



Freeport PUBLIC SCHOOLS *Pride*

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POINTS OF PRIDE OCTOBER 2017

ACADEMICS

- The district was selected by NASA to be among 13 institutions across the country to make contact with astronauts aboard the International Space Station. Unlike the other 12 institutions making audio contact, Freeport is the *only* institution in the country that will make both audio and video contact with the astronauts.
- The district is one of six on Long Island that has been selected to take part in an interdisciplinary Science, Technology, Engineering, Math + Computing Partnership (STEM+C) program through Hofstra University. As a result of a \$1.6 million National Science Foundation grant awarded to Hofstra, the high school will be introducing computer coding in ninth-grade Living Environment classes.
- As part of Phase 2 of the Smart Schools Bond Act, the district hosted a Chromebook rollout at the high school. More than 2,300 Chromebooks were distributed to high school students. Teachers and administrators had received Chromebooks last year in Phase 1 to become adept at becoming Google educators.
- The high school's top 10 students of the Class of 2018 are Joseph LaRocca (valedictorian), Zoe Stetson (salutatorian), Kira Brizill (3), Kenny Martinez (4), Franco Ramirez (5), James Hastings (6), Hannah Cotter (7), Roseann Hylton (8), Zoie Gold (9) and Jordyn Smith (10).
- Forty-eight members of the high school's Classes of 2017 and 2018 were named AP Scholars.
- As a supplement to their lessons about DNA, students at Dodd participated in the Google Expeditions Pioneer Program, providing them with the opportunity to experience elements of augmented reality — the integration of digital information with the user's environment in “real time” — using smartphones provided by a representative of Google for the lesson.
- The hallways of Giblyn are decorated with mathematical problems and games for each grade level, and will continue to be decorated for the school year.
- Bayview students learned about fire safety during the annual Hooked on Firefighters event.



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- Bayview students learned about antibullying during a “No Bully Zone” assembly that kicked off Red Ribbon Week.

ATHLETICS

- Varsity football coach Russ Cellan was inducted into the Nassau County High School Athletics Hall of Fame.
- The high school’s Class of 1967 was honored prior to the varsity football team’s victory over Hempstead at homecoming.
- The varsity soccer team hosted Farmingdale in its first playoff game in more than 10 years.

THE ARTS

- The district hosted its annual Peace Concert, featuring peace-themed musical performances by students at each school.
- High school musicians Gabriel Alvarado, Select Chorale; Maya Brown, Select Chorale; Asher Cook, Select Chorale; Michael Desir, Select Chorale; Leah Hochman, Select Chorale and Joseph LaRocca, Wind Ensemble, were selected to perform as All-State participants in the New York State School Music Association All-State Festival being held Nov. 30-Dec. 3 in Rochester.
- The high school’s Select Chorale performed the national anthem at the New York Jets’ preseason game against the Philadelphia Eagles and at the Garden City Hotel for the New Ground Organization fundraiser.
- High school students Michael Desir, Mayralee Martinez and Jasmine Tejada placed first, second and third, respectively, in the high school’s annual Freeport Idol singing competition.
- Atkinson students showcased their talents in the performing arts as part of the school’s celebration of Hispanic Heritage.
- Atkinson student Ashley Retzlaff was nominated and selected to participate in the American Choral Directors Association New York Children’s Honor Choir in Albany.
- Bayview students celebrated their loved ones by performing song-and-dance selections as part of Grandparents Day.
- Third-graders in Jennifer Skelly’s music class at Archer Street celebrated Constitution Day by singing “We the People,” a song about the preamble.



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- Fourth-grade dual-language students in Jennifer Skelly's music class at Archer Street performed "Celebrate the World" at the Coral House to kick off the annual Long Island Toys for Tots drive.

ALTRUISM

- The district hosted its annual Peace Walk to spread the message of harmony and nonviolence throughout the world, beginning in the Village of Freeport. The event was attended by nearly 500 walkers.
- The security team at Dodd was presented with a community recognition award at the Freeport United Methodist Church.
- Students and staff at Archer Street raised \$1,200 in relief funds that were used to purchase much-needed supplies for victims of Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico.
- Dodd raised more than \$1,600 and participated in the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer walk at Jones Beach.
- Archer Street hosted "Coffee With the Principal," giving students and their families the opportunity to work together and use engineering technologies such as Makerspace and Bee-Bot.