



Freeport PUBLIC SCHOOLS *Pride*

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POINTS OF PRIDE OCTOBER 2016

- Superintendent of Schools Dr. Kishore Kuncham was elected to serve as president of Reform Educational Financing Inequities Today, which is a consortium of school districts that work to secure for their students the advantages enjoyed by their peers in other areas and a fair and equitable share of New York State education aid for their communities.
- Dr. Kuncham received the Freeport Little League Humanitarian Award in recognition of his continued support and his ongoing efforts to promote peace within the community and around the world. He also received the International Eagle Award from the Association of School Business Officials for his visionary leadership in school business management.

ACADEMICS

- Forty students in Freeport High School's Classes of 2016 and 2017 earned the prestigious designation of Advanced Placement Scholar from the College Board due to their outstanding achievement on the college-level AP exams.
- As part of an ongoing partnership with the renowned Brookhaven National Laboratory in Upton, New York, district students participated in a unique teleconference with scientists from the Center for Functional Nanomaterials at BNL. The teleconference was the result of the district's proposal, "Bringing Nanotechnology into the High School Curriculum," which makes Freeport the first district on Long Island to have its proposal accepted by the CFN. The district is also one of three across the state to be awarded the "Be the Change for Kids 2016 Innovation Award" for its nanotechnology curriculum.
- Freeport High School senior Rajiv Chanda scored a 790 out of 800 on the SAT II Physics exam.
- This past summer, Atkinson student Ryan Retzlaff participated in the Junior National Young Leaders Conference in Washington, D.C. He also participated in a weeklong program focusing on cell biology, microbiology, biotechnology and



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genetics through hands-on experiments at the Dolan DNA Learning Center in Cold Spring Harbor.

- This past summer, Freeport High School freshman Valeria Ventura participated in the prestigious Physicists Inspiring the Next Generation 2016: Exploring the Cosmos with the National Radio Telescope Observatory summer program. Ventura was just one of 20 students nationwide — and the only one from New York — to be accepted to the program in West Virginia.
- Students across the district were chosen to join the Metropolitan Youth Orchestra Choirs for the 2016-17 school year: Freeport High School students Myles Carter, Chad James and Kevin Brown; Bayview students Ashley Retzlaff and Tamara Crawford-Campus; and Dodd students Antonio Cruz and Elise Smith. Freeport High School student Tyler Hawkins was selected to the Metropolitan Youth Orchestra.
- Atkinson student Ryan Retzlaff was selected to the Nassau Suffolk Youth Band for the 2016-17 school year.
- As part of its ongoing slate of prevention programs, Bayview Avenue hosted lessons about the dangers of smoking and encouraged students to say no to cigarettes. In interactive lessons hosted by school social worker Cindy Misrock, students learned about the harmful ingredients in cigarettes and how smoking deteriorates vital organs in the human body.
- Bayview hosted its annual Grandparents' Day Celebration, featuring vocal performances by students in all grade levels. Honorees Margaret M. Meyveci and Michele Steinmetz were honored with flowers and special certificates of appreciation.
- New Visions students performed skits highlighting each of the school's five rules: Be Caring, Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be Safe, and Be Here and Ready.
- New Visions students will participate in a "No Bully Zone" assembly that discourages bullying and violence.
- Archer Street is set to host its annual Pumpkin Patch event, during which each student will select a pumpkin from the school's yard and participate in pumpkin-related activities and lessons in class.
- Representatives of the Cradle of Aviation Museum visited Archer Street to conduct interactive lessons and experiments with third- and fourth-graders.



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ATHLETICS

- With hundreds of members of the district in attendance at their homecoming, the Freeport High School varsity football team scored a huge win against the Plainview-Old Bethpage Hawks on Oct. 8.

THE ARTS

- In honor of International Peace Day, the International Day of Non-Violence and the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi, the district hosted its annual districtwide Peace Concert & Art Exhibit on Oct. 6 at the high school's Performing Arts Center. Hundreds of students, parents, Board of Education members, administrators, elected officials and community members attended the event, which featured harmonious peace-themed performances and artwork showcased by each of the district's eight schools. The concert also served as the district's first event to feature a new baby grand piano donated by the Freeport Educational Foundation.
- Freeport High School Select Chorale officers Melissa Alvarez (librarian), Michael Desir (vice president) and Christina Morris (president) have earned the prestigious honor of representing the district at the annual New York State School Music Association Winter Conference in Rochester from Dec. 1-4.
- Freeport High School sophomore Ninoska Lugo-Aquino placed second in her division in the 2016 Arts Alive Long Island Poster Contest, which featured 200 submissions from 125 districts. She received a certificate of participation signed by Regent Roger Tilles at an awards ceremony.
- Bayview student Ashley Retzlaff participated in the New York American Choral Directors Association Elementary School Children's Honor Choir in Albany this past summer.
- Students throughout the district celebrated peace with remarkable showcases of their artistic and musical skills at the Shanti Fund Peace Celebration. The Dodd Odyssey of the Mind team won in the middle school division of the peace perspective competition.
- Language teacher Gabrielle Mangot's English as a new language students at Dodd observed the 15th anniversary of the events of Sept. 11 by creating astounding artwork of the Twin Towers and surrounding areas.



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- Under the direction of music teacher Justin Friedman, students learning mariachi performed at the Village Hispanic Heritage Celebration at the Freeport Recreation Center.
- The Freeport High School drum ensemble performed at the Bayview Avenue Pick a Reading Partner event.
- The Freeport High School marching band performed at the Epilepsy Walk and the Lupus Walk, both held at Eisenhower Park, as well as in the Newsday Marching Band Festival and the Village of Freeport Fall Parade.
- Freeport High School will host its “Freeport’s Got Talent” event in the Performing Arts Center on Oct. 28.

ALTRUISM

- At the district’s homecoming event on Oct. 8, members of the Freeport High School Class of 1966 presented a check for \$535 to high school Principal Linda Carter and members of the Board of Education. The funds will be used to purchase a new showcase inside the school.
- On Sept. 17, hundreds of members of the Freeport Public Schools and Village of Freeport community joined Superintendent of Schools Dr. Kishore Kuncham in a three-phase, 13.1-mile walk to promote global peace prior to the International Day of Non-Violence Day and International Day of Peace. The purpose of the one-day Smile for Peace – Mile for Peace journey, which also supported breast cancer research, was to demonstrate that everyone can make a difference by promoting peace, healthy lifestyles and quality education.
- Under the supervision of Visual Arts Facilitator Jocelyn Rodriguez and art teacher Lauren Levine, 25 high school art students created PEACE and Harmony of Community-inspired recycled art sculptures from the garbage collected by Operation Stop Polluting, Littering and Save Harbors.
- Thanks to the ongoing partnership between the district and the United Way of Long Island, the district received 72 boxes of school supplies for students’ use.