

VOLUME 41, NUMBER 1 A REPORT ON OUR SCHOOLS

FALL 2017

National Merit Scholarship Program 2018



(left to right) Principal, Jim Bolen, Semi-Finalist, Thomas Carey, Commended students, Matthew Beroza, Zachary Campbell, and Phillip Wideska, Assistant Principal for Counseling, Gregory Sloan, and Superintendent, Robert C. Fenter

Congratulations to the following students for being named "commended" and "semi-finalists" in the 2018 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 1.6 million students who take this test will become a recipient of the awarded *Letters of Commendation*. Three of our students received the honor of Commended status: **Matthew Beroza, Zachary Campbell, and Phillip Wideska.** Only less than 1% advance as *Semi-Finalists*, and this year that honor goes to **Thomas Carey** who received this distinguished 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!



Music Honors

All-State / All National Honors Ensembles: In October, the Board of Education honored nine music students; Mike Davis (jazz trumpet) and Alexander Wang (voice) were selected for All-State Jazz Ensemble and Mixed Chorus respectively. Ryan McLaughlin (trumpet), Hank Tsekerides (snare drum), Thomas McGee (violin), Kate Zimmon (voice) and Sergio Rodriguez (voice) were selected as All-State Alternates. Jillian Coughlin, Raffi Sanna and Kate Zimmon were selected for the American Choir Directors Association (ACDA) All National Choral Ensembles. Mike and Alexander will perform at the All-State Conference in Rochester this December. Jillian, Raffi and Kate will perform at the ACDA conference in Philadelphia this March. K-12 Music Coordinator, Brent Chiarello, shared, "These are some of the highest accolades a high school music student can achieve, congratulations as well to their teachers for *their guidance and support!*"

A Message from the Superintendent...

Dear Community Member,

I want to take this opportunity to express to you my excitement for the coming school year in the Cold Spring Harbor School District. I am grateful to our Board of Education, leaders, teachers, and support staff for their hard work and planning over the summer. I would also like to welcome two new



members of our leadership team, our Assistant Superintendent for Business, Mr. James Stucchio, and our Jr/Sr High School Principal, Mr. Jim Bolen. Both of these educators bring extensive experience to our school district and I know that their talents will have a most positive impact on our schools.

In the 2017-18 school year our goals represent the continuation of efforts from previous years, as well as new initiatives to foster critical thinking, collaboration, and the thoughtful use of technology by our students. These goals include the continued implementation of our Chromebook Initiative at the Jr/Sr High School, the enhancement of our Science

Research Program to better prepare our students for prestigious local and national competitions, and the creation and use of newly designed learning spaces for the elementary students in the form of Creative Learning Labs. Our newly appointed Directors of STEM and Humanities will be working alongside our principals and teachers to address these goals, as well as to ensure a thoughtful and successful implementation of the Next Generation Standards in math, English, science, and social studies.

In addition to these goals, we will be continuing our commitment to the social and emotional well-being of our students through the addition of a school psychologist to the Junior High. We are also expanding our substance abuse prevention program at the high school level to ensure that our students have the support necessary to make choices that will keep them safe from the dangers of drug and alcohol use. Finally, we will be looking closely at our Junior High School program to determine how we can strengthen the academic and social supports for our seventh and eighth grade students.

Finally, our commitment to the quality, function, safety and appearance of our facilities remains strong This includes a district goal that will guide us through the next steps to improve our already impressive facilities to address academic, physical education, and wellness programs, as well as the areas of security and energy efficiency. For your information, a more detailed outline of the District Goals can be found on page 4.

We look forward to a year of learning and growth as we focus on our goals and embrace the next steps together. The success of our school district is due to the hard work of our Board of Education, the collaborative efforts of our leaders and staff, the support of the CSH Educational Foundation and our parent organizations, as well as the tremendous support of our community.

Wishing all of our students a successful year ahead – it promises to be an exciting one, indeed!

Sincerely,

Robert C. Fenter Superintendent of Schools, Cold Spring Harbor Central School District



Driving in the Safe Lane

On September 11th, Principal, Jim Bolen, held the annual Safe Driving Presentation, mandatory for all seniors. The mission for this evening each year, is that academics are secondary to student safety, and repeated lessons never get old when it comes to our children getting behind the wheel. The high school still maintains an open campus policy allowing seniors to drive off campus for lunch or free periods. Students know that driving is a privilege here, and our students have taken this privilege seriously, and have been responsible for it throughout the years. Distracted driving has become the number one killer for young drivers, surpassing drunk driving. This night serves as an impetus for dialogue with parents and children, and is the start and continuation of many conversations to keep children safe and responsible on the road. Guest speakers included, Police Officer John Groshans, Director of the Bellmore-Merrick Community Parent Center, Wendy Tepfer, and Director of Dedicatedd, Marge Lee. All three presenters left a powerful impact on both students and parents, most of whom could not help but shed a tear. Principal, Jim Bolen, shared, "This evening is by far one of the most poignant and sobering for a family to experience together. The impact is real and the message is clear. We want to keep our children safe and having conversations about distracted driving and limiting driving with other teens in the car." Thank you to our speakers for the powerful messages and presentation.

A Message from the Board...

Dear Residents:

A September rite of passage: the construction crews completed their work; teachers prepared their classrooms and finalized lesson plans; and all anticipated with great enthusiasm the return of our students to a new school year. We saw the eager faces of our children and young adults as they jumped into fresh experiences. Whether it was receiving a locker for the first time, meeting new classmates and staff, or even transitioning to a different school, there was an undeniable sense of excitement for what will come.

This year brought many new faces to our administrative staff, including a new assistant superintendent, high school principal, and two curriculum directors. In addition, we recruited several new instructional staff members. They will be trained over the next four years, in part, with our new teacher mentoring program. The new teachers received their mentoring handbook and met their veteran teacher mentors, as we launched this exciting new initiative. We also reluctantly said goodbye to two long-serving, devoted colleagues, Dr. Bill Bernhard and Mr. Jay Matuk. I want to thank them for their truly outstanding service and wish them the very best in retirement.

Over the summer, the district continued with its commitment to maintain, modernize, and ensure the 21st century functionality of our school buildings by embarking on over \$2 million of community approved construction projects. Our facilities remain a top priority for our district and have been included in our goals for the year: *To revisit and review the next steps to improve our facilities to address academic, physical education, and wellness programs, as well as the areas of security and energy efficiency.*

Our mission cannot be completed in isolation, but rather requires a school-community partnership to succeed. I must express my utmost gratitude to the Cold Spring Harbor Education Foundation for their continued support. Due to the generosity of *The Foundation* and its donors, this fall we were able to expand our 1:1 Chromebook initiative to all students in grades seven through nine. We are beyond thrilled to see this long-planned program begin to transform our classrooms and eagerly await its completion with all students in the Jr./Sr. High School. In addition, both Lloyd Harbor and West Side are in the process of building new creative learning labs, which will be spaces for students to explore and experiment. Goosehill also received new iPads as an interactive tool for learning. Again, these projects would not have been possible without the support of *The Foundation*.

So that's where we are...moving along briskly with much to do, and off to a good start!

Sincerely, Mark McAteer, President CSH Board of Education



Board of Education members (front row) Janice Elkin, Amelia Brogan, Mark McAteer, President (back row) Anthony Paolano, Lizabeth Squicciarini, Ingrid Wright, Vice President, and Mark Freidberg.



Chromebook Distribution

Google Chromebooks were distributed to include all students in grades 7 through 9, with the continued roll-out of the 1:1 initiative (one device for every student). Given the success of the program, we plan to distribute Chromebooks to our students in grades 10, 11, and 12 in late November, nearly a year ahead of schedule. Since the beginning of the program, teacher staff development has been a priority, continuing over the summer and throughout each year in *Canvas* and *Google Docs*. *Canvas* is a Learning Management System (LMS) that brings all the online classroom tools together. It is a program used by the Ivy league schools, and numerous top tier colleges as well. Superintendent, Robert C. Fenter, shared. "Our students will be better prepared to achieve success in a world where they will be expected to function in global, technology-based, and collaborative learning work environments. Our sincere thanks to the CSH Educational Foundation for their financial support of this initiative."

Mark your calendars:

The 1938 romantic comedy, "You Can't Take it with You" hits the stage for the CSH Senior High Drama Club & Arts Booster Club presentation on November 3rd-5th at the Performing Arts Center, Then, on December 9th-10th the West Side Musical will perform "The Little Mermaid" also at the Performing Arts Center. Please come out and support the arts!

District Goals 2017-2018 Adopted

1. Instructional

- To examine and further develop our current K-12 curricula to ensure cohesive instruction aligned with Next Generation English Language Arts and Mathematics Learning Standards, Next Generation Science Standards, and the Social Studies C-3 Framework.
- To develop a K-12 research and writing continuum to ensure that all students are engaging in thoughtful and original research at all levels.
- To further enhance our Science Research program to provide interested students with the opportunity to engage in high level research and compete in national science competitions (Siemens, Regeneron, etc.).
- To examine our current Junior High School program to determine if the structure of the time and support for our early adolescent students represents an optimal design.

2. Technology

- To implement Creative Learning Labs in all elementary schools to support student learning, collaboration, critical thinking and research.
- To expand our emphasis on the thoughtful use of technology, including the establishment of the position of Executive Director of Instructional and Administrative Technology, to support student-centered learning, small group instruction, and inquiry-based research for students at all grade levels.

3. Professional Development

• To provide continuous and comprehensive support and professional learning through the implementation of a four-year Mentoring Program for teachers new to Cold Spring Harbor.

4. Health/Wellness/Safety

- To maximize the impact of our social and emotional programs, as well as that of the efforts of our staff, including a newly added psychologist at the Junior High Level, to promote healthy and safe decisions of our students.
- To implement the Too Good for Drugs into the Substance Abuse Prevention Program (SAPP) in grades 8 and 9 as a means of addressing the issues of drug and alcohol use.

5. Facilities

• To revisit and review the next steps to improve our facilities to address academic, physical education, and wellness programs as well as the areas of security and energy efficiency.

6. Finance

• To continue to navigate the impact of the tax cap and recent developments in the changes to state aid formulas to ensure the financial health of the district in the long-term.





CSH Students Care Hurricane relief fundraisers

The Jr./Sr. High School participated in a school-wide Hurricane Harvey Relief Fundraiser, and within three days collected items for children including diapers, baby food, clothing, etc. Many other items and cash donations were also collected. The student government matched the cash donations which were given to the Red Cross Hurricane Relief Fund. Principal, Mr. Jim Bolen, extended his thanks to all those who donated and helped organize this expedited effort. He shared, "Please know that your kindness makes a wonderful difference in our country."

Lloyd Harbor: The Student Council, along with advisors Kristen Sewell and Laura LaPollo, continue their efforts to collect "spare change" for *The American Red Cross* and *Little Shelter Animal Rescue* for people affected by the recent hurricanes. The collection containers are located at the greeter's desk by the main office. Thank you to all the families and students who have contributed and continue to do so!

West Side: The Student Council, along with advisors Ms. Ryan and Ms. Santoro, organized Hurricane Harvey relief efforts by collecting over \$1,000 in donations in just one week, filling the fundraising jar at the security desk for the *Houston Independent School District*. Thanks to all the families and students for supporting this effort!

New Appointments Director of Stem Director of Humanities

Superintendent, Robert C. Fenter, is pleased to introduce and welcome the new Director of STEM, Ms. Meridyth Hansen, and the new Director of Humanities, Ms. Theresa Donahue. He shared, "It gives me great pleasure to congratulate and welcome two new members of our leadership team as Directors, who will be making important contributions to our school district in the coming years in the area of STEM and Humanities as we work to adjust our leadership structure to increase, even more so than in the past, our focus on instruction." As Director of STEM, Ms. Hansen will supervise K-12 science, math and high school technology programs. She joins us from the East Rockaway School District, where she was Chairperson of Mathematics and Science grades 6-12, led K-12 district committees on curriculum and professional development and resources. coordinated science fairs and served on steering committees and teams dis-



Director of Humanities, Ms. Donohue (left), and Director of STEM, Ms. Hansen, (right)

trict-wide. She received her Master's in Secondary Education from St. John's University, and her B.A, from Rutgers. Ms. Donohue, Director of Humanities, will supervise K-12 English and Social Studies programs. Ms. Donohue was the Executive Assistant Principal at Berner Middle School in Massapequa, where she supervised and evaluated English, Social Studies staff and curriculum, including Family and Consumer Science, Special Education and World Language. She received her B.A. in English from St. Joseph's, and her Master's in Liberal Studies from SUNY Stony Brook. These Directors, working closely with Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, Dr. Lydia Bellino, and district leaders, will help to provide leadership, vision, and support in the ongoing development and implementation of the district's curriculum and will ensure that our programs are always reaching their maximum potential. Welcome to the CSH team! \Box

"It gives me great pleasure to congratulate and welcome two new members of our leadership team as Directors, who will be making important contributions to our school district in the coming years in the area of STEM and Humanities..."

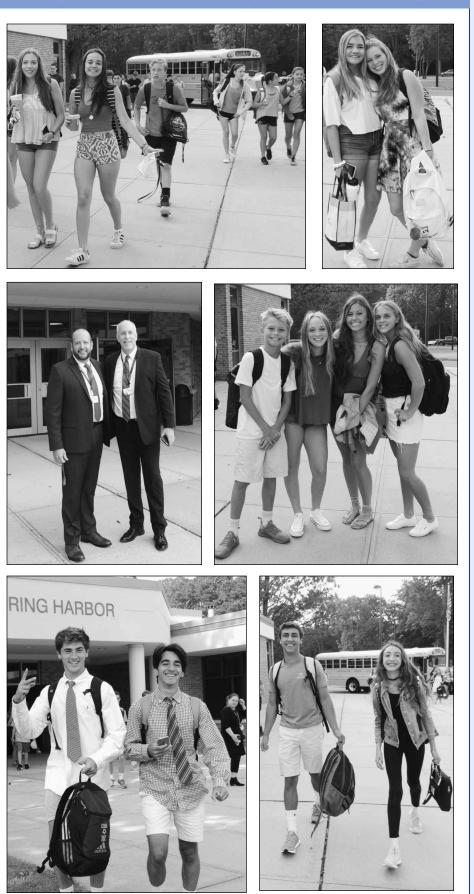
Welcome New Staff!

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 CSH District engaged in a two-day training preparation, which included a trip to the CSH Public Library where all new teachers and administrators received a library card. New staff had an opportunity to hear from veteran teaching staff, participate in a technology workshop, 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 forty new and seasoned staff, under the direction of Dr. Lydia Bellino, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction; Erin Goldthwaite, District Chairperson of Special Education; and Joey Waters, New Teacher Mentor Coordinator.



Jr./Sr. High School Report From Jim Bolen...

"This being my first year as principal of the Jr./Sr. High School, I felt as though I was standing on the shoulders of giants, thanks to the tremendous work done by our primary and elementary school principals. I met students who were so well prepared, personable and so respectful, it was a pleasure. We started on August 24th with new student orientation, and the annual 7th grade BBQ and orientation. Seventh graders split up into teams, familiarizing themselves with their new lockers and classroom locations, and participating in a team-building workshop facilitated by Nancy Doda, a nationally renowned Middle School teaming expert. Watching the 7th graders decorate their lockers (aka their first piece of real estate) with wall paper and chandeliers was quite something! Chromebooks were distributed to all 7th and 9th graders, and on opening day we welcomed 945 students (including 37 new students). It was one of the smoothest opening days I have ever been a part of in my career, and I credit and thank the staff and administration for this easy transition. Grade assemblies were held, as well as code of conduct meetings and our annual safe driving presentation for seniors and their parents. Both the 7th and 8th grade attended a Challenge Day at Caumsett Park this year. Backto-school night and homecoming were a success, the athletic fields are buzzing with competition, and I feel as though we are off to the races! It's been a very busy and exciting start to the school year. I look forward to getting to know the students and staff more personally, and I'm looking forward to my first year at CSH!"



Pep Rally





Caumsett Park Challenge Days

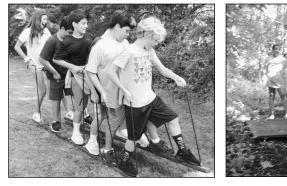
This year, both the 7th and 8th graders had the opportunity to participate in a "Challenge Day" program at Caumsett Park in September; a very unique and supportive learning environment. Students participated in ice-breaker games and were placed in carefully selected groups meant to take kids out of their comfort zones, breaking down cliques, barriers and creating new friendships. In addition, students worked on team building and problem-solving skills. Challenges included activities such as *Cooperative Games* "icebreakers," *Initiatives* "problem solving tasks," and *Low Ropes Course* "physical challenge." All groups were facilitated by a BOCES trained teacher as well as cosupervised by a member of the CSH faculty. It truly was an amazing day, where students could be heard screaming *"This is impossible!"* only to find that team communication, not frustration, led to completing each task. We were very grateful to the staff at the Caumsett State Historic Park, and the Nassau BOCES Environmental Education Center for a fabulous day.

Seventh Grade





Eighth Grade





Seventh Grade Orientation

The Junior High welcomed 7th graders and new students on August 24th for the annual BBQ and orientation, where students and parents met the faculty, and walked the halls to find their scheduled classrooms with the help of *Seahawk Ambassador* upperclassmen. Students decorated their lockers (aka "apartments") with carpets, mirrors, chandeliers, and wall paper! Afterward, everyone had a chance to mingle outside enjoying refreshing watermelon, burgers and hot dogs on the lawn.

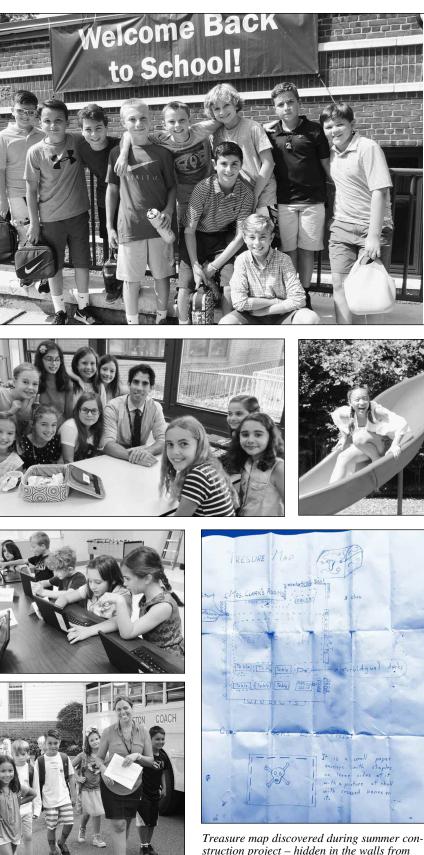




West Side Report From Kurt Simon....

"At West Side this fall we welcomed 223 students, 12 of whom were new to our school. Our 6th grade Student Council Senior Staff loved giving tours of the building during New Family Orientation, and greeted our new parents as well at the end of the summer. Everyone just seemed to hit the ground running! We are all excited about the opening of our new Creative Learning Lab, and everyone seemed to comment on how great the school looked! It seemed to be sparkling, and we are very proud. In addition, our custodians found a treasure map hidden in the wall of Eva Risley Clark's old classroom from 75 years ago during the demolition for the Creative Learning Lab...what an amazing surprise! During the first week the kids enjoyed playing on the new pavement (thanks to the PTG). Student Council elections were held, musical performances took place during morning assembly, fundraising jars filled for the Houston Independent School District, and town hall meetings continued. We will also be introducing a new "golden ticket" for our Growth Mindset program. The Little Mermaid is our fall musical and auditions are around the corner. The first PTG meeting was packed, bus assistants are all very busy, and our H.E.R.O. Project is up and running. I have been inspired by my students' eagerness and genuine enthusiasm ...let's keep it going!"





struction project – hidden in the walls from 75 years ago in former teacher, Ms. Risley-Clark's old classroom. What a surprise!

Lloyd Harbor Report From Valerie Massimo....

"Due to the extensive preparation the children receive at Goosehill, our youngest LHS "friends" come to us ready to learn! They are quick to point out, though, that the biggest difference for them is the larger bus! This year Lloyd Harbor welcomed approximately 370 students. It was a pleasure to meet the newest families at our summer orientation, (welcoming 20 new students), and watch our student ambassadors give tours of our beautiful school. Thank you to the PTG for organizing all the back-to-school supply kits, much to the delight of the students and parents, along with the PTG support in organizing our 2nd Grade Shadows program. LHTV was "live" for our daily broadcasts of Morning News, celebrating "heroes" during our first week. Our student council is under new leadership this year with Ms. Sewell and Ms. LaPollo working as co-advisors. Town Meetings with administration and students took place for every grade level. During the first week, classrooms were alive with activities. The students read the book, First Day Jitters, reviewed how to use their planners, reminders about homework were shared, as well as school policies and class charters. We welcomed a new music teacher, Ms. Messana, and she had the students engaged in a Jeopardy game that was remarkable and so much fun! Upper grade students began teaming - and sixth graders learned how to transition to their classes where they met up with different students in each switch. Summer reading involved a technology program called Destiny, which the students will be using to write and share their original book reviews with peers. The Creative Learning Lab is almost up and running and we are all looking forward to our new space. It was a great opening week for sure!"





Second Graders were welcomed by the LHSPTG sponsored "2nd grade shadows program."

Goosehill Report From Lynn Herschlein...

"Due to all the summer preparation of the staff, we had a remarkably smooth opening. And with little ones, we have to think of every last detail! Goosehill opened its doors to 214 students, 16 of whom were new students from 14 new families. Orientations, tours, and new family welcomes were offered, and I am proud to report that all were impressed with our school community. Our teachers have been busy preparing for a terrific year. With our Library Media Specialist and new district Directors of STEM and Humanities, they are planning creative projects for the children, integrating technology made available through the support of the CSH Educational Foundation. Our new Creative Learning Space will be an exciting place for children. Over the summer, children used technology to share their summer reading, and families enjoyed their videos posted on the website. Thank you to the GPFA for all the amazing school supplies, which were delivered to the classrooms. With the care of our staff, all students were greeted as they got off the buses on the first day and entered the building happily. We only had one tearful child, who simply wanted to know, "How long will I be here today?" Question answered, and problem solved. Welcoming the parents started last spring, and continued with Backto-School night on the third day of school. We know that even parents need instructions, as the littlest problems, which can be big deals when you are in kindergarten, can be avoided when parents and teachers communicate about what works best for children. For example, simply packing snack and lunch in separate bags keeps children from eating their whole lunch at snack time! Thank you to the GPFA for organizing so many special events early in the year. We've already had a Welcome Back-to-School Picnic, Photo Day and a Welcome Tea for parents. It's been a terrific and busy opening week and the kids are happy!" □



back picnic" was held on September 15th to the delight of both students and parents! Bounce houses, music, pizza and fun were enjoyed by all.

Let's Build a Trap!

Goosehill: Kindergarteners in Ms. Ranaldo's class teamed up with Library-Media Specialist, Ms. Urso, for a creative project in response to a favorite book. After reading Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See? by Bill Martin Jr., students were challenged to solve a problem stemming from the story. According to Mrs. Ranaldo, the animals had escaped from the book and were hiding throughout the school building. To help them learn their way around their new school, she took the children on an expedition to locate them. All but Brown Bear were found, so they would build a trap to catch him. In teams, the students created blueprints and drew the materials they would need for their traps. They were truly little engineers at work! Students explained exactly how they would catch Brown Bear by building ramps, bridges, luring him with food and honey, and even toys! The idea began in Ms. Franciscovich's class, where students built traps to catch "Swiper," a sneaky fox who likes to 'swipe" items on the popular children's show Dora the Explorer. Each morning, students arrived to find numbers missing from their class board? They continue to fix and alter their traps to outsmart Swiper, catch him, and get their numbers back!





West Side: Recess Fun! The newly painted surface of the basketball court pavement brightened up the play area for students, which now includes a pickle ball and 4-square court, and hopscotch! Thank you to WSSPTG for funding this project, along with the additional help of Seahawks Booster Club.



Lloyd Harbor Flexible Seating: 6th graders in Ms. Matthews class are experimenting with new furniture called "flexible seating," where students have a choice to sit at open tables, low stools, or high-top stools. Ms. DeRosa's 6th graders at West Side also have the same.



Fourth graders spent the day exploring and learning about a "Journey into American Indian Territory." Every year, the elementary schools go back in time to learn about traditional Iroquois government and culture through studies that include a museum exhibit, games and stories, music and dance, and a clay workshop.

COLD SPRING HARBOR CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT 75 Goose Hill Road Cold Spring Harbor, N.Y. 11724

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Attention Taxpayers

The New York State School **Tax Relief (STAR)** program provides a school property tax reduction for **ALL** "primary residence" property owners. There are two types of STAR exemptions: Basic STAR and Enhanced STAR (for those over 65 and who meet income limits). Suffolk residents may call 631-351-3308 for more information; Nassau residents, 516-571-2490.

Homecoming



Homecoming Victory 20-0 against Wheatly/ Carl Place on October 6th. Thank you to everyone for coming out to support the Seahawks!

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