

# GOLD SPRING HARBOR



VOLUME 37, NUMBER 1

A REPORT ON OUR SCHOOLS

FALL 2013

## Understanding the New Common Core Standards

The true spirit of the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) is to improve our students' overall academic performance and to create change in our nation's public education system. Informed by the standards of other high performing nations, the CCSS are designed to ensure that all students graduate ready for college and a workplace in which people from often widely divergent cultures and who represent diverse experiences and perspectives must learn and work together. The Common Core represents a shift in instructional practices as well as content. Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction, Lydia Bellino, discussed the hard work of teachers and administrators over the last two years in selecting materials, programs, and realigning curriculum with the CCSS. It has always been the responsibility of the district instructional leaders together with teachers to thoroughly evaluate instructional materials, but now it is more important with the market flooded with programs claiming to be Common Core-aligned. Even more essential to a quality curriculum is consistent support for our teachers through professional development. This summer many teachers attended math workshops sponsored by our district and writing institutes at Columbia University's Teachers College. This professional development provided teachers with opportunities to experience some of the instructional shifts of the CCSS, walking in the student's shoes in writing and reading workshops and applying the mathematical



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practices in the Common Core. It has been wonderful to see teachers committed and invested to making the Common Core work. □

## eSpark iPad Initiative

### *Professional Development*

Over the course of the summer, (and all year long) most people do not realize the "behind the scenes" professional development that takes place in our school district. There is a myriad of programs and workshops filled to capacity and then some, including Columbia University Teachers College Reading/Writing Project, math and science workshops and webinars, the Virtual Desktop, Parent/Student Portals now K-6, Teacher Grade Books, expanded laptop/computer accessibility, and more. Technology in 21st century learning has changed the classroom to where today's students don't want to power off just because

*(continued on page 2)*

## eSpark iPad, cont'd

they're in school. These are tech-savvy children whose lives revolve around multimedia. The most profound way technology can enhance instruction is through the advantage of immediate, real-time assessment and data reporting. This data can help teachers assess students' strengths and needs, determine ability levels, pinpoint foundations skill gaps, and challenge advanced learners. This makes instructional planning more efficient and effective for classroom teachers and administrators. That is why CSH School District has begun utilizing the eSpark iPad Program, using the iPad simply because a PC cannot be utilized the same way anymore. The eSpark iPad Program analyzes each individual child as they navigate personalized learning through a series of quests and different Apps aligned with the common core. These Apps improve and support curriculum on an individual

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basis after pulling together profiles from their individual assessment skills. There is a Teacher Dashboard that informs them of students taking too long to get through quests for example. They assign Apps that are vetted for that child, making the iPad device secondary and the Apps being the systemic change for the students. As Director of Technology, John Contess, said, *"The instruction is driving the project, not the technology."* The enthusiasm of the teachers is contagious, and we wish it could be implemented in every grade. However, due to budgetary concerns, the initial pilot has been selected for First Grade (ELA), 3rd Grade (ELA), 4th Grade (AIS/Special Ed), 7th Grade (writers workshop, AIS), 8th Grade (Math). Denise Campbell, Director of Special Education, shared, *"A cap of only 20 teachers was suggested for the training seminar, and 35 teachers signed up – what a great turnout!"* □

## A Message from the Board...

Dear Resident:

Welcome back to the 2013-2014 school year. We began the year with 1,885 students in our four school buildings. It is the second year of the New York State tax cap and once again through careful planning and strong community support, we have remained within the cap while maintaining a strong educational program and class sizes that are beneficial to our students.

As you read the pages of this issue of "A Report on Our Schools" you will note initiatives that represent but a sample of what the faculty, staff, administration and board have been engaged in throughout the past year. The district has continued working toward thoughtful implementation of the Common Core Standards, and ensuring progress toward our goal of furthering the use of technology, in and out of the classroom. We have expanded the Parent Portal and refined the Virtual Desktop. Our science research program continues to flourish and in collaboration with the Cold Spring Harbor Educational Foundation we have enhanced our in-house science research facility at the High School. The board continues to prioritize capital projects in order to maintain our buildings and grounds. We are beginning to see the fruits of the first year of our energy performance contract as new lighting, energy saving controls, weather stripping, high school ceiling replacement and refrigeration controls have been installed. In addition, the Board continues to be dedicated in our efforts to move forward with our collective bargaining units with the goal of reaching settlements.

As educators and informed residents of New York State we have seen many changes in education over the years and recently we have been challenged by increasing unfunded mandates, a multitude of changes in curriculum requirements and student / teacher assessments, a suffering economy and the tax cap. These factors have tested our ability to plan and maintain a strong educational program while being ever mindful of our fiscal responsibilities and realities. So far, through collaboration and an extremely supportive community we have been successful. We are very grateful to the community for your support of this year's budget.

This fall we will once again be discussing and adopting our annual goals. Community input is invaluable in informing our work. We invite you to attend our monthly business meetings which take place on the second Tuesday of each month at the Francis Roberts Community Center and to check the district website or calendar for scheduled work sessions which review the progress of different initiatives taking place in the district. We also invite you to contact us by email at [BOE@csh.k12.ny.us](mailto:BOE@csh.k12.ny.us). Best wishes for a healthy and successful year!

Sincerely,  
Janice W. Elkin  
President, Cold Spring Harbor Board of Education



## A Message from the Superintendent...

Dear Community Member:

On September 9th, the CSH Schools opened its doors to 1,885 students – and the Board of Education, administration, faculty and staff are committed to making this year a successful one for each student entrusted to our care. Last May, our residents resoundingly approved a budget that



was within the State mandated tax cap. As a result of strong community support, the district has been able to preserve its longstanding class-size guidelines as well as enhance its extensive academic offerings which, this year, include a new *Virtual Enterprise* business course, *Advanced Placement Physics C*, and expanded opportunities in science research and academic support. In addition, Columbia University Teachers College Writers' Project will be extended to include our Junior High School grades. And because we believe that learning

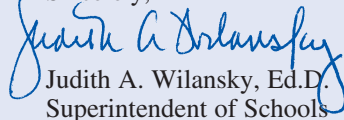
opportunities extend beyond the classroom, students will continue to enjoy a myriad of athletic and co-curricular opportunities. *Go Seahawks!*

The faculty will also be focusing on furthering integration of technology to enhance student learning. Our first and third grades, along with our special education classes, will be piloting an "*iPad*" initiative using their personal learning profiles to work toward individualized goals in literacy and math. Now that the district has the infrastructure necessary to support "anywhere, anytime" learning, we are extending student access with the addition of 200 new personal learning devices, including tablets and laptops. Use of the "parent portal" will be extended to the elementary schools where parents will have the opportunity to log on through a secure server and view their child's attendance, report card and State assessment data.

Teachers spent a busy summer writing curriculum and receiving professional development regarding implementation of the Common Core State Standards. As a result, our curriculum is more fully aligned and new resources have been purchased to support student mastery of these standards. We have protected our residents' investment in our schools by prioritizing infrastructure improvements in order that our students can learn in an environment that is comfortable and safe. Security remains an ongoing priority and funds allocated through our voter approved Capital Reserve program will be used to enhance the District's camera systems and install exit door sensors that can be monitored via a centralized station. Security professionals will continue to be present on all of our school campuses and the High School will fully implement an electronic identification system for all visitors to the school.

During a period when public education is "at risk" of being eroded by diminishing resources and an over-reliance on standardized testing, we must all remain committed to a quality education for our community's children. We are proud that our High School continues to earn recognition as being among the top 1% of public High Schools in America and that both Lloyd Harbor and West Side Elementary Schools are designated as "High Performing" by the New York State Education Department. Success is not the result of a singular source – it is the entire Cold Spring Harbor school community that defines who we are and what we are committed to. I thank you for your ongoing support. May I wish you and your family a successful year ahead!

Sincerely,

  
Judith A. Wilansky, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools



## Assemblyman Charles Lavine *Gives Grant to CSH Schools*

At the September Board of Education meeting, president, Dr. Janice Elkin, presented Assemblyman, Charles Lavine, with a Certificate of Appreciation to publicly acknowledge our gratitude for his advocacy on behalf of the Cold Spring Harbor School District. We are extremely grateful to accept a generous grant in the amount of \$50,000. In an era of diminishing resources, these monies will be dedicated to enabling our students to enjoy increased access and targeted applications of personal technology. Through the application of the program "e-spark" student learning profiles will be used to design personal goals in both English language arts and mathematics. These goals are aligned with the new Common core standards and will help some of our students achieve the standards in a manner that is engaging, enjoyable and relevant to our "digital natives." We will also be exploring the increased opportunities that "online and blended" learning can provide for our students. We look forward to growing this program to other grades in future years and wish to thank Assemblyman Lavine for enabling us to bring this program to our students. We are grateful that our politicians are committed to the most precious resource in our community – our children and their future. □

*Opening Day . . . For CSH Schools . . . Opening Day . . . For CSH Schools . . . Opening Day . . .*

## West Side Report

*From Mr. Simon...*

West Side School rang in the bell to 248 students, with 11 new students who now walk the historic halls of West Side School. It was a momentous occasion as the old gym was revamped over the summer, and was officially dedicated to former principal of 40 years, Mr. Ted Hilton – and renamed Hilton Gymnasium. It was a complete surprise to Mr. Hilton, who still lives down the street from West Side School and has mentored principals there since he retired. He was truly honored and humbled. The West Side Newsroom is up and running, with the theme of empowering kids to speak in front of their peers. Class and school charters are being created, and problem solving is at work from math class to team building. Students made their way to classes, and 6th graders helped the new arrivals. One noticed a shy second grader standing still, and simply said, *“Come on, I’ll show you the way.”* Mr. Simon is so proud of his students and shared, that he and all of the teachers and staff are very excited to be back to school, and they are extremely proud that West Side was recognized with a NY State Reward School Award, which was presented to Mr. Simon at the September Board of Education meeting. The halls were abuzz with laughter, and the playground was swirling with children sliding and swinging about. One new student thought Mr. Simon must be some sort of wizard; puzzled, she asked, *“But, how did you know my name? Are you magic?”* She didn’t realize he saw her earlier standing next to her brother! *“Sometimes it does feel like magic to be principal,”* said Mr. Simon, who is thrilled to begin another great school year. □



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## Lloyd Harbor Report

*From Mrs. Massimo...*

Lloyd Harbor welcomed 450 students on September 9th with 20 new students joining the ranks. Mrs. Massimo gave the 20 new students some homework at orientation – to create a poster sharing information about themselves – and a bulletin board has been dedicated to celebrate and welcome the newest family members to Lloyd Harbor. The buses pulled up greeted by school mascot *Austus the Lion*... along with parent and 6th grade ambassadors for the second grade shadow program. The students took their roles as leaders very seriously, as they escorted the new arrivals to the cafeteria for a smooth transition. Following one 2nd grade class to Mrs. Conroy's room for their first time, the students were greeted by a bag of "magic play-dough" where they had to make a wish with all their might, and upon squeezing it "if a color does appear – they're sure to have a great school year!" One thing was for sure, everywhere you looked, kids were smiling, and very happy to be back at school. Grade level assemblies were held, refreshing the students about school rules beyond the classroom. Mrs. Massimo was impressed upon visiting each classroom to see the unbelievable growth and learning, teacher continuity and writing reflection – at only the second day of school! She was extremely proud to have LH recognized with a NY State Reward School Award – and it certainly shows thanks to our outstanding teachers. LH also has new street signs in the hallways, and LHTV is up and running live each morning. In fact, the second graders were so shocked shouting, "We saw you on TV Mrs. Massimo!" They couldn't believe that one day they may be able to be on LHTV too. The reactions were priceless. It was a very exciting start to the school year. □



*"One thing was for sure, everywhere you looked, kids were smiling..."*



## Making "Peace" Connections

**Lloyd Harbor:** Each year the schools traditionally assign summer reading books. This year, Lloyd Harbor decided to try something a little different, "One School – One Book" was the new theme. They all read the book *Peace*, by Wendy Anderson Halperin. Each class celebrated the book and all of its quotes in their own unique way, building a community through literacy to kick off the school year. There were lessons shared in the Peace Garden, yoga classes given, watercolors painted, writing reflections shared, collages made, murals of hands decorated with the word Peace translated in many languages....all shared on bulletin boards throughout the school embracing and celebrating the meaning of ("Peace hands" illustrated in above photo with Mrs. Visceglie's class). Thank you to Mary Ellen DiCioccio and Ferne Chase who did all the behind the scenes work in planning everything. □



*Opening Day . . . For CSH Schools . . . Opening Day . . . For CSH Schools . . . Opening Day . . .*

## Jr. / Sr. High School Report

*From Mr. Matuk...*

The Jr./Sr. High School invited back 1001 students this year, including 21 new students to the population. If Mr. Matuk had to sum up the theme of the first day – it would be “great preparation” by our teachers and staff. Also, two excellent Superintendent Conference Days were well spent, and he thanked Dr. Wilansky. On the first day of school he said, *“It felt like just another day of school.”* Mr. Monastero actually photographed the halls as the first

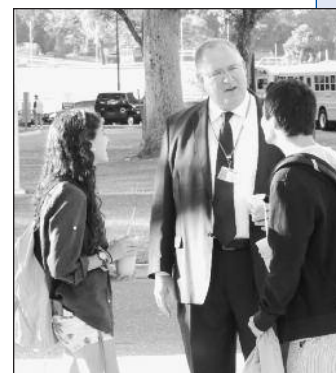
period bell rang at exactly 7:45am; not one student could be found wandering around lost. The buses pulled in on time (no small feat on the first day of school), 7th graders were already acclimated after their junior high BBQ and orientation, beautification days, and Unity Dance. Junior High students painted beautiful stained glass on display, please come take a look! The seniors took pride settling into the senior commons –their long awaited new home. Grade level assemblies have all been held reviewing code of conduct rules and expectations, and the reality of consequences. Teachers worked tirelessly over the summer engaging in an incredible amount of professional development. A new course entitled Virtual Enterprise is being offered, were students will be setting up their very own companies and testing their entrepreneurial skills. A new AP Physics C is now offered, and our Science Research class/lab is expanded and up and running. The eSpark iPad initiative will roll out this fall, and the Humanities program continues to make connections within the disciplines of English and Social Studies.

*“The staff at CSHHS will not let you fail,”* said Mr. Matuk, *“I am so proud of the collaborative effort of our teachers and staff.”* The new TV stu-

dio (entitled “HawkTalk”) is up and running with reporters, anchors and directors ready to film the latest news and events. Mr. Matuk is very grateful to Mark Margolies and the Buildings & Grounds Crews for completing the many needed projects and making the building look so beautiful both inside and out on the fields of the campus. The Seahawk turf field has been redone, and clearly there are not many schools that compare to this campus



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setting; we are very blessed and proud. Students are busy running for office, and homecoming and pep-rallies will be fast approaching. *“Sometimes we forget we are one of only a handful of schools that is a combined Junior/Senior High, and we have teachers that share classes in both schools—which is a wonderful continuity for both the students and the teachers. It’s been a great start to the 2013-2014 school year!”* said Mr. Matuk. □

## New Athletic Director *Michael Bongino*

CSH School District is proud to welcome our new Director of Athletics, Health & Physical Education, Mr. Michael Bongino. Formerly, Mr. Bongino was an Assistant Principal at Half Hollow Hills HS East 2008-2012, moving to Half Hollow Hills West in 2012-2013. (He was also a graduate of Hills East.) As part of his duties he oversaw the athletic program for the building, coordinating gym and field use for school and outside sports groups and private camps. He was responsible for recruiting and an Assistant Coach for Division I college soccer at SUNY Buffalo. He was head coach for varsity boys soccer, boys lacrosse, and girls basketball at Half Hollow Hills East. Prior to being Assistant Principal, he taught physical education, health, and sports medicine classes at Half Hollow Hills East (2002-2007), and began his career as an elementary physical education teacher in 1999 in that district. He serves as Head Counselor and Program Director at Camp Pontiac, supervising 350 boys and managing 150 counselors over the summer in Copake, NY since 2000-present. He also continues to be in charge of the girls U8 Division Plainview/Old Bethpage Soccer Club. Mr. Bongino



expressed, *“It is an honor and privilege to be the Director of Health, Physical Education and Athletics in CSH. I am excited to be a part of this wonderful community and continue the excellence that is going on in the classroom and on the athletic fields. Thank you to the Board of Education and District Administration for all their support throughout the summer. I also owe a debt of thanks to Jim Amen, whose wealth of knowledge helped me transition this summer and afforded me the opportunity to hit the ground running. The behind the scenes expertise of my assistant,*

*Denise Vigilo, has also allowed me not to skip a beat!”*

Mr. Bongino introduced himself to the parent community and student-athletes at the fall Code of Conduct meeting on Sept. 11th. He had a captive audience and a powerful message – explaining that athletics is a privilege that brings great responsibility, and it should be a positive experience. He asked the students to be accountable (not a master of excuses), to welcome challenges and go beyond your expectations, and to treat everyone with actions of integrity and good will. He acknowledged that athletics is an extension of the academic day, and there is a direct correlation to health & physical education that fosters the cornerstones of our development of character. He expects commitment, perseverance and respect.

At the September Board of Education meeting, Mr. Bongino revealed in the sight that every field was filled... in what he called his new “backyard.” *“I am looking forward to working with such dedicated coaches which is so evident and nice to observe,”* he said. Mr. Bongino is married and the father of two daughters (ages 3, 7), and personally played collegiate Div. I soccer and lacrosse at SUNY Buffalo. We welcome you and wish you luck! □

## Athletics

### *From Mike Bongino....*

*“Thanks to the generous donation of the Lessing and Bouchard families, Seahawk Field had a new turf installed this summer. I would like to thank Director of Buildings & Grounds, Mark Margoleis, for overseeing this project with Joe Amendolare and his staff for our student-athletes. Also, special thanks to Head Custodian Joe Servidio for all his help in preparing the building gymnasiums for a smooth transition on opening day. I welcome Terri Tini (formerly of Lloyd Harbor) to our staff. Please be sure to use our athletic web site for game information and communication [www.schedulestar.com](http://www.schedulestar.com) (formerly [highschoolsports.net](http://highschoolsports.net)) I look forward to seeing you out on the fields, at the track, at a Regatta, on the ice rink or in the gym to support our athletes, coaches and teams.”* □

## Homecoming!



Join us at the  
**Homecoming  
Football Game**

**Oct 12th @ 2 pm  
Seahawk Field**

Opening Day . . . For CSH Schools . . . Opening Day . . . For CSH Schools . . . Opening Day . . .

# Goosehill Report

*From Mrs. Herschlein...*

Goosehill opened its doors to 74 kindergarteners and 107 first graders, with 18 new students joining the Goosehill family. Mrs. Herschlein reported that the opening went incredibly smoothly, and credited that to an amazing staff that did so much advance preparation, from orientations and student visits to a summer packed with professional development workshops in science, math, Common Core Learning Standards, Teacher's College Writing Workshop, and the new eSpark iPad program. Teachers and students were busy creating class charters during the first days of school. As part of the school's Social-Emotional Literacy program, the children learn vocabulary words to describe feelings.

September's words are "excited" and "thrilled" – which pretty much summed up a wonderful beginning to the school year! *"With independence being our goal,"* Mrs. Herschlein said, *"We had over 90% of our students taking the bus to school.*

*This was impressive and really helped the children transition confidently into their classrooms."* All staff members were on hand to welcome the children back to school. True to form, Mrs. Herschlein also greeted each student by name, which is quite a feat in the first week of school. Lastly, students gathered for their first Spirit Day Assembly on 9/11 to discuss with great pride what it means to be a member of a class, group, a country... and of course their Goosehill family. □



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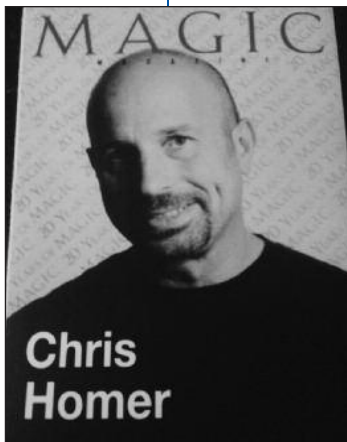




## Magic is the Trick

CSHHS Health teacher, Mr. Chris Homer was honored to appear in Newsday on August 25th revealing a few secrets about the world of magic and how it has helped him in the classroom, and in our community. The Holiday House is just one of numerous Long Island places Mr. Homer does volunteer performances. But his magic isn't exclusive to the stage. In 1984, Homer graduated Adelphi U. with an Art degree, he ended up taking the NYPD entrance exam and passed. But instead of training to become a police officer, he spent four months as a disc jockey in the Virgin Islands. In 1986, he began substitute teaching art classes at a NYC public school in Brooklyn. Homer immediately felt like he was in over his head. Homer said, "I was dying for a way to get their attention when I saw a magic special on TV and said to myself, 'What about magic?'" Homer bought two tricks at The Magic Shop in Hicksville and practiced until he got them down pat before trying them on the class. "The first time I did a trick for my students they had that look of wonder in their eyes and it hooked me," he said. "I couldn't believe that I could do that."

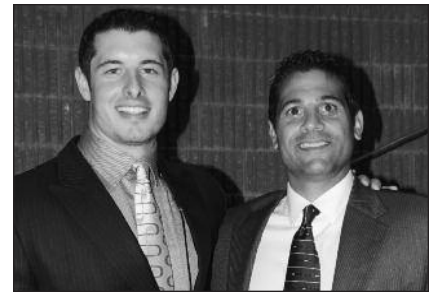
In 1987, Homer decided he wanted to teach health, something his mother had done for 34 years at Adelphi University, and he earned a



master's degree. A year later, he began teaching health for classes at schools across Nassau County for the Health Education Program for Prevention, which is run by the Diocese of Rockville Centre and the Nassau County Dept. of Drug and Alcohol Addiction. He taught 18 years at Adelphi and Hofstra Universities, than started at the Cold Spring Harbor Central School District in 1995, and has been here since.

Homer incorporated magic tricks into his lessons, including when dealing with the topic of drugs. That's when he brings out a "hallucination wheel," which simulates the effects of drugs like LSD. He has the class focus on the center of a spiral wheel, spins it, and then tells the group to focus on his head. "When we looked up his head got bigger, it was crazy," said Brandon Seider, 16, of Cold Spring

Harbor, who had Homer in seventh and tenth grades. "He always has the perfect demonstrations for the topic he's teaching and it really keeps everyone drawn in." While his magic is a selling point, it's Homer's general ability to connect with students that has made him one of the most popular teachers at Cold Spring Harbor, Seider said. Mr. Homer expressed, "It's the look on that person's face at that moment that's priceless, when you can tell they truly believe in magic...and that's why I do what I do." □



## Varsity Code of Conduct

**Matt Mayberry**

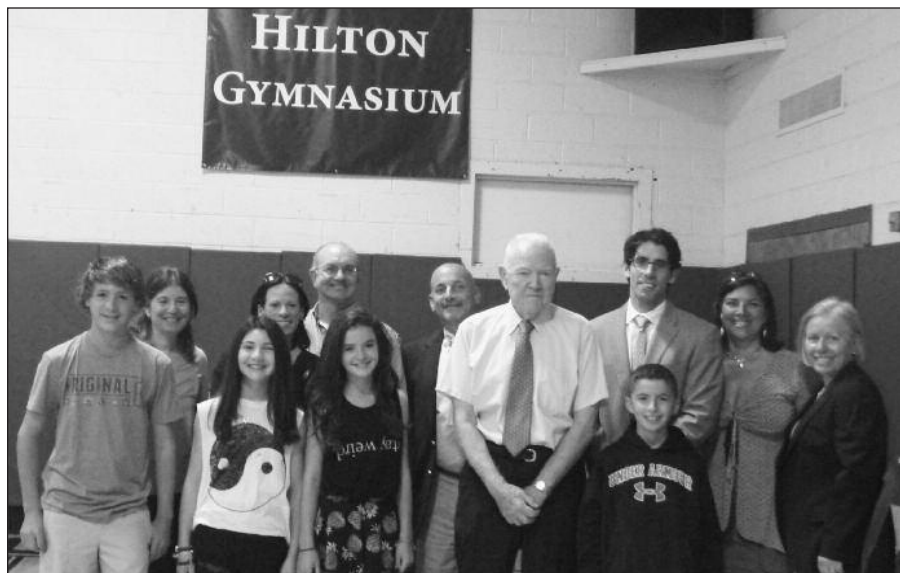
Mr. Bongino held his first Varsity Code of Conduct night introducing Matt Mayberry; former football player for the Chicago Bears and Indiana Hoosiers. Matt spends his time now bringing out the best in others and helping them reach their full potential in life. He was adamant that high school athletics made him who he is today, and that NOW – these moments in high school will be the most memorable of your life; nothing compares, not even a Super Bowl ring! But, the vulnerability of peer pressure will change your life depending on the decisions you make. He said, "You are who you hang out with." And if you want to be "great" and succeed, you need to have tremendous self-discipline, you need to have a relentless work ethic, you need to realize it's okay to fail because adversity is the best teacher, you need to write goals, and you need to have an unwavering self-belief that you can be great! He left us with a final challenge, "Don't settle for good, when you have greatness within you." Thank you Matt, for your inspiring words. □



## Safe Driving

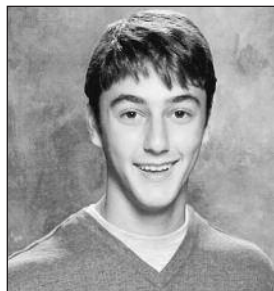
The annual Safe Driving Presentation mandatory for all seniors just never gets old for concerned parents and their new drivers in the family. CSHHS still maintains an open campus policy allowing students to go off campus for lunch or free periods. "This is a privilege," Mr. Matuk reiterated, "and one that our students have taken seriously, and been responsible for throughout the years." Distracted driving has become the number one killer for young drivers, surpassing drunk driving. We must continue to have dialogue with our children, and he hopes that this night is the start and continuation of many conversations to keep our children safe and responsible on the road. Students need to know the law, and the risks of bad decision making. The decisions you make effect everyone in that car; no text or distraction is that important. As the new national slogan goes, "It Can Wait!" Please be smart, nothing is that important to risk your life or someone else's on the road. □

*Honors . . . Honors . . . Honors . . . Honors . . . Honors . . . Honors . . . Honors . . . Honors . . .*



## West Side Ted Hilton Gymnasium Dedication

Over the summer, with a generous donation from the WSSPTG, help from Mr. Margolies and Mr. L’Hommedieu, West Side’s gymnasium was transformed. This is important to the West Side community as the gym is used daily as students lead their peers in the morning announcements, share work, and welcome local presenters. While the gym is used for athletic purposes, it is also the one place where the whole school gathers as a community. On the first day of school it has become tradition at West Side to ring the original school bell from the 1700s. However, this year there was also a dedication to Mr. Ted Hilton for his commitment to the West Side community. With Dr. Wilansky, members of the Board of Education, students, parents and staff members looking on, the gym was officially named “**Hilton Gymnasium**” after the longtime principal, Mr. Ted Hilton. Students cheered as he cut the ribbon which officially opened the new gym and the 2013-2014 school year.



**CORRECTION: Junior Book Awards** “Miami University of Ohio” recipient, **Matthew Levin**, mistakenly was omitted from the June article in our summer newsletter. We apologize for this error, and congratulate Matthew on his outstanding award.



**West Side recognized as a Blue Ribbon School:** Only 4 Long Island elementary schools were cited by the US Education Department for outstanding achievement as a National Blue Ribbon School. (The other three were Bayville-Locust Valley, Kramer Lane-Bethpage, and Shaw Avenue-Valley Stream). These schools were among 286 schools across the country, who will be honored in Wash DC at a ceremony the weekend of November 18th – Congratulations West Side!

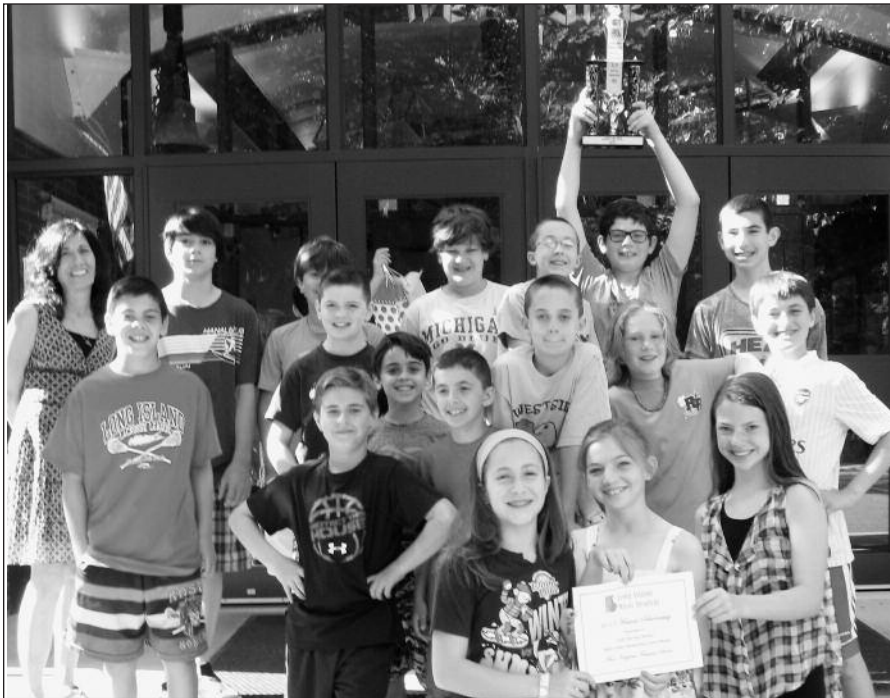


**Caroline Nadler and Katherine Kaye** were the **Jr. High winners of the Splashes of Gratitude for our Troops Art Contest** last Spring. They were honored along with other students from Long Island and NYC. Splashes of Hope is a charity dedicated to making medical and social service settings more conducive to healing through art. On June 14th there was an unveiling celebration of their art at the North Port Veteran’s Hospital in recognition of their thoughtfulness and support of America’s veterans.



**Lloyd Harbor & West Side School recognized as “Reward Schools”** by The University of the State of New York Education Department, in celebration of NY State Schools that have made the most progress or have the highest achievement in the State with no significant gaps in student achievement. Principal, Valerie Massimo, of Lloyd Harbor School and Principal, Kurt Simon, of West Side School were presented with their Award Certificates at the September Board of Education meeting by Board president, Dr. Janice Elkin.

*Honors . . . Honors . . . Honors . . . Honors . . . Honors . . . Honors . . . Honors . . . Honors . . .*



## Winner: West Side Jazz Ensemble

Music teacher, Ms. Sue Kleiner, from West Side Elementary is proud to announce that the **West Side Jazz Ensemble (5th/6th graders) was the winner of the 2013 Long Island Music Festival competition** on May 31st held at Suffolk Community College! The competition involved musical ensembles up to the high school age. After much diligence, tremendous effort and hard work, the jazz ensemble received the top rating of "Superior" at the competition. As the TOP scorer of the two day competition, the Long Island Music Festival presents a scholarship award to the highest scoring ensemble based on all of the groups over the two day festival. It is a monetary award given to the music department. West Side was notified that it had won the two day overall competition with a top score of 99.25%. Ms. Kleiner expressed, *"I couldn't be prouder. The jazz ensemble worked so hard all year. They were thrilled and so was I!"*

Digital art students, **Alanna Schetty** (grade 11), and **Bridget DeGiorgio** (grade 11), have created winning entries in the "**Embracing Our Differences**" art competition, run by the Suffolk Center on the Holocaust, Diversity & Human Understanding. Ms. Kristine Levy's classes entered their digital artwork created using visual metaphor as a way to promote tolerance and diversity. Each winning work of art will be enlarged to 12 x 16 feet, and exhibited on the Grant Campus of Suffolk County Community College, Brentwood, running from October 14th – 27th .



**Alexander (A.J.) Szilagyi** (graduate 2013) was honored as the **Outstanding Senior Science Student** of CSHHS at the annual awards dinner of the Suffolk Section of STANYS (Science Teachers Association of New York State). Alexander was chosen for the award by the high school Science Department based on his outstanding science achievements throughout his high school career. Brian Vorwald, co-chairperson of the event said, "It was a great night of awards where truly outstanding students and teachers were recognized for four years of hard work. Suffolk County and all of Long Island has made tremendous strides in science with an unprecedented number of Siemens and Intel finalists. It was a difficult task for school districts to choose just one recipient."



## James T. Pryal Writing Center

On September 3, 2013 the Board of Education held a ceremony at the Jr./Sr. High School for the dedication of the James T. Pryal Writing Center. Jim's family, past and current colleagues spoke of his contributions as a teacher in the English department for over 34 years. It was an afternoon filled with memories of a man who, as a person and teacher inspired so many of our students and staff. Please come by to visit (room H-22) and take a look at the Writing Center and the dedication plaque.

*Board of Education President shares the honor of the ribbon cutting ceremony with James T. Pryal's wife, Katie, son, James, and daughter, Katelyn.*

**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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**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.

**Notice to All Parents**

**Early Dismissal Drill Emergency Management Plan Requirement**

In compliance with the regulations of the Commissioner of Education, the Cold Spring Harbor Central School District has scheduled its annual test of the Early Dismissal Drill for:

**Friday, November 8, 2012**

All pupils in Grades K through 12 will be released ten minutes earlier than their scheduled dismissal time in order to test the early dismissal response of the district's Emergency Management Plan. Please make appropriate arrangements for the early arrival of your children as a result of the drill. Thank you.



**HS French club in Paris:** Students enjoyed a little "Joie de vivre" as 13 CSHHS members of the French Club travelled to Paris, Versailles (photo inset), and the South of France at the end of June with French teacher Paula Gozelski. This is the first year that the French Club has traveled to France in 22 years. Madame Gozelski said, "They even caught a day of the Tour de France in Nice which was very exciting, we all had a wonderful time!"



**At Goosehill Primary School,** students and parents enjoyed a wonderful family Welcome-Back Picnic on September 20th. It was a beautiful afternoon, and the field was abuzz with bounce houses, obstacle courses, playground fun, dancing with the DJ, and plenty of pizza, drinks and desserts donated by our parents and all organized by the GPFA. What a great way to begin the school year!

**IN THE NEWS**

- CSH K-12 Virtual Desktop is now accessible from all public access computers at the public library.
- Did you know you can take the bus to the public library? Bus G departs from CSHHS at 2:30pm every day.