



# Freeport PUBLIC SCHOOLS *Pride*

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## POINTS OF PRIDE

April 2016

### ACADEMICS

- Dodd eighth-grader Valeria Ventura has been accepted to Physicists Inspiring the Next Generation 2016: Exploring the Cosmos with the National Radio Telescope Observatory summer program. Valeria was one of 20 students from across the nation, and the only one from New York state, selected to attend this program.
- Of Freeport's three teams that attended the state competition of Odyssey of the Mind, the sixth- and eighth-grade teams both placed fifth in the state.
- Fourth-grade students at Archer created their first video game using Scratch, a visual programming language for beginning coders.
- Fourth-graders at Giblyn learned about the virtues of different countries and cultures around the world while participating in activities designed to develop an appreciation for them on International Day.
- Susan Cunnane's students at Atkinson participated in a social media experiment involving a teacher in Baltimore, Maryland, who reached out on Facebook about her fifth-grade students receiving letters from other fifth-graders across the 50 states. Ms. Cunnane wholeheartedly agreed to participate in the activity, as it would serve to develop 21<sup>st</sup> century skills to empower students.
- The Giblyn Science Club, which was comprised of third- and fourth-grade students, met before school on Thursday mornings for 10 weeks to study and discuss how energy transfers from one form to another.
- Third-grade students in New Visions' collaborative classroom investigated the effects of height on paint droplets during "Drip Art," a fun, science-based art project planned in conjunction with their study of the Grade 3 ELA Water Module.
- Bayview hosted several community and neighboring agencies that provided information at the school's annual Health Expo.
- Bayview hosted an interactive science fair at its school.
- Seventh-grade ELA classes at Dodd participated in a "Child Labor, 1900-Present" videoconference with the American Labor Museum in New Jersey.



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## **ATHLETICS**

- A Buddy Bench was installed at Giblyn's playground for students who feel lonely or have no one to play with. They are encouraged to sit on the Buddy Bench, after which another student will join him/her to talk or play.

## **THE ARTS**

- High school students performed their rendition of Rodgers & Hammerstein's "The King and I" to members of the school district and Freeport community on April 8 and 9. The musical also featured students from each of the district's elementary schools.
- The district's elementary schools are set to host the "Didgeridoo Down Under" Arts in Education program.
- Freeport High School and Dodd jazz ensembles are set to perform in the annual Jazz Festival on April 25.
- In celebration of "Music in Our Schools Month," students in Jennifer Skelly's classes at Archer visited the Cleveland Institute of Music directly from their classroom to learn about a variety of concepts.
- High school band students Chris Fludd, Elijah Zelaya and Joseph LaRocca were selected to perform at the 12th annual LIU Post Band Festival at the Tilles Center for Performing Arts under the direction of 2016 guest conductor and composer-in-residence Johan de Meij.

## **ALTRUISM**

- For the second consecutive year, the Future Corps Club at Dodd collected change from staff and students for Island Harvest, Long Island's largest food bank. The club raised more than \$350.
- The district is set to host its annual Peace March on May 7 at Freeport High School.