



Freeport

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POINTS OF PRIDE MAY 2018

- Board of Education President Mr. Michael Pomerico received the Nassau BOCES 2018 Education Partner Award on April 11 for his outstanding contributions to public education in Nassau County. He was one of 15 individuals who were honored at the 12th annual Nassau BOCES Education Partner Awards Gala.
- As part of the Freeport Cares tradition, nearly 3,000 students, staff members, members of the Board of Education, local elected officials and community residents came together in a celebration of peace and nonviolence at the ninth annual Peace March and Health and Wellness Fair.
- New Visions unveiled a brand new Peace Pole on its front lawn during a ceremony designed to formally introduce the symbol of unity.
- Freeport High School teacher Peggy Parigoris was named the Nassau County Outstanding High School Science Teacher of 2018 by the Science Teachers Association of New York State.
- Faculty members at Bayview spearheaded an initiative to celebrate the hard work of the school's cafeteria staff, comprised of head cook Diane Anatra, Mary Cox, Elva Lopez, Rosa Nunez and Corinne White.

ACADEMICS

- Freeport High School senior Franco Ramirez was selected as a recipient of the prestigious Gates Scholarship, an award earned by only 300 students from a pool of 28,700 applicants nationwide this year. As a result of this honor, Ramirez's full tuition for all four years of college will be completely funded when he begins attending New York University in the fall, where he plans to major in civil engineering.
- Freeport High School senior Sebastian Mauras was honored by Assemblyman Brian Curran for his academic success, athletic abilities and his selfless acts of kindness toward others during the assemblyman's second annual Youth Leadership event. Mauras is captain of the high school wrestling team, recipient of the Most Outstanding Wrestler honor and a mentor working with younger wrestlers at Dodd, providing advice and motivation.
- Freeport High School students presented their science research projects in the school's 14th annual Science and Engineering Fair under the leadership of science research teacher Ed Irwin.



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- Fourth-grade dual-language students at Giblyn participated in an “Escape the Classroom” workshop as a culminating activity to their mathematics unit on area and perimeter.
- Students at Bayview Avenue were tasked with determining fractional parts of a set of fictional cakes during Math Olympiads.
- Students at New Visions learned about a variety of topics focusing on self-awareness and improvement during a health fair led by senior nursing students from Molloy College.
- Third- and fourth-graders at Archer Street received a visit from members of the Nassau County Veterans Services Agency, who presented facts about American history and how the American flag originated and spoke about the importance of flag etiquette.
- Atkinson fifth-graders Jason Cuellar, Diana Galdamez, Sydney Martia, Clarissa Negron, Raschel Siguenza, Melissa Thorpe and Carina Vigil were named semifinalists in Assemblyman Brian Curran’s “What Does the American Flag Mean to You?” Flag Day Contest under the direction of art teacher Emily Hertzberg.
- Approximately 25 students from the high school visited the Cradle of Aviation Museum for an hourlong presentation by former astronaut and current U.S. Sen. Bill Nelson.
- Archer Street hosted an hourlong Zumba Parent University workshop.
- Archer Street hosted STEAM Night for students and their families.
- Atkinson welcomed individuals from a variety of career fields as part of Career Day.

ATHLETICS

- Students Manny Cruceta and Zanai Thomas Minor (Archer Street), Angelo Gordon and Cassie Smith (Atkinson), Justin Martinez and Madison Starks-Alexander (Bayview Avenue), Dillon DeBourg and Shelby Jackson (Dodd), Shaniya Bonny and Ryder Suarez (Giblyn) and Jhonniel Nunez Estrella and Rihanna Sealy (New Visions) received the 2018 Outstanding Elementary and Middle School Physical Education Student Award presented by the Nassau Zone of the New York State Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance.

THE ARTS

- The district was named a 2018 Best Community for Music Education by the National Association of Music Merchants Foundation. This prestigious distinction is earned by school districts across the nation that exhibit exceptional efforts and commitment toward maintaining music education as part of the schools’ core curriculum, excel in



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their instruction of music and in their extensive array of music programs offered to students.

- Musical groups at each of the district's secondary and intermediate schools presented Spring Festivals of the Arts, featuring concert performances and a gallery of student artwork. The festivals highlighted Atkinson, Dodd and Freeport High School (instrumental and choral) groups.
- The district hosted its Secondary Art Exhibit and Reception at the Freeport Memorial Library, highlighting an exhibit of two-dimensional and three-dimensional artwork created by Freeport High School and Dodd students that runs through May 30.
- Freeport High School student-musicians Kevin Brown, Heaven Jenkins, Joseph LaRocca, Katherine Leon and Elijah Zelaya were selected to be a part of the Tilles Center Festival Band and participate in the 14th annual Long Island University Band Festival at Tilles Center. Under the direction of Michael LaSorsa, the selected students joined an ensemble comprised of the LIU Post Wind Symphony and student-musicians and their directors from high schools across the New York metropolitan area.
- Students at Freeport High School and Dodd took the stage to showcase their musical talents in the ninth annual Night of Jazz under the direction of Adam Rubin and Michael LaSorsa, respectively.
- The Freeport High School Select Chorale participated in the Music in the Parks Competition Festival, a conference in Virginia attended by orchestras, symphonic bands and choruses ranging in levels from elementary to high school. Freeport's group, adjudicated alongside students across the Eastern Seaboard, earned first place in the AA High School Division, Group 1, under the leadership of director Monique Retzlaff.

ALTRUISM

- As part of their observance of Autism Awareness Month, Columbus Avenue students painted jigsaw puzzle pieces and glued them to ribbons. The ribbons featuring the puzzle pieces, a national symbol for autism awareness, were then sold, and the funds raised were donated to the Nassau/Suffolk Autism Society of America.
- Giblyn raised more than \$2,200 to donate to the Ride for Life group and the fight against ALS as part of an annual tradition.
- Archer Street participated in the Project ACES (All Children Exercise Simultaneously) program, raising \$1,250 for the Freeport Educational Foundation and qualifying the school as a Gold Sponsor for the initiative.



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- Archer Street hosted a variety of unique activities, such as making stress balls, as part of its observance of Mental Health Awareness Week.