



# Freeport

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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## POINTS OF PRIDE

### January 2020

#### ACADEMICS

- The Freeport School District Board of Education and administration recognized the top 10 students of the Class of 2020 during its Board of Education meeting.
- Columbus Avenue School students eagerly welcomed Santa Claus for a classroom visit. One-by-one, they sat next to Santa and told him what they wanted for Christmas, while receiving a special gift from Santa, "The Little Red Sled (Clifford's Puppy Days)."
- The High School Human Relations Club presented a Human Rights Day assembly in the Performing Arts Center entitled "Deconstructing Symbols of Hate." Students had the opportunity to listen to the eyewitness testimony from 96-year-old Holocaust survivor Ms. Anita Weisbord. In addition, Youth Action Workshops Against Violence were presented in the library by Ms. Helen Turner, the director of education at the Holocaust Memorial & Tolerance Center of Nassau County.
- New Visions School students sharpened their thinking skills by participating in a Chess Nuts program, where they learned the history of chess, how to play the game, how to utilize the thinking process, rules and gamesmanship, and gained an understanding of strategy and patience.
- New Visions School hosted its second annual Discovery Day, which has been dubbed De'STEM'ber Day with exciting holiday-themed STEM activities that included a marshmallow catapult, holiday coding/robot present hunt, the gingerbread man trap, holiday LED cards, elf LEGO workshop and more.
- Archer Street School students from kindergarten to fourth grade became programmers while participating in the school's fifth annual "Hour of Code," in honor of Computer Science week. This year, Osmo coding was introduced to kindergarteners, while first and second graders programmed short digital stories using Scratch Jr. In addition, third and fourth graders interacted with Scratch by coding their own Superhero character.
- Freeport High School DECA Club members have a lot to celebrate, as 11 students were named winners and five other students received honorable mention during the



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Nassau County DECA Regional Competition. The DECA winners will participate in the New York DECA State Competition in Rochester from Feb. 26-28.

- Freeport High School fashion marketing students went on an adventure to Macy's in Herald Square in Manhattan with their teachers Mrs. Nela Hawthorne and Mrs. Vanessa Tawil. During their visit, they completed a scavenger hunt to understand how a major retail store operates. They plan on applying this knowledge to class projects related to marketing strategies learned during the trip.
- The J.W. Dodd Middle School hosted an informative Parent University that focused on digital citizenship. Several Dodd teachers worked together and developed an interactive presentation where participants were able to answer questions using their cell phones.
- Dodd Middle School chemistry students are learning about atoms, molecules, the Periodic Table of Elements, compounds, mixtures and density. During an interactive lesson, they determined if an object will sink or float based on the mathematical computation of the object's density.
- Freeport High School senior Tyler Hawkins was among 1,928 semifinalist nationwide selected for the 2020 Coca-Cola Scholars Program.
- New Visions School hosted its 8th Annual Peace and Leadership Award Presentation, where students performed songs and recited poetry to pay tribute to the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The assembly also recognized five students who were nominated for the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Award. Jasmin Bogle-Villafuerte was crowned the winner of the award, based on her ability to demonstrate the non-violent virtues and qualities of Dr. King.

## THE ARTS

- The winter season was in full effect throughout the Freeport School District, as each school hosted its annual Winter Festival of the Arts Concerts, where students showcased their musical talents and exhibited their creative skills, as their holiday-themed work was on display for attendees to view.
- The High School's Select Chorale has continued its exciting tour by performing at multiple prestigious venues under the leadership of Director Monique Retzlaff. The talented group ventured to MetLife Stadium and performed before a packed crowd



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during the New York Jets vs. Miami Dolphins football game. They also serenaded tourists and staff at the Empire State Building in New York City with an array of choral music, and then toured the interactive museum and experienced an exquisite view of Manhattan from the 86th floor.

- The High School Sinfonietta has performed for many prestigious events since the start of the school year, under the direction of Ms. Jill Boardman. A select group of members, titled The Caprice String Ensemble, were invited to perform at Senator Brooks Annual Golden Gathering held at the Freeport Recreation Center. The Sinfonietta also performed at the American Legion Veterans Day Observance to honor our fallen heroes.

## **ATHLETICS**

- The Board of Education honored the Freeport High School Red Devils varsity football team on their outstanding achievement of winning their second consecutive Long Island Conference I Championship. The win marked Freeport's seventh title since 2000.

## **ALTRUISM**

- The Freeport Board of Education was presented with a \$52,319 check from the Freeport Education Foundation. The funds will support the implementation of 16 innovative grants in the district. In addition, 10 scholarships, of \$500 each, will be awarded to 10 graduating seniors.
- Archer Street School fourth grade students of the Enrichment For Leaders program along with select chorus, band and orchestra visited the Freeport Recreation Center to spread some holiday cheer. They brought cards, cookies and candy before they serenaded their senior friends with their amazing voices and instrumental skills.
- The J.W. Dodd Middle School students from Future Corps Club and Ms. Cynthia McManus' class collected donated coats and delivered them to the Salvation Army Freeport Corps Community Center. The students were so proud to help those in need.



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