

# COLD SPRING HARBOR



VOLUME 44, NUMBER 1

## A REPORT ON OUR SCHOOLS

FALL 2020

### Superintendent Announces Retirement

At the September Board of Education meeting, Robert C. Fenter, announced, *"I have made the decision to retire at the end of this school year. Serving as your Superintendent has been an honor for which I will always be grateful. I have learned so much from all of you and have greatly valued our opportunities to dialogue, learn, and grow together as we have implemented new technologies, developed new classroom designs, provided mentoring for our newest colleagues, and yes, navigated the reopening of our schools during a pandemic."* Mr. Fenter joined CSHSD in July of 2016 as the seventh Superintendent of the District. He served a five-year tenure, during which he extended his love for education, dedication and commitment to the students throughout the years. He shared, *"I would like to thank all of you for your kindness and support. I believe that the Cold Spring Harbor School District is a special place largely because of the talents of our leaders, teachers, and support staff, as*



*well as the care that all of you give to our students on a daily basis. I would also like to thank the Board of Education for their continued support throughout the course of my time here. I am looking forward to continuing our hard work this year and I thank you again for all that you do on a daily basis for our students and community."*

Board of Education President, Amelia Brogan, expressed her deep appreciation and gratitude to Mr. Fenter on behalf of the Board, *"We value the integrity and openness you have brought to the role of Superintendent while always keeping the best interests of our students front and foremost. Your graciousness about the people with whom you work and your acknowledgement of their successes has always been impressive."* Ms. Brogan acknowledged some of the many accomplishments during Mr. Fenter's tenure, including the establishment of an Advanced

*"Serving as your Superintendent has been an honor for which I will always be grateful...."*

Science Research program at the high school; implementation of the 1:1 Chromebook initiative; enhancement of our building security and procedures; and the reopening of school during the pandemic.

Assistant Superintendent of Business, James Stucchio, shared, *"Mr. Fenter's impact on Cold Spring Harbor Schools will be felt for a generation. Under his leadership, the 1:1 Chromebook initiative was launched; classrooms were transformed into fully flexible, student-centered spaces; and a bond referendum redefining instruction in the areas of science, technology, engineering, mathematics and the arts was approved by the community. His vision will help ensure our school system remains one of the best in the nation."* It has been a privilege and an honor to have you as our Superintendent Mr. Fenter. We wish you the very best in your retirement, you will be missed! □



### The New Face of School

*Different, Unusual, Challenging...* Opening Day certainly may not have looked or felt quite the same this year, but, one thing is for certain, students were thrilled to return to school with in-person learning. The smiles could be seen through the masks, and all were thankful to be back together again! Thank you to the Board of Education, the administration, the Re-Opening Task Force, all the teachers and staff, and all the parents, for working together to make it happen. It was a monumental task to say the least, and it couldn't have happened without everyone's support, input, research, professional development training over the summer, and a tremendous amount of faith and hard work. Welcome Back to School Cold Spring Harbor! □

## A Message from the Board...



Amelia Brogan,  
Board of Education  
President



Janice Elkin,  
Board of Education  
Vice President



Anthony Paolano



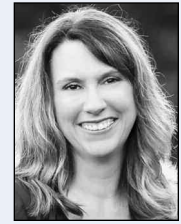
Ingrid Wright



Mark Freidberg



Julie Starrett



Tara Belfi

Dear Resident:

Welcome to this unprecedented 2020-2021 school year which we began in the hybrid model. As we move forward through this coming year, we will continue to review and reassess our plans. By continuing to support each other and work together with patience and understanding, we can keep each other safe while making this a great school year.

Thank you to our community who supported and successfully passed our school budget, and for your support on the passage of the Bond last fall. It was through much planning and critical decision-making that we were able to present a balanced budget, below our tax levy. Despite the Governor's recent 20% cut in state aid, we remain fiscally sound, and continue to watch for the possibility of further cuts. The Board continues to carefully review and prioritize the improvement and maintenance of district facilities in order to make the most of our capital expenditure dollars. The renovation of the Jr./Sr. High School locker rooms were recently finished. In

addition, we have moved forward with obtaining the necessary approvals in preparation to begin work on the Bond.

District-wide, in these times of hybrid and remote learning, we continue to explore the use of technology to increase student engagement and academic achievement. In furtherance of this goal, we have invested extensively in our technology capabilities. This would not have been possible without the continued support of the CSH Educational Foundation which made a generous donation. We continue to advance a comprehensive plan to provide professional development to our teachers and staff to ensure successful implementation and support for our learning models.

Importantly, we want to congratulate Mr. Fenter, our Superintendent, on his impending retirement at the end of June, 2021. As we begin a search for our new educational leader, we welcome input from the community through the online survey. While selecting a new Superintendent is the most important decision a Board can make,

community input is essential for a successful outcome.

Finally, we are proud of the work done by our entire learning community, from administrators, to teachers, to support staff, to parents and to residents. It is this collaborative effort that brings success. Today's environment is challenging. But with challenge comes opportunity, and from opportunity comes solutions and innovation. This year we must continue to strive to make what is good the best. We invite you to visit the Board of Education section on the district website, and to attend our meetings and work sessions. As always, community input is invaluable in directing and informing our goals, and we look forward to hearing from you. I want to thank everyone's tireless efforts in making the Cold Spring Harbor schools the very best they can be. Here is to a great school year!

Sincerely,  
Amelia Walsh Brogan  
President, Board of Education

## Attention Taxpayers

The New York State School Tax Relief (STAR) program provides a school property tax reduction for **ALL** "primary residence" property owners. Suffolk residents may call 631-351-3308 for more information; Nassau residents, 516-571-2490.

## Superintendent Search Survey

Community input is requested through an online survey to rate the importance of a potential candidate's qualifications and personal characteristics, as well as his/her abilities and experience with school staffing, instruction, board relations, district operations and finance will be polled. Board of Education President, Amelia Brogan, said, "Selecting a new Superintendent is the most important decision a Board of Education must make. The Board will work carefully to find the right educational leader for the children of the district. We welcome input from the community, through the online survey and directly, to ensure that we pick the best Superintendent for our community." The survey can be accessed on the home page at [www.csh.k12.ny.us](http://www.csh.k12.ny.us).

## Debate Awards



*Congratulations to the Debate Team for successfully competing in the Long Island Forensic Association's First Virtual Debate Tournament on September 26th. Special congratulations to Jessica Wang (junior) and Luca Johnson (senior) for winning 4th and 5th place in Intermediate Lincoln-Douglas Debate, out of a field of thirty Intermediate Lincoln-Douglas debaters, earning Jessica and Luca each a half-qualification for the New York State Championships.*

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## A Message from the Superintendent

Dear CSH Community

To begin my message, I would first like to thank all of our school leaders, teachers and support staff for their incredible efforts to reopen school after such a long period away. I am truly humbled by the work of our school community, with the support of our Board of Education, to successfully achieve this outcome for our students.



On another note, it is a bittersweet time for my family and me as I look to begin the next chapter of my life. When selected as your Superintendent five years ago, I often used the word "honor" to describe my deep feelings of appreciation and pride to be provided such an opportunity. Since then, I have met and worked with dedicated and talented leaders and staff at all levels, caring community members, and have had the opportunity to work with a Board of Education that is deeply committed to supporting the needs of our students and staff.

As I begin to think about the end of a 34 year career, I look back on several themes which have served as the core values I have followed when teaching and learning: students need caring adults to guide them to be the best learners and people that they can be; schools must be places where students can learn in ways that reflect the best pedagogy and puts them at the center of their learning journey; and, technology is a key tool to help students express and enhance their learning experiences. I would like to thank the Cold Spring Harbor community for their support these past five years. It has truly been an honor to serve you and our amazing students and staff. I look forward to seeing the many wonderful accomplishments of our district in the years to come. I know that our students, staff, and community deserve it.

Sincerely,  
Robert C. Fenter  
Superintendent of Schools

## National Merit Scholarship Program 2021

Congratulations to the following students for being named *Commended* and *Semi-Finalists* in the 2021 National Merit Scholarship Program. During the fall of their junior year, students across the nation take the PSAT, and the top scores are then established. The National Merit Scholarship Program, dating back to 1955, holds an annual academic competition identifying and honoring these high school students in the U.S. through recognition and college scholarships. Less than 3% of the 1.5 million students in 21,000 high schools who take this test will become a recipient of the awarded *Letters of Commendation*. Eight of our students



received the honor of *Commended* status: **Matthew LaCapra, Arnaud Lamy, Sarah Lynch, Augustine Maiorino, Julianne Massa, Shane McAteer, John ReyMartin, and Sierra Rosado.**

In order to truly appreciate how rare it is to then be identified as a *Semi-Finalist*, only less than 1% advance as a *Semi-Finalist*, and this year that honor goes to one student: **Matthew Ross**, who received this dis-

tinguished recognition at the high school. Superintendent, Robert C. Fenter shared, "*We are very proud of our National Merit Scholarship winners, for this distinction recognizes the hard work and commitment of our students, the support they have received from their parents and teachers, as well as the community support for our fine schools.*" Congratulations to all! □



## Thank You Mr. Simon

### *CSH will miss you...*

Superintendent, Robert C. Fenter, wished fellow colleague, Kurt Simon, all the best in his new position as Elementary Principal in the Locust Valley School District. *"I share the news that Kurt Simon, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, has made the decision to return to the role of elementary principal in another school district. For those of you who know Mr. Simon, you know that he is a child-centered and caring leader, and having the opportunity to work directly with children is something that he has missed greatly in his district-level role. We thank Mr. Simon for his 17 years of outstanding service to our district."* Mr. Simon began his career teaching at Lloyd Harbor School, later becoming Principal of West Side School earning the Blue Ribbon Award for Excellence under his leadership. His extensive experience, integrity and professionalism led him to the role of Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction. Mr. Simon shared, *"The opportunities afforded to me in the CSH School District are those that one can only dream of experiencing, and the ride was worth it because I had the good fortune of sharing it with all of you. While the last two years have been an incredible learning experience, I have come to the realization that the right fit for me is still within the walls of an elementary school."* We wish you the very best in your new role, good luck! □

## Welcome Back

### *Dr. Lydia Bellino*

We are pleased to announce that Dr. Lydia Bellino has agreed to take on the role of Interim Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction. Due to the resignation of Kurt Simon, who accepted a position as Elementary Principal in Locust Valley, Dr. Bellino will step into some very familiar shoes after serving CSH School District in this position for over 10 years. The district is grateful to have Dr. Bellino's extensive knowledge and invaluable guidance during these very challenging times. Superintendent, Robert C. Fenter, shared, *"I thank Dr. Bellino for her willingness to assist our district as we navigate the opening of our schools."* Dr. Bellino shared, *I would like to express how honored I*



*am to serve our school community this year...*

*In the brief time since I returned, I have tried to grasp the enormous work you have all been engaged in for our school community and for one another. I thank you, and I look forward to joining all of you as we return to school..."*

*am to serve our school community this year as the Interim Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction. I know we all wish Kurt Simon our best and we will miss him as a colleague, friend, and fine leader. In the brief time since I returned, I have tried to grasp the enormous work you have all been engaged in for our school community and for one another. I thank you, and I look forward to joining all of you as we return to school and reconnect with our students and families."* A warm welcome back, Dr. Bellino! □



## Welcome

### *To the Board of Education*

We would like to welcome the newest member to the Board of Education. Ms. Tara Belfi has served the community in countless volunteer capacities over the last decade, including class parent roles, School Improvement Team committees, the West Side PTG Board, district-wide president of the CSH Special Education Organization (SEPTO), and also district-wide president of the CSH Educational Foundation. She was active in helping many other committees, including parent interview committees for the hiring of district administrators. As a parent of children with learning disabilities, it has been a priority of Tara's to advocate for them in a learning environment that both supported and challenged them. Tara has a master's degree in elementary education from CW Post and taught in grades second through fifth in New York City public schools. Tara has been a resident of the district for 15 years, with her husband Eric and children, Chris (junior at Auburn University), Katie (senior at CSH), and James (freshman at CSH). Tara shared, *"It is an honor and privilege to serve the Cold Spring Harbor community and most importantly, the students. I look forward to working with my fellow board members, administration, teachers, and residents to continue to enhance education in our schools."* Welcome, to the Board of Education, and thank you for your dedication and service to the students of Cold Spring Harbor! □

# Reimagining Education

## CSH Begins Year With Hybrid

What exactly does hybrid education mean? Students began the school year following a hybrid model by reducing classroom occupancy to 50%. The students were divided into two groups (group A & B), alternating T/TH, or M/W/F schedules each week with in-person learning or remote at home learning. Classrooms were set up with Promethean Boards for live streaming in real time, so students at home are logged in and able to watch and participate in the class lesson from home. There are some families who chose full-time remote learning for their children, and those needs were met and set up accordingly acknowledging that each family must feel safe and choose what works best for them. All students are asked to take their temperature at home daily, and report the results electronically each morning. All staff employees must do the same. No parents are allowed in the buildings, and all staff must now access door entries electronically with their ID badges.

Superintendent, Robert C. Fenter, expressed, *"I ask you to remember that teaching students in-person and at home simultaneously is a new experience for our teachers and to be patient as we work through many of the challenges they will invariably face."* Thank you to all the teachers and the students for tackling and overcoming the many logistics and coordinated efforts to make all of this happen. With everyone's support, we will get through this together! □



West Side outdoor lunch



*"What exactly does hybrid education mean?"*

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*"The district has set in place as many measures to reduce the risk and maximize safety for all students and staff."*



Goosehill classrooms



High school remote learning



Lloyd Harbor desk shields



Bus arrivals alternating days, Group A & B



## Reopening Task Force

*Thank you...*

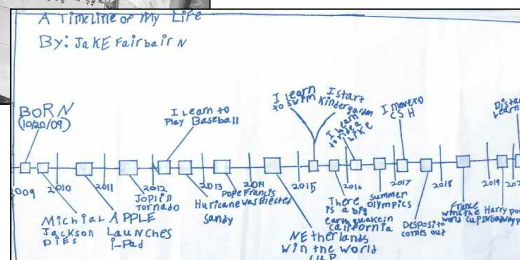
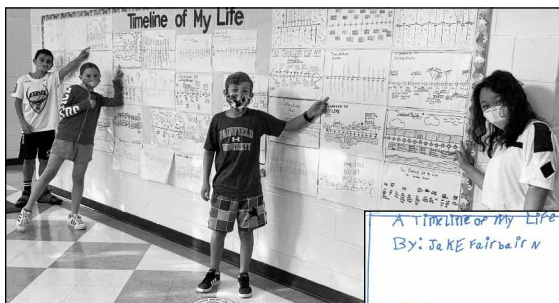
To say that the job of reopening our schools was a herculean effort, was truly an understatement. Along with the guidance from the *NY State Education Department* (NYSED), and the *NY State Department of Health* (NYSDOH), a *District Task Force* was developed to determine the safest and most effective way to open schools with a choice of in-person learning, remote learning or a hybrid system. Thank you to the nearly 1100 parents who participated in the survey regarding the opening of schools, which began the process of determining what was best for CSH. The task force was comprised of a team of nearly 50 people, who led the charge working diligently to prepare for the various possibilities. The task force was divided into four different committees: Facilities & Transportation, Curriculum & Instruction, Health & Wellness, and Technology

*“Thank you to the many dedicated individuals for the countless hours devoted to the task of opening school doors this fall, with the safety of our students and staff being the top priority and concern at all times.”*

Systems, each of which fell under the direction of administration, building leaders, faculty and staff... who then made their recommendations to the Board of Education. Thank you to the many dedicated individuals for the countless hours devoted to the task of opening school doors this fall, with the safety of our students and staff being the top priority and concern at all times.

The abrupt shift after the March 13th, 2020 closing of schools set into action a full-time remote learning platform in which no one was truly prepared. These uncharted waters were

navigated by dedicated teachers and staff with such care and support demonstrated to address the needs of our students. It was not easy! Transitioning from face-to-face learning to virtual learning was unprecedented. Superintendent, Robert C. Fenter, shared, *"I have been in awe at the dedication with which our school community has rallied to make the return to school as successful as possible for our students and I look forward to a time when these approaches will no longer be necessary. As we planned for the return of our students, we all had images in our heads of what in-person, hybrid, and remote learning would look like. I think that it is fair to say that none of this is ideal – we would all want to see things be as they were, but, as we are reminded by a number of circumstances in school districts across the island, things will likely not be back to 'normal' for a good amount of time. We continue to ask for your patience and support, knowing for certain that in the end we all want the very same thing for our students while keeping safety our number one priority."* □



## Hopes & Dreams



**West Side:** Hopes & Dreams bulletin board...helping to frame the importance of setting intentions for the year ahead. Principal Hazut shared, *"While there is a great deal of uncertainty, it is critical for all of us to focus on what's most important and by helping to identify what our priorities/hopes & dreams are is a great beginning."*



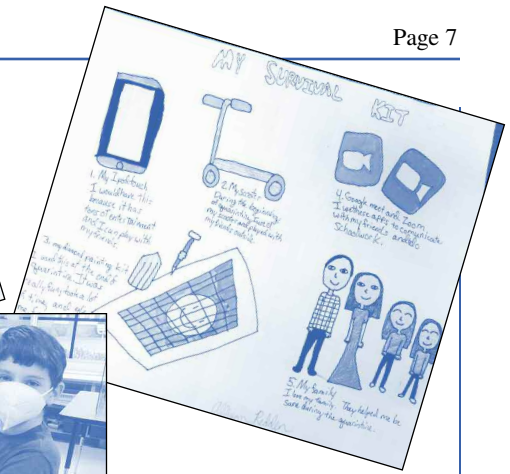
# Timeline of My Life

West Side: Sixth grade students in both Mr. Arloff and Mrs. Piña's Social Studies classes worked on a Timeline project to start off the school year. This timeline spans their life from birth until now. They

pans their life from birth until now. They were encouraged to reminisce over their milestone moments since birth and record these on the top portion of their timeline. On the bottom, they researched and recorded major world events as a visual representation of their lives in the context of world history. This knowledge of timelines will serve their understanding of how time is recorded as they begin their study of ancient civilizations. □

## COVID19 Time Capsules K-12

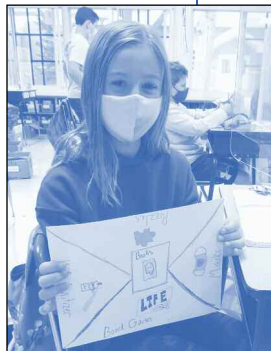
At the start of the school year, a district-wide initiative was implemented for all students to share their personal story of their time in quarantine. They were asked to think about their time in quarantine and answer questions such as; "How did you spend your time in quarantine?" "What did you learn about yourself, what have you gained and what have you lost?" Some students wrote a letter "to their future self," which will be given either at the grade 6 Moving Up Day for elementary students, or at their high school graduation for the older students. Denise Campbell spearheaded the project, explaining, "Our Health and Wellness Advisory Group was responsible for reviewing ways to address the Social Emotional Needs of our students as we re-open schools. The committee recognized the importance of students starting school in September in a way that acknowledged the shared experiences of our school community since March. The time capsule activity provided choices for students K-12 to draw, write, photograph or sculpt moments that represented experiences during this pandemic. This was an ideal way to help record an historical snapshot of this unique period in time." Students were also encouraged to write thank you cards to adults that worked so hard to keep everyone safe during the pandemic. Here are a few examples of the many amazing projects articulating the feelings of our students during a very challenging time. □



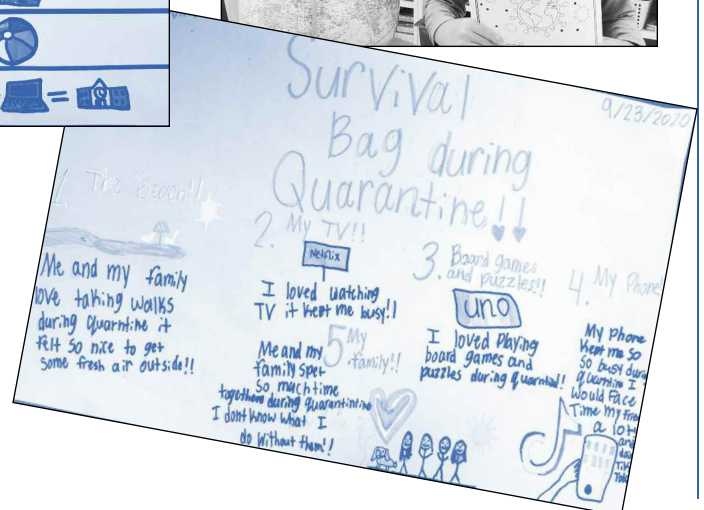
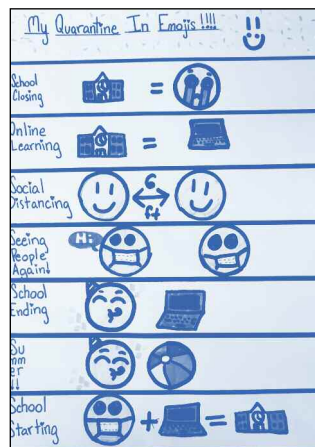
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Me and my brothers liked cooking. I made brownies.



## Back to school reports from Our Principals . . . Back to school

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### Goosehill Report

From Lynn Herschlein...

I am happy to report we had a great opening as we embarked on a new school year filled with a number of challenges. The most important thing is that your children were amazing! They came to school happy, well-prepared, and eager to learn and play. Being back in school, I see the resilience in your children. I see the joy in their faces as they experience at least some level of normalcy in their school experiences. They are adapting to new rules, limitations, wearing a mask, and even to not being able to be here every day. The teachers, staff, and I have been so impressed with them and have enjoyed every minute of our time with them.

Prior to opening our doors to 220 children this fall, the amount of preparation involved months of professional development training, many meetings, custodial sanitation routines day and night, support of staff, teachers, aids, PTG, lunchroom staff, and more. I thank everyone for their tireless commitment and monumental efforts to make the transition smooth, and seamless. Being away from school since March, is a very long time at this young age. We all had one goal in mind, and that was to return students to joyful classrooms. We only had a few tears shed on opening day, and as usual, we took them by the hand and cared for them as we always do. One little boy told me, *'This is the best day ever!'* That it made it all worth it. Thank you to the PTG, for all their support; they told me, *"This will be the year of support."* How true!

We faced challenges, especially involving technology. Nothing is perfect in our lives today, and teaching very young children through a computer screen is certainly something that will never be perfect. But I commend our teachers for their dedication to the process of learning how best to meet the needs of the children in front of them while also attending to their students at home on a screen. It is no small task. I commend the parents as well, and thank you for your patience,



*"Being away from school since March, is a very long time at this young age. We all had one goal in mind, and that was to return students to joyful classrooms"*



as I know that trying to support your child at home is also filled with challenges.

So, while nothing is perfect right now, our students are happy in school. We are all adjusting to another "new normal." And in terms of teaching and learning in this new way, I believe that every day things will be a little better. It's wonderful having everyone back at Goosehill! □



## Back to school reports from Our Principals

## school reports from Our Principals

### Lloyd Harbor Report

*From Valerie Massimo....*

This was certainly the most interesting first week of school I've had in my 13 years as principal of Lloyd Harbor School! Our traditional opening of school was anything but traditional. We began the year with over 350 students entering the building, which was decorated with beautiful welcome back signs and featured our mascot Leo the Lion waving to old and new friends. Both the bus platform and parent drop-offs were extremely busy on alternating days, and the new arrival and dismissal procedures proved to be challenging. Rolling out a hybrid plan took great effort and planning, months of professional development training and tremendous collegial support. There were so many new routines for the children, including proper hand-washing, mask wearing, social distancing, daily temperature checks, desk shields, and no lunches in the cafeteria – to name just a few. I would like to compliment and congratulate the teachers and staff. Who would ever imagine our teachers would be teaching two separate groups simultaneously, both remote and in-person instruction? Our students are learning to use Chrome Books, Google classroom, Zoom, Promethean Boards...all delivering rigorous instruction.

Together, we must have a growth mindset in order to be successful. And patience is key! Our goal is to have our students succeed, and most importantly, be safe. We are all working together here at Lloyd Harbor to make that happen. Thank you to everyone for your continued support. Welcome back! □



*"Our traditional opening of school was anything but traditional."*

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*"Our goal is to have our students succeed, and most importantly, be safe. We are all working together here at Lloyd Harbor to make that happen. Thank you to everyone for your continued support."*



*Back to school reports from Our**Principals*

## Jr./Sr. High School Report

*From Jim Bolen...*

As we come into our second month of school, I would like to take a moment to thank you all for helping to create such a smooth reopening for the Jr./Sr. High School. With your support we were able to welcome back over 800 students to the building to kick off the 2020-2021 school year. I want to commend you and your children as they have been resilient, diligent and respectful. Knowing the students at Cold Spring Harbor, I expected nothing less and that makes me so proud. Both students and teachers wanted to return to school more than anything else, and because of that, it was a recipe for success. We are all incredibly grateful to our custodial, buildings and grounds crews for their vigilant sanitizing each day and night, to our professional development training to support remote learning, to the leadership teams, teachers, staff, PTG, administration and Board of Education, students and parents – for all their support and patience. The only thing that remained the same upon students entering the building was the bell schedule. *Everything* else was different!

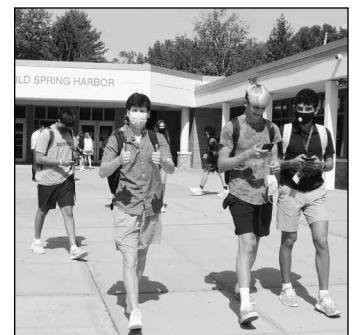
Not surprisingly, we have seen districts on Long Island reporting at least one new case of COVID-19 among a student and/or staff member. This has led to sporadic closings and fully-remote days. While we had a great opening, I think this is a sobering reminder of how important it is to follow the reopening procedures that we have put in place to keep our schools open and our students and staff safe. Please continue to follow all safety precautions, and may we all look forward to a very successful school year. □



*“Both students and teachers wanted to return to school more than anything else, and because of that, it was a recipe for success.”*

\* \* \*

*“The only thing that remained the same upon students entering the building was the bell schedule. Everything else was different!”*



## Back to school reports from Our

## ports from Our Principals

### West Side Report

*From Alison Hazut...*

Our beginning to school was certainly new and different, but overall, it was a smooth and huge success! As I spent time in each of our classrooms on our first day of the hybrid model, I observed remote learners engaged with our in-person learners and their teachers in community building activities – quite an accomplishment. While the classroom experience has changed somewhat, our children were happy and eager to learn together. I witnessed teachers going above and beyond figuring out the best ways to make the technology work. It took everyone a much shorter time than anticipated to get acclimated; the children's resilience and independence shone through as I observed their patience and determination – It was quite something to watch.

With so much change, we were happy to hear the traditional “ringing of the original West Side school bell” echoing a moment of normalcy for all of our 227 students. We are striking the balance between new and necessary procedures due to COVID19 with our important routines and rituals of regular school life. For example, our everyday morning assemblies are now conducted over Zoom to help bring our entire school community together before the day of learning begins. Social Emotional learning is critical now, and we decided to begin our school year with the word “hopeful” as our September feeling word. While our situation remains uncertain and challenging, we must always remain hopeful. Students are articulating their hopes and dreams for the year which we have erected on a bulletin board for all to read (these will be shared digitally for our full-time remote learners.) Their hopes and dreams lay the foundation for a wonderful year of learning ahead.

I am extremely grateful to the entire staff, custodians, aids, teachers, and cafeteria staff, who quickly pulled together to support each other – It has



*“...we decided to begin our school year with the word ‘hopeful’...”*

*While our situation remains uncertain and challenging, we must always remain hopeful.”*



been an incredible team effort. Our PTG provided us with a delicious first day of school breakfast as well as new West Side tee shirts to kick off this school year. We have also received beautiful thank you notes from parents which have been so well received by the teachers. Our amazing team of teachers and support staff have worked tirelessly for months to prepare for a successful opening, and I know that you join me in appreciating their dedication and diligence toward supporting each and every child's learning both in school and at home.

Welcome back West Side families! ☐



## COLD SPRING HARBOR CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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

[www.csh.k12.ny.us](http://www.csh.k12.ny.us)

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## Welcome New Staff

A warm welcome to our newest staff! Each year an orientation is held to acclimate new staff to the district, and the culture of the community. In August, teachers new to the District had an opportunity to hear from veteran teaching staff, engage in hands-on practices designed to engrain a sense of teamwork and partnership, meet with leaders of curriculum and instruction, and hear from various administrators and the president of the Board of Education. This new teacher

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 mentoring program includes approximately fifty new and seasoned staff, under the direction of Robert Fenter, Superintendent; Joey Waters, Assistant Principal; and Trish Sihksnel and Chris Homer, New Teacher Mentor Coordinators.

(left to right) Trish Sihksnel (Co-Coordinator Mentor Program), Alyssa Nordstrom (Reading LH), Michelle Novelli (Grade K, GH), Erica Bondi (Special Ed GH), Jessica Kessler (Reading Jr./Sr. High), Jamie Hanik (Special Ed GH), Jessica Pina (6th grade WS), Shira Harwood (English Jr./Sr. High), and Chris Homer (Co-Coordinator Mentor Program) □



## Sports Postponed

There are so many things that look different this year in school, but one of the strangest scenes is seeing all the empty fields. The NY High School Sports Association delayed the start of all high school sports and cancelled all fall championship games. Section VIII has set a condensed eight-week season plan with the possibility for a 9th week (post-season play). This is for Varsity and JV only. The sports season dates are as follows: Season I (winter sports) Dates: Jan.4 – Feb. 26th. Season II (fall sports) Dates: March 1 – April 21st and Season III (spring sports) Dates: April 22nd to June 14th. Let us hope we will be seeing our student athletes out on the fields soon! □