



COLD SPRING HARBOR CSD • A LOOK INSIDE OUR SCHOOLS

CONNECTIONS

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Homecoming 2021

A COMMUNITY CELEBRATION

Starting with the pep rally which brought everyone together in anticipation of the big game, homecoming 2021 was an event to remember. It was a perfect opportunity for everyone to show their school spirit and community pride. The outpouring of community family support was boundless, the energy was electrifying, and the Seahawks pulled off a 40-6 victory against Island Trees.

A highlight of this year's homecoming was the opportunity for so many student-athletes to showcase their talents at pregames including volleyball, soccer, field hockey and tennis which filled the campus all afternoon. Inside the Athletics Booster Club tent, dinner was served with entertainment prior to kickoff. The line at the Seahawk Snack Shack concession stand never ended, and the Cold Spring Harbor youth flooded the track for flag football and a run around the track during half time. Thank you to our Director of Athletics, Mike Bongino, and all the coaches for a wonderful night. Congratulations to coach Mendreski and the team on their win. It was truly a family fun evening for all to enjoy and share community pride.



A Message from Your Superintendent

Since joining the Cold Spring Harbor community, I have met many of our students and their families at various events. From our classrooms to sporting events, honor society inductions, academic recognitions and extracurricular activities, we hit the mark! It is important to recognize the many achievements of our hardworking students and staff as they showcase their accomplishments throughout the district.



This year, we have welcomed a new team of administrators who are working diligently to build relationships, share new ideas and create a path forward. Special thanks to our veteran staff for supporting us in this time of transition. We are already on our way to achieving the district goals approved by the Board of Education at the start of the school year. Our work toward accomplishing these goals requires collaboration and a shared vision. To empower our students to reach their full potential, it is imperative that we attend to these goals and review them regularly. For your reference, they can be found on the district website, www.csh.k12.ny.us.

Communication is essential, and we are striving to better connect with our students, parents and families. We are working on our website and hope to see some significant improvements during the next few months. Assistant Superintendent for Counseling, Student Services and Human Resources Ms. Mona Hecht has hosted a College Application Process workshop for our seniors, a College Financial Aid Night and parent/student workshops. Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction Ms. Genevieve LaGattuta and Director of STEM Ms. Kim Libertini have hosted three math nights for the parents of elementary students. Our goal is to continue to provide comprehensive information in a timely manner.

We remain committed to reviewing our COVID-19 plans and practices to ensure the health and safety of our students and staff. Despite the daily attention to our protocols, students have been involved in many activities, including both in-person and virtual field trips. We have also been fortunate to host guest presenters through our cultural arts organizations which greatly benefit our students. As well, one of the gifts of the holiday season is our band, orchestra and choral concerts which bring such joy to our families.

As we enter the holiday season, I am appreciative of the outreach and the gift of relationships our team is developing. Wishing you all the blessings of the season, peace and good health in the New Year.

Sincerely,
Jill M. Gierasch
Superintendent of Schools

Preparing To Excel IN THE 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR

Professional Development Enhances Instruction

Superintendent's Conference Days were held in advance of students arriving to start the new school year. The district welcomed back staff and offered a plethora of professional development training sessions which will continue throughout the school year. Below are a few of the professional development training programs:

Literacy and Vocabulary Grades 2-6

Ongoing professional development will take place with the district's Teachers College Reading and Writing consultant. The first session focused on the importance of developing authentic opportunities to expand students' knowledge and understanding of vocabulary. Techniques including the use of read-aloud books will encourage students to build upon their vocabulary by including words they hear and include them in their own oral language and writing.



Responsive Classrooms Grades K-6

Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction Genevieve LaGattuta introduced the first presentation in a series entitled Responsive Classroom. This professional development initiative, previously shared with building leaders and pupil personnel services staff in grades K-6,



focused on the social-emotional learning development of students by introducing a variety of strategies and instructional activities. Teacher assistants and aides participated in social-emotional learning professional development through Responsive Classroom in 2020; however, the expansion of this initiative for instructional staff in grades K-6 was postponed until now due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Responsive Classroom training includes evidence-based practices designed to help students develop their academic, social and emotional skills in a safe and healthy learning environment that is developmentally responsive to their strengths and needs. This program focuses on the students' need to develop social-emotional competencies, including assertiveness, cooperation, empathy, responsibility and self-control, as well as academic competencies, including academic mindset, academic behaviors, learning strategies and perseverance.

After the initial presentation, teachers explored the books "Yardsticks" and "Elementary Core Course" to discuss the continuum of development in students. Throughout the school year, professional development will consist of in-person and virtual workshops and the discussion of materials designed to support the understanding of Responsive Classroom practices for art, music, physical education and other specialty areas.

New Staff Welcomed Into Mentor Program

Each year an orientation is held to welcome and acclimate new staff to the district and introduce them to the culture of the community. In August, new teachers had an opportunity to hear from veteran teaching staff, engage in hands-on practices designed to inspire a sense of teamwork and partnership, meet with leaders of curriculum and instruction, and hear from the administrative team along with Amelia Walsh Brogan, president of the Board of Education. The orientation is one part of a larger district initiative aimed at providing in-depth assistance and guidance to all new teachers throughout the tenure process. The New Teacher Mentoring Program was established in 2017 and has continued to provide support, which includes a mentoring handbook, monthly meetings and classroom visits. Learning from fellow colleagues and administrators not only enhances the curriculum, but provides continued support, the understanding of expectations and long-term success for both students and teachers. The mentoring program includes approximately 50 new and seasoned staff, under the direction of Superintendent of Schools Jill M. Gierasch, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction Genevieve LaGattuta and New Teacher Mentor Co-Coordinators Trish Sihksnel and Chris Homer.

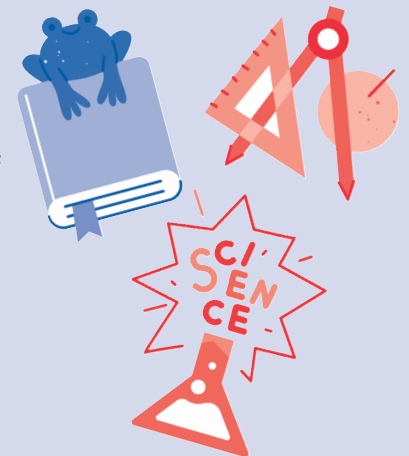


Photo (from the left going up): Chris Homer, co-coordinator, Mentor Program; Amanda Segale, HS orchestra; Jaclyn Seery, grade 4; Kathleen Comerford, grade 1; Kim Sloan, grade 1; Jennifer Okean, HS reading; Nicole Kossefis, speech; Nicole Benincasa, special education; Gianna Andreacchi, grade 1; Trish Sibksnel, co-coordinator, Mentor Program. Not in photo: Patty Connolly, HS mathematics and special education, and Andrew Isaacson, world languages.

SCHOOL CLUBS OFFER OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE, LEARN AND GROW

What better way to make new friends, share your talents and learn new skills than to be part of an after-school club or activity. When the school day ends, there are multiple opportunities for students to engage in clubs and activities that encourage community service, teach a new skill or challenge the mind, and where students can enjoy meeting and making new friends. The following clubs and activities are just some of the ways students can stay connected after school. Membership to these clubs is still open for those interested in joining. Students should speak with their guidance counselor for more information.

1. Amnesty International
2. Animal Rescue
3. Art Club
4. Baking for a Cause
5. Book Club
6. Chess Club
7. Citizenship Room
8. Coffeehouse Jam
9. Computer Science Club
10. Debate and Forensic Club
11. Drama Club
12. Environmental Club
13. Fashion Club
14. Federal Reserve Challenge
15. French Club
16. Gay-Straight Alliance
17. HS Choir and Jazz Singers
18. Improv/Comedy
19. International Club
20. International Thespian Society
21. Jr. High Jazz Ensemble
22. Jr. High Mock Trial
23. Locks of Love
24. Mathletes – Jr. High
25. Mathletes – Sr. High
26. Model Congress
27. Music Club
28. National Honor Society
29. Natural Helpers
30. Newspaper
31. Peer Mentor
32. Pep Band
33. Pep Club Student Booster
34. Photography Club
35. Robotics
36. SADD/SWATT
37. Science Club
38. Science Olympiads
39. Social Action Club
40. Spanish Club
41. Sr. High Jazz Ensemble
42. Sr. High Literacy Magazine
43. Student Government
44. Technology Club
45. Think Tank
46. Tri-M
47. Yearbook – Jr. High
48. Yearbook – Sr. High
49. Warhammer Club
50. Women in Science and Engineering



Spotlight On Student Achievements

Only a few months into the 2021-2022 school year, and our students are already being recognized for their outstanding achievements that bring pride to our school district and community. The Board of Education, Superintendent of Schools Jill M. Gierasch, administrators and staff congratulate these students on their amazing accomplishments and prestigious recognitions. Their commitment and dedication to success is commendable and serves as an example for those students following in their footsteps. It should be noted that admission into national honor societies is only offered to students who meet rigorous national criteria and have also demonstrated success on the local school district level.

National Merit Semifinalist

Officials of the National Merit Scholarship Program have selected Cold Spring Harbor High School senior Caitlin M. Roberts as a 2022 National Merit Scholarship Semifinalist. This prestigious honor is awarded to students who show exceptional academic ability and potential for success in rigorous college studies. Nationwide, semifinalists represent less than 1% of U.S. high school seniors and includes the highest-scoring entrants in each state.

Roberts, who moved to the United States with her family from England when she was seven years old, excels beyond the classroom. She is a recognized AP Scholar with Distinction; plays violin in the high school's symphony and pit orchestra; is a member of the Computer Science, Marine Bio and Robotics clubs and is an inducted member of the National Honor Society, National Spanish Honor Society and Tri-M Music Honor Society. She is also an accomplished gymnast performing at the highest level.



National Merit Semifinalist Caitlin M. Roberts (seated center) along with the 14 Class of 2022 National Merit Commended Students.

14 National Merit Commended Students

The Class of 2022 now includes 14 members who have been designated as Commended Students in the 67th annual National Merit Scholarship Program. This nationally acclaimed academic recognition is awarded to students who show exceptional academic ability and potential for success in rigorous college studies. During the fall of their junior year, students nationwide take the qualifying PSAT/NMSQT. Of the approximately 1.5 million entrants, 50,000 students with the highest Selection Index Scores qualify for recognition in the National Merit Scholarship Program. Approximately 34,000 students receive a Letter of Commendation in recognition of their outstanding achievement and academic potential.

The following Cold Spring Harbor High School students are the recipients of the Letter of Commendation from the National Merit Scholarship Program: Isabelle Apostolakos, Heather Baxter, Andrew Brancato, Harry Jones, Fraser Lintott, Mackenzie Murray, Andrew Richmond, Annabel Shen, Cameron Starkins, Charles Tauckus, Paige Thompson, Thomas Tsekerides, Madison Wagner and Jessica Wang.

Record-Breaking Number Of Inductees Into Tri-M Music Honor Society

Thirty-one members of the Class of 2022 were inducted into the prestigious Tri-M Music Honor Society. This year's number of inductees breaks the district's record and raises the bar for student-musicians aspiring to achieve the same honorable goal. The Tri-M Music Honor Society is the only national music honor society for students in the country. Tri-M was formerly known as Modern Music Masters.

The inductees were chosen based on the following criteria:

participation in a district music program and a four-year commitment to scholarship, character, cooperation, leadership and service. Congratulations to the following inductees: Isabelle Apostolakos, Megan Avallone, Heather Baxter, Sarah Bolton, Andrew Brancato, Camden Carswell, Kayleigh Corcoran, Caroline Coyne, Michael Degnan, Andrew Eoanidis, Gabrielle Garra, Garret Geraci, Melanie Golden, Riley Haskell, Mathew Hastava, Lily

Hooghuis, Fraser Lintott, Andrew Noueihed, Theodore Packert, Kathleen Posillico, Hanna Richmond, Caitlin Roberts, Jackie Shammah, Casey Schneider,

Rebecca Schmitz, Annabel Shen, Sophia Shen, Sofia Smith, Lilli Terry, Thomas Tsekerides and Madison Wagner.



Student-Artists Enter The District's History Books

Fifty-six exceptionally talented student-artists were inducted into the prestigious National Art Honor Society during a ceremony held in the Performing Arts Center at Cold Spring Harbor High School. The stage, designed to showcase the students' artwork, served as the background for the traditional candle lighting ceremony. These inductees represented the highest number of students to achieve this honor in the district's history.

The National Art Honor Society was established by the National Art Education Association in 1978 to distinguish student-artists in grades 9-12 who achieved a 90% average or higher in art classes; earned one year of credit in art; received two teacher recommendations; completed eight hours of arts-related community service; maintained a B average in other subject areas; and have not served in-school or out-of-school suspension.



Scholar-Athletes Achieve Their Dreams

It was an exciting day at Cold Spring Harbor High School as seven outstanding student-athletes signed their official national letters of intent. Years of hard work and dedication perfecting their skills on the competitive athletic field paid off for these exceptionally talented athletes who will now continue to play sports on the collegiate level.

Congratulations to the following student-athletes: Max Hawkinson (Rutgers/lacrosse), Grace Kiernan (Fairfield University/lacrosse), Drew Munn (Central Connecticut/baseball), Jesse Phelan (Dartmouth/lacrosse), Patrick Pisano (Yale/lacrosse), Jackson Polo (University of Pennsylvania/wrestling) and Ava Tighe (University of Florida/lacrosse).

In addition, Garrett Geraci (Pace University/lacrosse) will be continuing his athletic career at the Division II collegiate level. Three athletes will be continuing their athletic careers at the Division III collegiate level, including Franny Donohue (Williams College/lacrosse), Gillian Will (Swarthmore College/lacrosse) and Spencer Will (Amherst College/lacrosse).



World Language Honor Society Boasts 75 New Members

Cold Spring Harbor High School expanded its membership in the World Language Honor Society when it inducted 75 new members, 19 French language students and 56 Spanish language students, into the prestigious honor society.

Prior to their induction, World Language Department Chairperson Sandra Rivadeneyra and teachers focused on the importance of language learning beyond the classroom. During the induction ceremony, keynote speaker Sarah Lynch, a district alumna, shared her amazing journey into the francophone world and how she incorporates her knowledge of languages and cultural awareness into her everyday life. Those in attendance also enjoyed student performances by Zoe Abelson, Annabelle Coles, Gabrielle Garra, Annabel and Sophia Shen and Amber Zhou, who shared their incredible talents incorporating their foreign language skills.

Each inductee received a graduation cord in the colors of their respective languages that they will wear on their graduation day. Congratulations! ¡Felicidades! Felicitações!



Elementary Foreign Language Program Earns State Recognition

The New York State Association of Foreign Language Teachers has recognized the district with the 2021 Sally G. Hahn Memorial Outstanding FLES Program Award for its outstanding foreign language in the elementary schools' program and exemplary examples of students' work and performance. The goal of the district's FLES program is for students to acquire early proficiency in listening and speaking, which in turn forms the basis for more advanced foreign language study in middle school and high school.

Some outstanding examples of the elementary schools FLES program include interdisciplinary instruction throughout the district across disciplines, including art, music and physical education. It was noted that student work was not merely posted to bulletin boards, but included QR codes enabling parents and fellow students to see and hear the voice of the author-artist. Students also presented at the Association of Suffolk Supervisors for Educational Technologies conference and demonstrated their foreign language skills during Cold Spring Harbor High School's annual technology fair. World Language Department Chairperson Sandra Rivadeneyra officially accepted the award during the annual conference awards banquet in Saratoga Springs, New York.



The Board of Education and administration would like to thank the teachers and staff who work tirelessly to educate and inspire all students to achieve their fullest potential.

INSIDE Our Schools

A LOOK INSIDE GOOSEHILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Annual Family Festivities Kick Off Another Great Year

What better way to bring everyone together than to celebrate with their annual picnic. It was a memorable day filled with activities as students, siblings and families participated in carnival games and enjoyed the popcorn vendor, pizza and frozen slushies. Laughter could be heard coming from the playground, and the smiles reflected how much everyone enjoyed the day. Thank you to the Goosehill PTG for sponsoring this event.



Turtles Visit Goosehill And Decide To Stay

The amphitheater located behind the school's playground was filled with excitement as the first grade students awaited the arrival of their very own classroom turtles. Cold Spring Harbor Fish Hatchery educator Krissy Forman arrived ready to teach both students and teachers how to properly care for their new red-bellied turtles.



In May, the students will visit the fish hatchery to release

their turtles into the turtle pond. Goosehill wishes to thank the Cold Spring Harbor Fish Hatchery for this one-of-a-kind science program and yearlong collaboration which has been part of the first grade curriculum for several years. The first challenge is what to name their turtles!

A Great Way To Start The Day

Teachers are utilizing the skills they learned during the district's professional training sessions on Responsive Classroom to enhance learning experiences for their students. Students in Kathleen Comerford's class start their day in their morning classroom circle time where they greet each other in different languages of their choosing, listen to what they each have to say, dance to shake out their extra energy and establish clear expectations for appropriate classroom behavior. In Gianna Andreatchi's class students play their favorite Responsive Classroom game called Woosha, where students stand in a circle and guess whose name will be called next to pose. The person with the most correct guesses is the winner. When the Responsive Classroom exercises are completed, students begin their day refreshed and focused on learning.



A LOOK INSIDE LLOYD HARBOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Ensuring All Students Become Upstanders

Gone are the days when school focused solely on the three R's. Today, so many R's have become part of the curriculum, including respect, responsibility and doing the right thing. During National Bullying Prevention Month in October, the focus was on helping students do the "r"ight thing. The mental health staff, Student Council, School Improvement Team and peer mentors supplemented daily classroom routines with increased opportunities to highlight core values, referred to as the school's HIKER values, including honesty, inclusivity, kindness, empathy and respect.



October's word of the month was "upstander," which was included in daily news programs and the quote of the week. The School Improvement Team selected the book "One," written by Kathryn Otoshi, which was read in classrooms to support the upstander message. The importance of being an upstander came to life through posters created by Student Council officers and ambassadors. The creative minds at Lloyd Harbor also produced two videos to underscore the school's values. Sixth grade peer mentors starred in a video sharing why kindness

matters everywhere, and four fourth grade students created a video showing the importance of including children who may otherwise be left out.

During the final week of October, daily activities included students reviewing their class charters, which highlight classroom values and beliefs; wearing blue to show support for being upstanders; signing and wearing a student-created sticker pledging to be an upstander; and airing the two student-produced videos.

With an underlying sense that Lloyd Harbor School is a safe place, where students are expected to respect others and feel respected by others, students emerge feeling both academically and socially successful and prepared to make their own world and the larger world a better place.

Hands-On Lessons In Earth Science

As part of their study of earth science, students in Deirdre Wetzel's fifth grade classes learned about the geosphere and the four layers of the Earth. Using different colors of clay, the students rolled and molded models of the Earth to represent the different layers.



Providing a quality education in a healthy, safe and nurturing environment continues to be the district's highest priority. Thanks to the ongoing support of families and the community, the Board of Education and administration, and the dedicated teachers and staff, students are learning, growing, and achieving as they progress on their educational journey

A LOOK INSIDE WEST SIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Look To The Skies

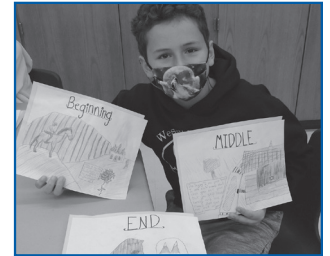
Students at West Side Elementary School are looking up as they participate in a global eco-citizenship project called Sky Day Friday designed to educate students about the importance and impact of our climate. Students will work on a project in which they discuss how to preserve the Earth's systems, create a gallery of photographs of the sky taken at different times during the day, write poetry and create model collages of the moon's view of the earth. Students will work collaboratively with technology specialist Margaret Diehl in the Creative Learning Lab to complete their projects. They will also enter a contest to win an interview with an astronaut.



Times best-selling children's book, "Change Sings." Ms. Gorman hosted a live reading from her book along with illustrator Loren Long. This Flipgrid live event allowed students to connect across the country with Ms. Gorman via a moderated chat as they learned about the process of developing the book. Special thanks to World Language Department Chairperson Ms. Sandra Rivadeneyra for finding this opportunity.

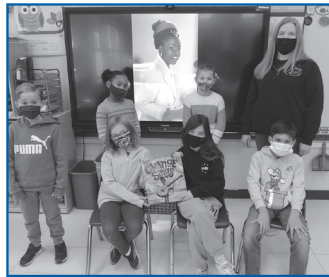
Multiple Intelligences

Melissa Dudek challenged her fifth grade class to think inside or outside the diorama box. After reading the book "Esperanza Rising" the students were inspired to encourage their friends to read it. Students were introduced to Harvard professor and American psychologist Howard Gardner's Multiple Intelligences Theory, which challenged the traditional notion that there is one single type of intelligence that only focuses on cognitive abilities. Gardner then introduced eight different types of intelligences. Ms. Dudek offered students the opportunity to show the sequence of events or the theme of the book by tuning into their personal strengths (intelligences). Several students chose to write poetry or essays, others drew poignant scenes or built dioramas. One student performed an original song, and another created a board game.



'Change Sings' - Amanda Gorman Live Virtual Reading

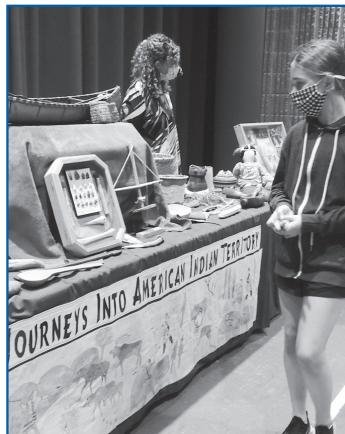
Even third graders know about the youngest inaugural poet in U.S. history, Amanda Gorman. She rose to fame after delivering her poem "The Hill We Climb" during the presidential inauguration in 2021 and published a New York



A LOOK INSIDE COLD SPRING HARBOR JR./SR. HIGH SCHOOL

Exciting Times at the Junior High

It has been an exciting fall at Cold Spring Harbor Jr./Sr. High School. Seventh grade students extended their education to the outdoors while building relationships with their peers. With the assistance of an onsite naturalist, students came together in a series of teambuilding activities to strengthen their partnerships and communication skills inside and outside the classroom. Due to the inclement weather, the eighth grade trip was postponed to later in the school year when it will be more conducive to outdoor activities.



With thanks to the PTG for coordinating this event, the junior high hosted its first movie night featuring "Jumanji." Students gathered with chairs, blankets and snacks to enjoy the movie outside with their friends.

On Veterans Day students spoke with CHS alumni Jock Pflug, who served in the U.S. Army. Mr. Pflug spoke with Mr.

Cootner's and Mr. Topping's eighth grade social studies classes about his decision to join the military and his professional path, eventually rising to the rank of captain, and his experiences being on deployment in Afghanistan.

Seventh graders journeyed into "American Indian Territory," an authentic curriculum-based learning experience that is a stimulating hands-on program brought into the school each year by the Cultural Arts Committee. The lessons reveal much about traditional Native American ways of life connecting to strong character education, which is at the heart of the Iroquois teachings of respect, honor and responsibility. Through folklore, they teach to never take more than we need from nature so there will always be enough.

Lastly, it was a successful fall season for junior high athletics, with 72% of all students participating and completing a fall sport. Congratulations to the junior high boys football team for its undefeated season with a roster of 62 athletes, the largest in 10 years. Girls junior high tennis also had its largest team in 10 years, with a total of 45 athletes divided between two teams. Both teams finished with a 4-2 record. Boys eighth grade soccer had a very successful season with a 7-1-1 record.

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**COLD SPRING HARBOR
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INSIDE *Our Schools*

A LOOK INSIDE COLD SPRING HARBOR JR./SR. HIGH SCHOOL

(continued from previous page)

Summer Program Builds Advanced Science Research Skills

Students in grades 9-12 with an interest in scientific research further enhanced their research skills in the district's summer science research program. This unique opportunity, started by district science teacher Jaak Raudsepp, was offered under the direction of the district's K-12 Director of STEM Kim Libertini and teachers Martin Colucci and Melissa McLees from the district's department of mathematics, Jack Healy from the



district's career and technical education department and Fred Feraco, a science research teacher from Walt Whitman High School.

Students participated in research projects including "The Ins and Outs of Social Science Studies," where students created surveys, analyzed statistical data and reported their findings; "Coral Reef Propagation and Investigations," where students studied marine biology and coral fragmentation; "Food, Computers and the Future of Agriculture," using coding, circuits and robotics; and "Experience Engineering Innovation," where students used their engineering and building skills along with 3D printing to solve real-world problems through innovative inventions.

College-Level Research Course: Molecular And Genomic Biology Honors

The district's unique partnership with the distinguished, world-renowned Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory enables the high school to offer a college-level course, Molecular and Genomic Biology Honors. Designed for advanced juniors and seniors, the course elevates students beyond college-level biology to conduct Nobel Prize-winning experiments with DNA. The class meets each day with an alternate day for travel for a two-period time slot at the Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory's DNA Learning Center. This unique program is designed to expose students to modern techniques such as recombinant DNA technologies, DNA manipulation and advanced, hands-on

research. Assignments include daily lab journals, a eugenics paper, class debates, gene mapping, DNA barcoding, extraction, sequencing, and plant sample collections from both the Nature Conservancy and high school campus.



The high school is one of only two schools on Long Island allowed to offer an elective in partnership with the DNA Learning Center, which is the world's first science center devoted entirely to genetics education and the importance of molecular genetics research.