

# COLD SPRING HARBOR



VOLUME 40, NUMBER 1

A REPORT ON OUR SCHOOLS

FALL 2016

## 1:1 Chromebook Initiative



Last October began the process of setting a goal “to further integrate the use of technology into teaching and learning by exploring the feasibility of piloting ‘one-to-one’

computing for Jr. High School students.” The term 1:1 very simply means that each student has their own computer device or tablet. But a meaningful 1:1 experience is much more than just technology. It requires utilizing that technology to its fullest extent so that it becomes a tool of effective teaching and learning and not just an expensive substitute for a notebook and pencil. To achieve a truly successful 1:1 initiative we need to ensure that the widespread use of technology is guided by innovative approaches to teaching, that promote critical thinking and collaboration.

In August of 2016, the Board of Education accepted the generous donation from the Cold Spring Harbor Educational Foundation in the amount of \$100,904 for the purpose of purchasing Chromebooks, cases, and carts for the 1:1 technology pilot initiative beginning fall of the 2016-2017 school year. In order for the roll-out to be the most effective, a three-year plan was set into place after careful planning and thoughtful discussion with administration, the Board of Education, educators in other districts, and the 1:1 Committee. The objective is not to rush the process, but rather



roll it out in a thoughtful manner that supports long term sustainability. First and foremost, teacher staff development has been a priority since last year, continuing over the summer and throughout the year in *Canvas* and *Google Docs*. *Canvas* is a Learning Management System (LMS) that brings all the K-12 classroom tools together. It is a program used by all of the Ivy League schools, and numerous other top tier colleges as well. And, even though the program begins with 7th graders using Chromebook carts in the classroom this fall, all students at the Jr./Sr. High will be introduced to *Canvas* and how to use it within the next three years.

**Cold Spring Harbor Central School District  
1:1 Implementation Timeline  
2016-2019**

Grade	Year 1 2016-2017		Year 2 2017-2018	Year 3 2018-2019
	In-Class	1:1		
7	In-Class	1:1	1:1	1:1
8		In-Class		
9				
10				
11				
12				



By this December, the 7th graders will be allowed to take their own Chromebook home as a work tool, and the “classroom carts” will then become available to the 8th grade classes. By September of 2017, the incoming 7th, 8th, and 9th grades will all have 1:1 Chromebook devices of their own, and the classroom carts will continue to be placed in other grades until eventually, after three years, students in every grade will have their own device by the fall of 2018. CSHSD is quite fortunate, in that our Superintendent of Schools, Robert C. Fenter, implemented 1:1 technology in his former district, and is excited to do the same in CSH. He 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. Thank you to the Board of Education, the CSH Educational Foundation, the 1:1 implementation committee under the leadership of Jay Matuk, our teachers, and our entire technology and leadership team for their commitment to this important work.” □

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

## National Merit Scholarship Program



Congratulations to the following students for being named “commended” and “semi-finalists” in the 2017 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*. Ten of our students received the honor of Commended status: **Justin Antolin, Robert Becker, Ryan Burns, Niall Coffey, Mikayla Hubner, Sarah Hubner, Thomas Jackson, Peter Markotsis, Julianne Russo, and Owen Toomey**. Less than 1% of participants advance as semi-finalists, and five of our students received this distinguished recognition at the high school: **Benjamin Basil, Ezra Brody, Alec Israeli, Katherine Northacker, and William Reed**. 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! □



(Superintendent, Robert C. Fenter, Music Teacher, Tim Jenks, Ryan McLaughlin, Alec Israeli, Erwin Li, Harrison Cohen, Catherine Khanamirian, Board of Education President, Amy Brogan and K-12 Music Chairperson, Brent Chiarello.)

• **All-State Honors Ensembles:** In September the Board of Education honored five music students; **Harrison Cohen and Catherine Khanamirian** were selected for All-State Mixed Chorus. **Ryan McLaughlin** was selected for All-State for trumpet, **Alec Israeli** was selected as an All-State Alternate for jazz piano, and Erwin Li was selected to the NYSMMA Piano Showcase (only 12 in the state are chosen). Harrison, Catherine, and Ryan will perform at the All-State Conference in Rochester this December. This is one of the highest accolades a high school music student can achieve. Congratulations to our students and their teachers, for their guidance and support. □

## Denise Campbell Appointment

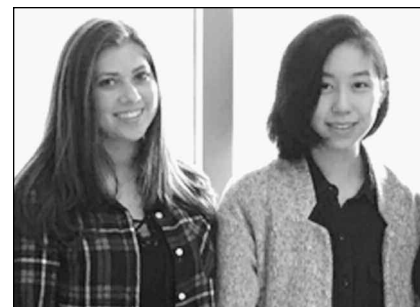
*Assistant Superintendent for Student Services & Human Resources*

At the July 12, 2016 Board of Education meeting Ms. Denise Campbell was appointed to the position of Assistant Superintendent for



Student Services & Human Resources. Superintendent, Robert C. Fenter, shared, “*The combination of Ms. Campbell’s talents along*

*with her extensive preparation for this position will serve as a sound foundation for the next successful stage of her professional career. I look forward to working closely with Ms. Campbell to provide her with support and guidance as she continues this journey.*” Congratulations to Ms. Campbell on her new role. □



• **Long Island Art Alliance “Arts Scholar-Artist Award”:** The class of 2016-2017 CSHHS winner for visual arts was **Ava Xu**. The program recognizes students judged to be “the best of the best” on Long Island in both academics and in the arts. In addition, the Award of Merit winner was **Theodora Siegel** for music. This event was held on September 8th in cooperation with Newsday, at Half Hollow Hills High School East.

## A Message from the Superintendent...

Dear Community Member:

Over the past three months I have had the opportunity to learn about the wonderful history, people, and schools of the Cold Spring Harbor community. During that time, I have met with school leaders, teachers, parents, students, political representatives, and a host of others, all of whom speak about the



importance and value of the Cold Spring Harbor schools in their lives and the lives of their children. I am very proud to have been selected as the tenth Superintendent for the Cold Spring Harbor Central School District and look forward to honoring the tradition of excellence and enhancing what is already an outstanding school district.

As part of my efforts to get to know more about the schools and staff in our district, I have established a residency program in which I spend an entire day in each of our four school buildings. During these visits, I spend time in classrooms, talk to leaders, teachers, and support staff, and gain an understanding of the cultures and workings of our schools. In my most recent residency, at the Jr./Sr. High School, I was able to see first-hand the instruction, programs, and facilities that our students enjoy on a daily basis. I look forward to continuing these visits and know that my increased knowledge of our school district will assist me in making a positive impact on the programs that we offer to our students.

As you may be aware, one of my most important responsibilities as Superintendent is to assist the Board of Education in the establishment of goals for the upcoming school year. This year, as in the past, our district goals reflect the areas of instruction, technology, facilities, health and wellness, and finance. In the area of instruction, we look to promote greater student 'voice and choice' in our instruction as a means of supporting student learning and engagement. In the area of technology, we will be building upon work done last year by our leaders and teachers by launching a Chromebook initiative at the Jr./Sr. High School. This initiative will support collaborative and student-centered learning experiences in our classrooms while helping to prepare our students for their future college and career experiences. In the area of facilities, you will see that the Board of Education is exploring the possibility of the construction of a Physical Education and Wellness Center. This facility, if approved, will provide all students at the Jr./Sr. High school with a facility that will support a healthy lifestyle, provide an optimal setting for course offerings such as dance, yoga, aerobics and others, while also helping to meet the needs of our student athletes.

Of course, all of our efforts to enhance our programs and facilities will occur while ensuring that we meet our district goal of long-term financial stability for many years to come. We are grateful to our partners at the Cold Spring Harbor Educational Foundation for their support of the Chromebook initiative as well as a number of other efforts that broaden and enhance the programs we offer our children. We are also grateful for the support of the many parent groups in our community for their efforts to support our programs and facilities. It is through relationships such as this that we can continue to expand offerings for our students while limiting the impact on our district's financial obligations, during a tax cap era.

As you continue to look through this newsletter, you will see the full listing of district goals for the coming year. I hope that you will agree after reading them, that these goals reflect a thoughtful and inspired beginning to a school year that proves to be productive and rewarding for all.

Wishing you the very best in the year ahead!  
Sincerely,

Robert C. Fenter  
*Superintendent of Schools*

## District Goals 2016-2017

### 1. Instruction

To provide students with "Voice and Choice" in all subject areas and grade levels in an effort to enhance the many efforts of our teaching staff to differentiate instruction for our students.

To further integrate the 'Inquiry Model' of instruction into the social studies program by providing students with opportunities to examine, analyze, and ultimately take action on issues that are of concern to our community, nation, and world.

### 2. Technology

To begin the implementation of a 1:1 computing model in all 7th grade classes and to expand the model to grades 8 and 9 by the start of the 2017/18 school year and to grades 10-12 by the start of the 2018/19 school year.

### 3. Health/Wellness/Safety

To reinforce the importance of social and emotional learning as a critical component of our district's efforts to ensure that our schools are inclusive and caring learning communities that are free from the impact of bullying or harassment.

### 4. Facilities

To address the needs of our physical education, wellness, and athletic programs by exploring the possibility of a bond referendum to construct a facility at the Jr./Sr. High School.

### 5. Finance

To assess the long term financial implications of the state imposed tax cap on the Cold Spring Harbor School District especially as it relates to possible CPI limits well below the allowable 2%.



## A Message from the Board...

Dear Residents:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Dr. Wilansky who retired in July, for her eight years of service as Superintendent. Her tireless efforts and guidance were invaluable. I also want to welcome Mr. Robert C. Fenter as our 10th Superintendent of Schools. We are so excited to start this journey with him to continue the excellence of this district and to build on our successes.

This is the fifth year of the state imposed tax cap. Despite the limitations imposed by this cap, our community supported and successfully passed our school budget. It was through much planning and critical decision-making that we were able to present a balanced budget that contained no loss of programs or staff layoffs. In fact, we were able to include new course offerings, expand music instruction and, thanks to the generous donation of the Cold Spring Harbor Educational Foundation, bring the Coral Reef Project to the Jr./Sr. High School. At the elementary school level, we instituted the utilization of the electronic Grade Book. This will allow parents to view their children's grades on tests, assessments, and homework in real time.

District-wide, we continue to support social emotional learning. Through careful planning, we continue to review and prioritize the improvement and maintenance of district facilities in order to make the most of our capital expenditure dollars. We also have updated our Emergency Response Plan and provided training to our staff pursuant to new regulations adopted by the NYS Board of Regents. This provides reassurance to our community that the district has established guidelines and procedures to respond to threats and hazards efficiently and effectively.

Importantly, we continue to explore the use of technology to increase student engagement and academic achievement. In furtherance of this goal, and thanks to continued support and donated funding of the CSH Educational Foundation, a 1:1 Chromebook initiative will be implemented this year. In preparation for the roll out, our district leaders and 1:1 Committee have worked hard to develop a comprehensive plan to provide professional development to our teachers and staff to ensure successful implementation.

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 come solutions and innovation. This year we must continue to strive to make what is good the best, and what was the best last year, even better. 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*  
CSH Board of Education



(front row) Janice Elkin,  
Amelia Brogan, *President*,  
Mark McAteer, *Vice*  
*President*, (back row)  
Anthony Paolano, Lizabeth  
Squicciarini, Ingrid Wright,  
Mark Freidberg.

## BOND REFERENDUM

### *Proposed* *Physical Education &* *Wellness Center*

This year, one of the *District Goals* is to address the needs of our physical education, wellness, and athletic programs by exploring the possibility of a bond referendum to construct a facility at the Jr./Sr. High School. The Board of Education held a special meeting and a second public forum in September, where the Board reviewed a specific proposal for the facility and then sought feedback from the community. This potential project would result in the construction of a two-floor 6000 square foot facility attached to the back of the field house. It would include a 3000 square foot facility to be used by all students in grades 7-12 in their regular physical education classes and can support specialized course offerings such as dance, kickboxing, and aerobics. The facility would also provide a much-needed appropriate space to train our Jr./Sr. High athletes. The facility would also include storage space, and athletic training and office space, in close proximity to our field house and playing fields. Potentially, this facility can also provide a community resource for adult education courses. (Please visit the district home page at [csh.k12.ny.us](http://csh.k12.ny.us) and click on the "News" link to view the proposal presentation in detail.)



Join Us at the  
**Homecoming**  
**Football Game**

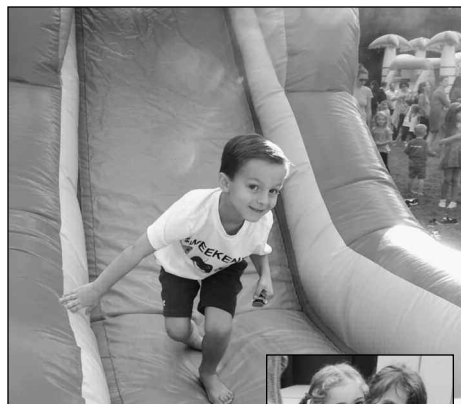
Oct. 22nd @ 2 pm  
Seahawk Field

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

# Goosehill Report

*From Lynn Herschlein...*

I am pleased to report it was a remarkably smooth opening at Goosehill Primary School. We welcomed 200 students (including eight new students and two sets of triplets!). The process of preparing our school begins in May with Kindergarten screenings, parent orientations, welcome teas and an Open House for the children to visit their new classrooms and meet their teachers. These activities helped our students and their families feel comfortable and eager to begin the school year. Thank you to all of our teachers who worked over the summer organizing for the new school year and engaging in professional development. All of the children entered prepared, happy, and ready to start the school year. The only tears were in the eyes of the parents! During the first weeks of school, teachers engage the children in activities designed to foster their ability to listen carefully, interact respectfully, follow routines, and implement procedures. Sharing, making good choices and self-regulation all are part of the learning process for young children. Our goal is to develop independence and a sense of competence so that our students can learn at high levels, take pride in their accomplishments, and become contributing members of their school community. The GPFA continues to provide a great deal of support for all of our programs, including the annual GPFA Welcome Back Picnic, which is a favorite experience for our families. We are all looking forward to another great year. □



**Goosehill Back to School Picnic:** *It was impossible not to have fun at the annual Welcome Back Picnic at Goosehill Primary School. The music had you dancing on the field, which was filled with bounce houses, kids on the playground, pizza for all, Italian ices, and smiles and laughter everywhere you turned. Thank you to the GPFA for another great afternoon of fun on September 16th.*

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

# Lloyd Harbor Report

*From Valerie Massimo....*

It was a magnificent opening day, with our very own mascot *Leo the Lion* greeting returning students from their summer vacation. Lloyd Harbor School welcomed nearly 400 students (including 20 new students). The PTG hosted the New Family Orientation and organized another successful “second grade shadows” program. During the first week of school, grade level assemblies were held with a focus on student safety, appropriate behavior and proper use of technology, along with the development of class charters. Our live morning announcements on LHTV introduced a new segment entitled “Words of Wisdom” supporting district-wide SEL (social emotional learning) initiatives. A “Peace & Unity” flag was created with student name banners in honor of 9/11, and we held an official ribbon-cutting ceremony for the opening of our new sport court, thanks to the generous donation of the LHSPTG. Our opening week concluded with the culmination of our summer reading project, which focused on the theme of tolerance and diversity. The one thing that remains constant is the dedication of our faculty and staff who are committed to making our learning environment challenging, authentic and motivating. I am looking forward to a great year... thank you to the PTG, the Board of Education, and our new Superintendent, Mr. Fenter. □



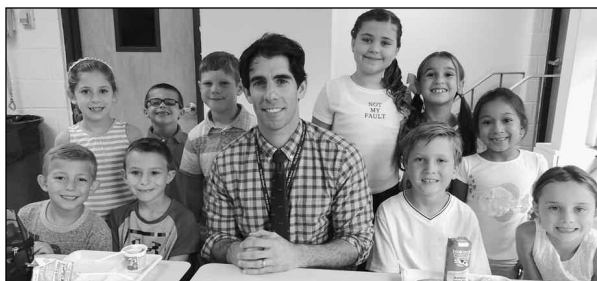
**Lloyd Harbor Sport Court Ribbon Cutting Ceremony:** Thanks to the generous donation from the LHSPTG, the students at Lloyd Harbor School now have a state-of-the-art “Sport Court” outside next to the playground. The official ribbon-cutting ceremony was held on September 12th and now the students can enjoy activities including volleyball, badminton, four-square, basketball and more. The decision to build a sport court stemmed from a student survey along with year-long lunch meetings with the principal, that concluded with a common theme; “How can we make our recess experience better?” A special thanks to Denise Burns who was instrumental in this initiative, and also the support of the Seahawks Booster Club.

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

## West Side Report

*From Kurt Simon....*

West Side opened its doors to 231 students including six new families, all of whom felt right at home after New Family Orientation and our Summer Reading Celebration, a culminating activity at the end of our first week of school. We were honored to have former principal, Ted Hilton, ring in our 227th year with Student Council President, CJ Reilly. The chimes of the original school bell echoed through our halls, which were lined with carefully crafted school charters. Class jobs have been created, history tours were prepared, growth mindset tickets for “good deeds” are underway, and our sixth graders kicked off the H.E.R.O. (Helping Everyone Reach Out) Project. As always our 6th graders were there helping to answer questions and guiding our newest second graders, taking them under their wings in the morning and on the bus. We also welcomed Ms. Diana Marlow, our new school nurse. A new attraction is the “Make your Mark” bulletin board. This bulletin board, created by art teacher, Ms. McLaughlin, was designed as a community building activity. When classes travel by, they have the opportunity to stop and color, even if it is only for a minute or two, to “make their mark.” This type of creativity from our teachers and students is just one more reason why I am so proud of our learning community. We also now have four new picnic tables with umbrellas, thanks to the PTG, outside the library which accommodate 32 kids per session. Thank you also to the PTG who made sure all the school supplies were delivered, as well as special goodie bags for the teachers and staff on the first day. We are off to a great start! □



## Tomato Sauce Day

*Seconds Please...*

Beginning in 2010, West Side planted its first organic garden and compost station. Six years later, the garden is thriving thanks to the family co-ops who tend the garden on a rotating basis during the year and over the summer. The fruits of their labor prosper each year into a bountiful collection of beans, tomatoes, cucumbers, herbs, peppers and more. The West Side Garden Committee, headed by Suzi Berg, is committed to helping the students at West Side see and taste the rewards of their efforts. Each year, a small army of parents cook up tomato sauce to serve at lunch shortly after returning to school from their summer vacation. The kids dip bread into samples of the tomato sauce and choose garden herbs to mix in. The plants they watched grow, and helped water, have been transformed into a family favorite dish. The consensus was undeniable on Sept. 26th – seconds please! They couldn’t race up fast enough for more... Yum.



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

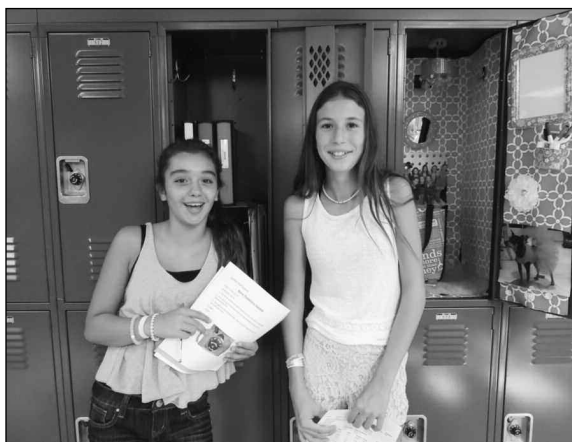
### Jr. High Report

*From Joseph Monastero...*

The junior high opened its doors early in August for the annual “Beautification” days where students in grades 7 and 8 decorated t-shirts, made new friends, and devoured 80 pizzas, 500 ice pops, and 14 cases of water! Next was 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, magnetic chapsticks and wall paper. The new 1:1 Google Chromebooks initiative is underway, all students have their new student portals up and running, and grade level charters have been set as part of the school district Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Program. The 8th graders jumped right into the third annual “Challenge Day” at Caumsett Park; a very special, yet challenging day. Students participated in ice-breaker games and worked together in carefully selected groups meant to take kids out of their comfort zones, breaking down cliques, barriers, and creating new friendships. Students work on team building and problem solving skills. It truly is an amazing day. □



*Junior High 7th graders attended the annual assembly on “Journey into American Indian Territory” exploring the native people of the Eastern Woodlands, their gender roles, songs and dances, tools, weapons, housing and more. Students were separated into female and male groups. Using “talking sticks” like the native Indians, the groups were divided into teams and given tasks of choosing a tribe leader and making laws. This event is sponsored by the Cultural Arts Committee.*



### New Staff Orientation

*Superintendent, Robert C. Fenter, and Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, Dr. Lydia Bellino, (both far right) welcomed five new teachers/staff who joined the ranks at CSHSD for the 2016-2017 school year. Sheila Mauriello (HS-Earth Science), Carly Bock (HS-Science/Biology Leave Replacement), Kristin Schmid (GH Psychologist), Marisa Schlomo (Speech GH, Leave Replacement), and Meryl Landau (Jr. High-Social Studies). Each were presented with their very own library card, from CSH Library Director, Dr. Roger Podell, (far left with Assistant Director, Diane Scinta).*

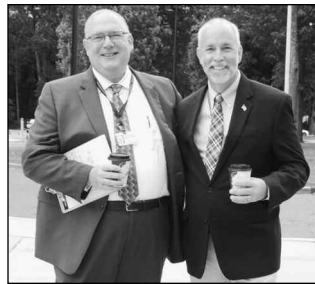


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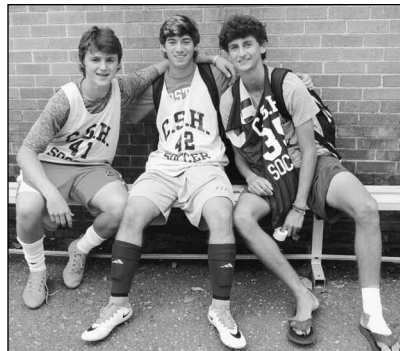
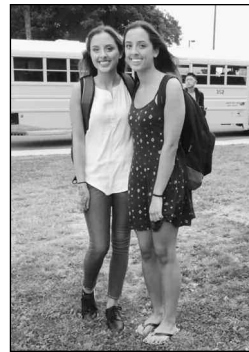
## Jr./Sr. High Report

*From Jay Matuk...*

It was a pleasure to welcome 956 students back to school. In what was one of the smoothest openings in recent memory. We welcomed several new teachers this year, renovated several science labs and completed the refinishing and design of a new floor in the field house that could rival that of any college. The 8th grade trip to Caumsett was another huge success, receiving very positive student reviews. Clubs are up and running, plays are underway, the fields are packed with athletes in uniform trying to survive the heat, and the halls are filled with smiles at seeing old friends. We had our Ambassadors in place thanks to the help of Mrs. Halloran's community service groups and the *Natural Helpers Club* for any students needing help. The seniors and parents attended the annual *Safe Driving* presentation, because nothing is more important than keeping our senior drivers safe on the road. Distracted driving, as well as driving under the influence were discussed in detail. Teachers continue training and professional development that began last year in Google for Education and in Canvas, our new student management system. Our 7th graders will be piloting a 1:1 initiative this fall, with all students receiving a Chromebook for use at home and in school. This is part of a three-year phase-in that will include all grade levels in this initiative by the 2018-2019 school year. As always, thank you to the clerical, custodial and buildings and grounds crews who worked tirelessly over the summer in preparation for a smooth and seamless transition into the new school year. □



*Principal Jay Matuk, with Superintendent Robert C. Fenter.*



*Senior Mural: At the Sept Board of Education meeting, Dr. Browne shared her pride over the senior mural, which is painted and designed by the seniors each year in the cafeteria. Sometimes it takes until December to complete the mural. But this year, the seniors had it almost finished before school even began. A corner of the mural pays tribute to a beloved teacher, Ms. Victoria Terenzi, who passed away this summer after battling breast cancer. Please stop by and take a look ...what a heartfelt way to start the year off for our seniors. Photo inset of some of the many students who took part in the mural: (from left to right) Juliet Insinga, Julie Russo, Tommy Campbell, Jillian Futter, Amanda Lauro, Paige DeNatale, and Katherine Kaye.*

### Mark your calendars

**“Rumors”** by Neil Simon takes the stage for the CSH Senior High Drama Club & Arts Booster Club presentation Nov. 5th – 7th. Then, on December 10th – 11th the **West Side Musical** will perform **“Fiddler on the Roof”** at the Performing Arts Center. Come out and support the arts!



## Safe Driving

On September 12th Principal Jay Matuk held the annual Safe Driving Presentation mandatory for all seniors. Assistant Principal, Dr. Browne, shared, *"This presentation is extremely important to Mr. Matuk, and very near and dear to the heart for all the staff here at the high school."* Mr. Matuk believes, *"Academics are secondary to our student's 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. Mr. Matuk maintains that driving is a privilege, and our students have taken this privilege seriously, and been responsible for 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 Suffolk County Legislator Dr. William Spencer, who asked the students to stand and take a pledge with him to not text and drive. He said that, although 98% of students know it's wrong, 80% still do it; a scary fact. Speaker, Shaun McCready (Assistant District Attorney from the Vehicular Crime Bureau) shared, *"Students need to know the law, the penalties, and the risks of bad decision making. The decisions you make effect everyone in a car; no text or distraction is that important. It can wait!"* Mr. McCready showed a very powerful film about a 28-year-old Long Island man who drove his boat drunk from Fire Island killing another local man in a tragic boating accident. The boat driver said, *"I just wanted to get home and sleep in my own bed, now my own bed is in prison."* Thank you to our speakers for the powerful messages and presentation. □

## Caumsett Park Challenge Day

On September 8th, three days into the new school year, eighth graders piled onto buses for the third annual field trip to Caumsett Park. This wasn't an ordinary field trip, but rather an initiative sparked by school leaders to provide all students with a safe and supportive learning environment. Principal, Jay Matuk, explained, *"We took great pains planning this event in June, and spent several hours dividing kids into groups, taking them out of their comfort zones and making sure that students had the opportunity to experience the day with peers whom they might not necessarily have gotten to know during their 7th grade year at CSH."* Students were placed into teams and were required to engage in a series of activities including **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 co-supervised by a member of the CSH faculty. Barriers were broken as students found themselves working side by side with peers who until today were just classmates but now were becoming friends. This also enabled our students to become more aware of the existence of cliques and the behaviors which can unknowingly exclude others. They practiced strong communication and negotiation skills through listening and speaking. There were conflicts to resolve and every student had the opportunity to provide input into the way the team solved each of their challenges. Often students were heard saying, "This is impossible!" and "No one can do this!" Some who had arrived disappointed that they were not with their friends, all spoke later about their experiences and how they were happy to meet so many new friends and break down preconceived notions about some of their classmates. It was SEL (Social Emotional Learning) at its best. We are very grateful to the staff at the Caumsett State Historic Park, and the Nassau BOCES Environmental Education Center for a fabulous day. □





## Teachers College Columbia University

Twenty-five teachers gathered at West Side School on September 23rd for a day of teaching and learning hosted by Principal Kurt Simon. CSH fourth grade teachers, Katie Dopico and Kristen Sewell, together with educators from neighboring districts of Amityville, Great Neck, Herricks, Hewlett, and North Shore, are members of a study group working in partnership with Teachers College Columbia University. The teachers spent the day engaged collaboratively in planning and working in classrooms on lessons focused on best practices for small group instruction. Last year Valerie Massimo, Lloyd Harbor principal, hosted a day focused on writing instruction and small group work. Dr. Lydia Bellino, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction shared, *“Teachers College staff developers from Columbia University have worked in partnership with Cold Spring Harbor for the past five years, providing on-site classroom demonstration lessons and professional development workshops focused on content and pedagogy.”* □

## School Facility Updates

While many of us were enjoying “schools out!” summer vacations, the district plunged into full-force facility update mode. Over the summer, Director of Buildings & Grounds, Mark Margolies, and his staff completed an impressive number of upgrades and repairs. The custodial staff in every building stripped and re-waxed all the floors, shampooed all the carpets, painted, cleaned and repaired all rooms and furniture, and cleaned all windows and blinds.

### Junior High

two science rooms renovated • walls and floors in seven classrooms, three offices and the library were repaired after the flood in June

### High School

two faculty restrooms were renovated outside the Guidance office • two new roof top HVAC units for Guidance are complete • two new electric water heaters were installed • thermal pipe insulation were abated • irrigation well renovations and upgrades to the system were done

### Athletics

running track resurfaced • field house floor refinished and painted with Seahawk logos

### West Side

four new steam condensate receivers complete • four classrooms received new casework • new floor tile installed in two classrooms, a corridor and a closet

### District-wide

carbon monoxide detector systems installed • fire alarm systems cleaned and tested • fire extinguishers district-wide inspected  
• CSHSD passed its annual fire safety inspection • septic systems pumped



## Summer Workshops Professional Development

Cold Spring Harbor teachers participated in a number of professional development programs over the summer months. On August 22nd–23rd, instructional technology specialists from LogicWing organized a two-day professional learning experience for teachers, held at the South Huntington School district. Eighty educators from ten districts across Long Island attended the summit, participating in discussions and professional networking, which included nearly thirty of our own CSH teachers. Workshop sessions on the 1:1 classroom, teaching 21st Century skills, and increasing student engagement with technology were well received by the teachers. Educational apps and tools by Google, Microsoft, Goosechase and BreakEdu were highlighted by the presenters through hands-on activities. Various challenges were also held, and the District is happy to report that Mr. Chris Homer and Ms. Jillian Franciscovich (photo insert) tied for first place in a 5-district educational technology competition! They were the only two who completed a 30-task technology challenge, and they were each awarded an educational “break-out” game for their school. Thank you to all of the educators who attended these valuable workshops. □



**COLD SPRING HARBOR CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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**Alumni Corner Honor**

**Billy Lister Paralympian Rio 2016.** CSH 2002 graduate and former lacrosse player shared his amazing experience with former coach Dennis Bonn on being selected to the 2016 Paralympian cycling team in RIO – Team USA. Billy was one of 18 athletes nominated to the US Cycling Team to compete in September.

He shared, "While I came up a bit short of my personal goal of winning a medal, I left everything out on the race course and I am extremely proud of my performances; as well the team's overall success." □

**Author Visit Richard Torrey**

Children's book author, illustrator, and editorial cartoonist, Richard Torrey, visited Lloyd Harbor school on September 22nd to the delight of third graders. He told the students he started to become an author at their age when he began doodling as soon as he could hold a crayon. When Mr. Torrey was in third grade, he showed a picture of a horse he had drawn to the legendary comic strip creator, Charles Schulz. Schulz drew Snoopy on the back of the picture, inspiring Mr. Torrey to follow a similar career path. "You are all budding authors," he told them, "writing is hard, but it is one of the single most important things you learn in life because you will use it in everything you do." □

