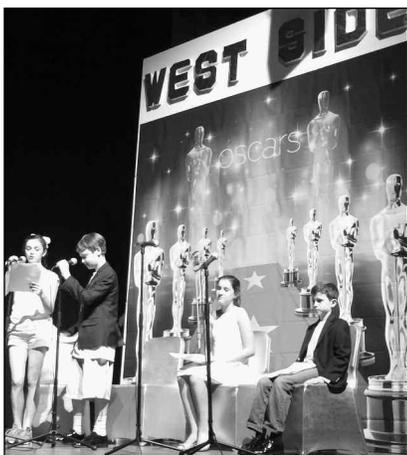
projects to improve teaching and learning, many of them technology-enabled, has been invaluable in moving the district forward. These initiatives of promoting online and blended learning, individualized instruction, and others have gone a long way towards changing education in a very positive and necessary way. Dr. Wilansky’s leadership will certainly be missed. We wish her well in the next phase of her adventure!” □

“Dr. Wilansky’s dedication to the students was evident in her strategic planning and everyday actions. She has tirelessly defended the rights of students and expanded the district’s offerings to enrich the educational experience of every child....”

West Side . . . West Side . . .

Grab your Partner!

West Side: *Roll that girl and Half-Sashay!* The annual tradition of learning to Square Dance at West Side continues for 6th grade students and their teachers, where they practice for weeks during Physical Education classes prior to the culminating event at the historic George Weir Barn at Caumsett, Lloyd Neck. Weeks of practice certainly paid off, as *do-si-do's* and *promenades* proved to be a piece of cake for these young professionals who were amazing to watch. Congratulations to the yellow team who were crowned victors of the event. □



West Side Talent Show: *What an electrifying night shared by all at the 2016 West Side Talent Show held on stage at the PAC on May 14th. With approximately 110 performers and student crew members, the night belonged to them. They were all stars from the littlest 2nd graders to graduating 6th graders! Thanks to Ms. Martin and the NYSSMA singers who did a beautiful job opening the show with the National Anthem. A huge thanks to Mr. Simon, Mrs. Weiss, Mrs. Dussol, Mrs. Manniello, Mrs. Ruhl, Mrs. Sposato, all the volunteers and the WSSPTG for all your help, and the community for supporting this spectacular event which allows children of all ages to express themselves through the performing arts.*



International Day

West Side: *On May 20th third graders participated in the third annual International Day festivities. Congratulations to all of the students who worked tirelessly to put on such a fantastic show, which included a parade of flags, folk songs and procession of nations. Special thanks to Dr. Dawkins, Mr. Farmer, Ms. Martin, Ms. Tassoni, Ms. Balzano, Mr. L'Hommedieu and Mr. Yost for their collaboration on such a wonderful event.* □

Camp Out

West Side: *What an incredible tradition that carries on at West Side! It was a perfect warm weather evening on June 4th for a circle of tents that united families who gather each year for a barbecue, music, popcorn & cotton candy, games, a movie on the lawn and a campfire with s'mores. For those that managed to get some sleep, breakfast was served for sleepover guests. FUN!* □



Annual Field Trip to Philadelphia *took place on May 6th for the 4th graders and their parents from Lloyd Harbor and West Side. Students spent weeks planning their own itineraries, learning about historic landmarks and mapping out walking tours to lead their parents through the city as they continue to learn about the founding of our country. Thank you to all of the parents who attended and helped chaperone this very special and beloved trip.* □



Goosehill Primary . . . Goosehill Primary . . . Goosehill Primary . . . Goosehill Primary . . .



Moving Up

With just six weeks remaining in the school year, Principal, Lynn Herschlein has begun the process of preparing students for the transition to the next school year. The ability to deal with change is an important skill for children to develop. All change, whether it's the end of the school year or the move to a new home, brings some uncertainty as well as anticipation and excitement. The goal is to provide opportunities that will help our students understand the upcoming changes and feel comfortable asking questions and sharing any concerns they may have. First graders visited West Side and Lloyd Harbor Schools on June 6th riding on the "big bus" to their new schools where they had a tour and spent time in the second grade classrooms. Mrs. Herschlein shared, *"Our first grade teachers are very skilled at helping the children feel comfortable about moving on to second grade. They answer their questions about each of the schools and assure them that they are ready to "move up."* The teachers acknowledge that the children may be sad that some of their friends will be attending a different school and reassure them that they will continue to have good friends in their new schools. □

Reading Buddies

The Goosehill "Reading with my Buddy" program is a favorite experience for Kindergartners who get to visit first grade classrooms and see a glimpse of next year's teachers and their transition ahead. First graders have the opportunity to feel like they are ready to graduate from Primary School, showing their reading skills and helping their younger classmates as they buddy-up with a partner to read to each other books of their choice. These quiet moments, one-on-one, are very special, meaningful... and adorable! □



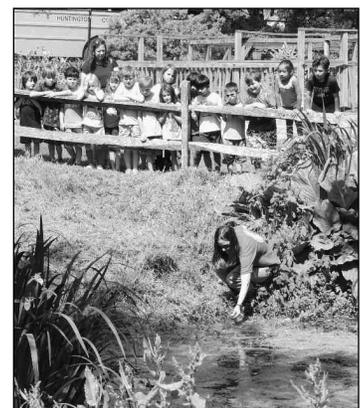
Nature Hike

Goosehill: *"What's that I see?"* As part of the Kindergarten *Soils Investigation Program*, the children enjoyed a nature walk on May 26th at the Cold Spring Harbor Fish Hatchery. The walk was designed to reinforce concepts the students had learned during the year, such as the difference between nonliving and living things and the interdependence of each living organism in the aquatic environment. □



Saying Goodbye

Goosehill: The annual **"releasing of the turtles"** occurred on June 1st at the CSH Fish Hatchery, with Environmental Educator, Krissy Forman. First Graders waved goodbye as they watched their classroom turtle swim away in the lower spring pond. It's an emotional time, after caring for their "Eastern Painted Turtles" all year, feeding them each day, studying their habitats and life-cycles, and watching them grow from approximately 1" to 3" in size. Thank you to the CSH Fish Hatchery for this wonderful year-long educational experience! □



Lloyd Harbor . . . Lloyd Harbor . . .

Think Globally

At **Lloyd Harbor** 5th graders worked on a project culminating with the celebration of Earth Day. Science teachers, Ms. Wetzel and Ms. Barrese, began researching different environmental concerns facing countries all across the globe as part of an Earth Day theme. It soon became clear it was easy to combine this curriculum with a Social Studies unit that inspired students to “*Think globally, but act locally.*” Students researched articles in *Time for Kids* magazines looking at countries, cultures, and environments. Students used their iPads to research and choose one problem the different countries are facing and the solutions the countries are implementing to address those concerns. Casey learned, “*France had a terrible water pollution problem, and they passed a law to protect against industrial contamination.*” Eva discovered, “*Kenya’s lion population was decreasing, so they created protected national park areas for the lions.*” Julia leaned, “*Ethiopia was running out of water, so they built a damn to collect rain water.*” Nicholas was surprised to learn, “*The coral reefs in the Philippines are very polluted, and scientists convinced the government to study them and learn how to protect and care for them.*” All the students proudly displayed their “problems and solutions” projects in the hallway – fascinating! □



Safety Patrol

Lloyd Harbor: Mrs. Burmeister and Mrs. Schnurr are proud to introduce a new program called the *Safety Patrol*. The Patrol includes 5th and 6th grade volunteers who have demonstrated strong leadership skills, and are serving as role models for their peers. Each day, the patrol members walk the halls looking to spot students doing the right thing. Many students are complimented for their behavior and their names are entered in a weekly raffle. Each week, Mrs. Massimo does the raffle drawing live on the LH TV Morning News, and the selected student receives a gift certificate to the Lloyd Harbor School Store. The goal of this program is to maintain a respectful and healthy climate for students and teachers alike at Lloyd Harbor. □

You’ve Got Mail

Lloyd Harbor: Sadly, hand-written letters have become a lost art. Fortunately, Mrs. Caputo’s 4th graders held onto tradition for their annual pen-pal project by doing it the old-fashioned way – with paper and pen! Throughout the school year students wrote letters (for the most part to their grandparents) and mailed them out to their pen-pals. In May, the class hosted a celebration with their pen-pals, many of whom traveled from great distances to attend. Together they created a book that contrasted the pen-pal’s lives, with that of the students, comparing favorite books, movies, songs, how they traveled to school, and when they were born. Everyone enjoyed getting together and sharing special memories, along with lots of hugs and kisses! A great time was had by all, and it all started with a few written lines on a small piece of paper. . .Happy Writing! □



Anti-Bullying Day at MSG: On May 24th fifth graders boarded the LIRR, some for the first time, to travel into Penn Station to see the NY Liberty Women’s Basketball Team play at Madison Square Garden. This wasn’t just an ordinary basketball game; the half time presentation was an amazing Anti-Bullying show. Author, Aija Mayrock, of *The Survival Guide to Bullying*, rapped about her experiences with bullying and how she survived the ordeal. Only a teenager when she wrote her book, she impressed and awed the audience of several hundred children and adults. Students also learned how to navigate the LIRR and Penn Station, how to behave and interact as a fan at MSG, and most importantly, they learned there are people who have been bullied, and have risen to overcome it. Students wore special t-shirts that read... *With us, No Bullies Allowed (WNBA)*! □



Mary Poppins: 6th graders at Lloyd Harbor School continue to delight audiences each year during their spring musical performance; this year’s cast of *Mary Poppins*, under the direction of Chris McKee, was amazing - the songs, costumes, set design and overture band were truly enchanting!

Technology Abounds!

At the third annual *Ed Tech Showcase* it is clear that technology is thriving in Cold Spring Harbor and students are showing us the way! Booth after booth of demonstrations by over 120 students and faculty exhibited a myriad of technology-enabled learning, from Robotics, Glogsters, Media, iPad apps and instruction, digital storytelling and videos, 3D printing and more. The event was spearheaded by Director of Technology, John Contess, and supported by The CSH Educational Foundation. Mr. Contess shared, *“Thank you to the CSH community for stopping by on May 17th to experience a small sample of the variety of technology students are using in the classroom. And thank you to the students and teachers for the demonstrations and showing us how it’s done!”* □



SWWAT

Club advisor and health education teacher, Mr. Chris Homer, continues to educate students on good decision making and against the fight on tobacco, alcohol and drug abuse. Many of you may think that SWWAT (Students Waging War Against Tobacco) is a nationwide or state affiliated program. Come to find out... it's a one of kind program based right here in CSH. Fifteen years ago, Mr. Homer would ask students, *“Why do you smoke?” “What do you think we could do here to make kids stop smoking?”* One student suggested, *“How about starting a club?”* Mr. Homer brainstormed and came up with the acronym SWWAT, and hence a new club was born. The student's love Mr. Homer, and share his passion in the fight against substance abuse; together they have made an amazing impact on the students of CSHHS. Students in every grade are members, and a select few travel to the elementary schools 5th & 6th grade classes, (as well as the 7th grade health classes) every year to mentor young kids who are the targets of million-dollar advertising campaigns. Thank you to all the SWWAT members! □

Newly Elected

Board of Education Member

Please welcome our newest member to the Board of Education, Ms. Lizabeth Squicciarini. Liz and her husband, Robert, have lived in Lloyd Harbor since 2008 and have four children, Robert Jr., Emily, Brian and Alexa. Liz has been an active parent in CSH, having served as co-Vice President and Secretary on the CFA Board, a CPC representative for the Jr./Sr. High and an active supporter and member of the CSH Educational Foundation. Growing up one of six children of a Registered Nurse and NYC Firefighter, Liz shared, *“I watched firsthand the struggles and sacrifices my parents made for us. I understand the responsibility of being a Board Member and I will make sure your money is spent wisely and in the best interest of our students and community.”* □



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COLD SPRING HARBOR CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

75 Goose Hill Road
Cold Spring Harbor, N.Y. 11724

www.csh.k12.ny.us

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*The "Lloyd Harbortones"
won best overall elementary
school chorus at Music in the
Parks in Pennsylvania.*



Paying it Forward

The Varsity Baseball team, along with Major League Baseball Players Trust held a school-supply drive. Students in the junior high school cleaned out their lockers and donated all gently used school supplies. The boy's baseball team organized the supplies and packaged them for shipping to a school in need. The team is this years' Action Team that commits itself to community service, the main focus of the Major League Baseball Players Trust. They are part of a national effort that organizes and implements opportunities for classmates to give back to their school and local community. Coach Rich Greeney and Captains Luke Doyle and Austin McCormack rallied the team as they stayed after school on the last day of classes. Donations filled nearly 10 boxes this year!



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YouTube: CSH Hawk Talk (Jr./Sr. High Daily Announcements)



The final march...



Reflection Speakers: Tamanna Bhatia, Justin Relf, Sophia Kalinowska-Werta and Timothy Sherlock.



The Graduates of 2016

The fifty-third commencement was held on June 12th as the graduates marched to the stage for their final farewell. Principal, Jay Matuk, congratulated the class of 2016 on this crowning achievement in their academic careers, as they look forward to their future hopes and dreams. Following tradition in CSH, there were four *Reflection Speakers* this year. The first was Tamanna Bhatia, who said she entered the “countdown” to graduation on her cell phone in September while enjoying all the perks of being senior; including knowing the best classes to take, the best delis to visit, and realizing soon the comfort and familiarity of home and friends will be left behind. Justin Relf spoke next about what it means to be a student at CSH, “*Expect to work hard, and you will learn a lot.*” He spoke of personal tragedy, and the influence of teachers, the Guidance department, and friends. His wish for his classmates was to “*Stay close to the ones you love; they will always have your back. And, keep up with your wellness, never despair, and always find hope.*” Sophia Kalinowska-Werter looked back at her years in junior high of feeling like a misfit, and longing to escape. She shared, “*It took a tragedy to know what I have, each person here is amazing...they go the extra mile without even having to ask.*” She concluded, “*Wherever I go, I know there will be infinite possibilities.*” The last *Reflection Speaker* was Timothy Sherlock, who noted all students here know how to perform! Be it on the fields, in the classroom, on the stage, or in front of a podium, he quoted Shakespeare “*All the world’s a stage.*” He shared this senior class ensemble will soon be taking a different stage, and asked them to remember, “*Don’t be distracted by the critics. Go off script and try something new! Rely on your supporting cast, they will always be in the front row.*” Superintendent, Judith A. Wilansky, gave her final graduation speech, as her retirement draws near. She spoke of “gratitude” and how wonderful it is here in CSH. Unlike many towns, it is a cultural norm in our community for students to say thank you, so, “*Thank you parents, you have taught your children well.*” She quoted many studies on practicing gratitude, and it is proven that those who do – are much happier in their lives. She asked, “*Learn to look at the world through grateful eyes. It is easy to be distracted, and not a badge of honor to be busy.*” In closing, Dr. Wilansky shared a quote from Maya Angelou, “*This is a wonderful day, I’ve never seen it before.*” Congratulations class of 2016 – and please come back and visit!



The caps of their future....



JT Sepanski performed “Clarinet Sonata”



Brittany McGowan sang the National Anthem

