



Freeport PUBLIC SCHOOLS *Pride*

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POINTS OF PRIDE MAY 2016

ACADEMICS

- Superintendent of Schools Dr. Kishore Kuncham was named a 2016 Outstanding Superintendent of the Year by the New York State Association of School Business Officials.
- Dodd science teacher Thomas Doyle was recognized as a 2016 Outstanding Intermediate Level Science Educator by the Nassau section of the Science Teachers Association of New York State.
- Archer Street library media specialist Debbie Bergen was recognized as a 2016 Outstanding Science Educator by the Nassau section of the Science Teachers Association of New York State.
- Fox 5 News featured a segment about the Youth Empowerment Seminar (YES) program at Dodd. The segment was comprised of Dodd student interviews and a demonstration of the meditation and yoga-inspired exercises that have garnered the attention of not only news outlets, but also school districts across Long Island.
- Students in Freeport High School's 21st-century High School Heroes club conducted age-appropriate financial and economics lessons to dual language fourth-graders at New Visions. The high schoolers planned their lessons by preparing and translating material provided by Junior Achievement.
- Atkinson fifth-graders Bren Brown, Isis Garcia Munoz, Sarah Quintanilla and Vijay Sharma, and sixth-graders Jaylis Amarante, Karina Rios, Ricardo Sierra Talavera and Anthony Trenchfield, were named school winners in this year's Reflections contest. The students were honored by the Atkinson PTA for their outstanding art and literature.
- The family and consumer sciences department at Dodd organized a two-day field trip to the Junior Achievement Finance Park in Roslyn Heights for its students. Nearly 100 students attended the trip, which featured in-depth lessons about economic concepts and related work in the family and consumer sciences classrooms.
- Students at Dodd recognized and thanked their mentors during an end-of-year celebration of the school's mentorship program, now in its seventh year. This year, the program featured 49 teachers mentoring 99 students by offering their assistance, time and leadership.



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- Seven student leaders from Freeport and Syosset high schools have been meeting to talk about the things that make them both different and the same, while also sharing opinions on issues of topical interest, through a pilot program called Breaking Borders.
- Students at the high school presented their remarkable research-driven science projects and experiments in the school's 12th annual Science and Engineering Fair. The fair allowed students to present their extensive research, conducted under science research teacher Edward Irwin, to a team of judges comprised of district faculty members, college professors, Village of Freeport officials and representatives of science-related industries.
- As part of an innovative grant program made possible through the fundraising efforts of the Freeport Educational Foundation, students are participating in a variety of new, multifaceted programs and projects throughout the district. One particular program, a Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics Night at New Visions, was one of several ongoing STEAM projects within the district.

ATHLETICS

- Archer students participated in Project All Children Exercise Simultaneously (ACES) Day, in observance of National Physical Fitness & Sports Month. Students performed a mind-body exercise in which they honed their concentration, discipline and balance.
- The Freeport High School girls varsity track 4x4 team competed in the Penn Relays at the University of Pennsylvania. The relay team consists of DeAsia Greer, Ashley Lyons, Nakacee McNab and Cameryn Miller.
- The Freeport High School Unified Basketball team had their first game on May 3. Seven teams from Nassau County are participating in the inaugural program. Freeport High School hosted the culminating event/tournament on May 21. All the teams played one game and received medals from the Special Olympics and the New York State Public High School Athletic Association.
- Students at New Visions received a special visit from two players on the New York Cosmos soccer team, who spoke about the benefits of exercise and the importance of hard work.

THE ARTS

- Students throughout the district's four elementary schools learned about character and environmental etiquette through "Didgeridoo Down Under," an interactive and high-energy assembly led by two performers.



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- Students and staff at Bayview Avenue commemorated “Star Wars Day” — the unofficial holiday based on the pun “May the Fourth Be with You” — on May 4 by dressing in “Star Wars”-themed clothing or as their favorite character from the popular films.
- Students at the high school created original works of art following a discussion and analysis of renowned artist Willem de Kooning’s work. The after-school workshop was led by members of the Long Island Children’s Museum, which offered students the opportunity to create artwork inspired by the abstract expressionist.
- Schools throughout the district hosted art festivals.
- Freeport High School hosted its annual jazz festival, featuring performances from the high school and Dodd jazz ensembles.
- An Atkinson art exhibit was featured at the Freeport Recreation Center.

ALTRUISM

- Superintendent of Schools Dr. Kishore Kuncham started a Peace Walk on May 7, the day the district’s seventh annual Peace March was held. The Peace Walk is a 100-mile pilgrimage on every block of the Village of Freeport, and all district and community members have been encouraged to join along for any part of the journey.
- Under the leadership of adviser Robin Newberg, the Atkinson Student Government raised \$700 for the Make-A-Wish Foundation through its “For a Day” raffle sale. “For a Day” offered students the opportunity to spend an entire day as their favorite administrator, secretary, custodian, security guard or faculty member in exchange for raffle tickets they purchased.
- Students at Freeport High School raised more than \$850 for the annual global advocacy initiative “The Voice of Potential.” The initiative, founded by Freeport High School teacher Pamela Mary Schmidt, benefited the 63 children at the Zanmi Beni orphanage in Port au Prince, Haiti.
- Giblyn presented a check for \$2,000 to Ride for Life, which travels while raising awareness for ALS. The third annual tradition featured students and staff gathered on the front lawn of the school, holding signs and serenading the organization with motivational songs.