

POINTS OF PRIDE FEBRUARY 2017

ACADEMICS

- Under the leadership of adviser Nela Hawthorne, several students placed at the annual Nassau County DECA Regional Competition which was hosted by Freeport High School: Jocelin Aguilera, Jaidiver Morales, Jordyn Smith and Miranda Urena for Business Law and Ethics; Audrey Arias, Odalys Benavides and Yasmin Marine for the Public Relations Project; Oscaria Bruce for Personal Financial Literacy; Krytel Chambo, Dillion Finch, Katiana Thompson and Victoria Wright for Marketing Management; Michael Desir for Human Resource Management; Melanie Escobar and Evelyn Rodriguez for Travel and Tourism; Kimberly Hernandez and Erick Rivera for Sports and Entertainment; Kenny Martinez for Business Services Marketing; Miguel Merino and Sadiki Skeete for Innovation Planning; and Jennifer Perez-Pimental and Chelsey Yotagri-Gutierrez for Job Interview. Regional competition winners will compete at the state level in Rochester from March 8-10.
- The district hosted its first annual Universidad para Padres, a Parent University presented entirely in Spanish. The event was held at Atkinson, and featured district administrators and teachers speaking to parents and guardians about a wide range of topics, including early literacy and preparing for college.
- Dodd Red Devils Robotics Team A earned eighth place out of 36 overall in the Regional Qualifier at the high school on Feb. 4. Team B qualified to compete in additional spots against other high school teams, and won three out of six events.
- Students in Maryclaire Dumas-Landisi's seventh-grade honors research classes at Dodd completed their end-of-module project-based learning experience on the topic, "Water is Life." The primary goal of the project was for students to work within groups to discover and present various ways to promote water conservation to their peers and teachers.
- The district Board of Education and Central Administration recently honored staff members who celebrated their 20th anniversary during a special ceremony. Each of the 16 honorees — Thomas Alma, Ruth Breidenbach, Joni Caggiano, Patricia Carlino, Diane Durdaller, Debra Ferrugia, Lorrie Greene, Alicia Keper, Jeanne Malone, Julissa Ramos, Claretha Richardson, Lillian Salzer, Shelly Scully, Lisselote Vurture, Angela

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Wheat and Steven Whelan — received a plaque as a token of appreciation for their incredible work every day.

- As part of a 10-week after-school program funded by the 21st Century Grant, students at New Visions have been participating in Chess Nuts. Students in grades K-4 received medals and trophies based on the number of matches they won. Fourthgrader Chase Holt won the top prize following victories in four matches.
- Nutritionists from Cornell Cooperative Extension visited Dodd to host food lab lessons.
- As part of an annual tradition, Archer Street hosted Teambuilding Day to promote collaboration and camaraderie among students.
- Seventh- and eighth-graders at Dodd learned how to code a computer game of their choice under the direction of science teacher Georgia Plakas.
- The Dodd Science Olympiad Team competed against 43 schools on Long Island, Connecticut, Virginia and New York City, and earned four medals.
- Giblyn hosted its annual Q and U Wedding Ceremony, which served as a fun and educational way for kindergartners to learn that the letter Q cannot exist without the letter U next to it in the English language.
- Students at Giblyn performed a special presentation titled Shark Tank before administrators and the Freeport Board of Education at its January meeting.

ATHLETICS

• Freeport High School senior Jaelin Hood signed his National Letter of Intent to play football at LIU Post in the fall.

THE ARTS

- On Feb. 16, the district is set to host its annual Black History Month Celebration, featuring musical performances by students at each of its eight schools and a showcase of their artwork, at the Freeport High School Performing Arts Center.
- Fourth-graders at Bayview honored Village of Freeport police officers with songs and cards during the school's Adopt-a-Cop Valentine's Luncheon.
- The Dodd Drama Club presented a 21st Century Community Learning production of "Willie Wonka Jr." at Freeport High School.

ALTRUISM



• Archer hosted its annual Acts of Kindness Day on Feb. 14, during which students learned the importance of charitable endeavors and helpful gestures.