POINTS OF PRIDE October 2015

ACADEMICS

- As part of a partnership with Brookhaven National Laboratory, Freeport High School and Dodd Middle School students are working together in a science computing class that complements the district's advanced science curriculum this year. Freeport is the first school district in Nassau County to teach scientific computing in partnership with Brookhaven National Laboratory. The program will run through April.
- Thirty-seven students in Freeport High School's Classes of 2015 and 2016 were named Advanced Placement Scholars by the College Board.
- Students at Dodd participated in Breaking the Cycle, a character education program featuring firsthand accounts of individuals who discussed traumatic life events they had experienced and how forgiveness helped them triumph.
- A representative from Child Abuse Prevention Services visited Bayview Avenue to conduct the Steer Clear of Bullies workshop, which encouraged students to be antibullies and remain considerate of one another.
- Twenty fourth-graders at Giblyn have been learning the basics of computer coding using Scratch, an online programming language.
- As part of the 21st Century Grant program, students at Dodd are participating in a variety of after-school activities, including Calculator Kamikazee, competitive debate contests, Girls Yoga for Brilliance and the Drama Club.
- One of the Dodd Science Club's recent projects served as a multifaceted lesson that taught students a variety of skills in character education, altruism and academics. The project, which involved digging and embedding plants outside of the school, was guided by Dodd teachers James Hauser and Rosette Jean-Baptiste, who serve as the club's advisors.
- On the first Friday of every month, kindergartners at Columbus are celebrated in a Spirit Meet, which is comprised of each teacher's nominations for their Students of the Month. Each Spirit Meet features a monthly theme; October's was "Hispanic Heritage."
- Archer hosted its annual Character Fair, which served as a kickoff celebration for the year's focus on character education.

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- More than 90 students, parents and teachers participated in Archer's Puente workshop, which focused on magnets and their physical properties.
- Atkinson celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month with a variety of assembly programs.
- Bayview hosted its annual Grandparents Day, honoring all the grandparents in its students' lives.

ATHLETICS

- Freeport High School varsity football coach Russ Cellan earned his landmark 200th victory, making him the ninth coach on Long Island to ever achieve this milestone.
- Fifth-graders at Atkinson participated in a variety of athletic events against parents during Fifth-Grade Sports Night.

THE ARTS

- Freeport High School welcomed more than 1,000 people for its sixth annual Peace
 Concert and the grand opening of its Performing Arts Center. The Performing Arts
 Center, which was a major project this past summer, features brand-new seating, flooring
 and lighting, improved acoustics, an upgraded sound system, a renovated stage and a new
 stage curtain.
- The Freeport High School marching band, under the direction of Mike LaSorsa and Adam Rubin of Dodd, performed at the Epilepsy Walk at Eisenhower Park, the Lupus Walk at Eisenhower Park, the Freeport Fall Festival on Nautical Mile, and the Newsday Marching Band Festival.
- Freeport High School's Select Chorale was selected to perform the national anthem at Citi Field prior to a New York Mets baseball game.
- Freeport High School art student Moriah Morales-Lopez received an Award of Merit from the Long Island Arts Alliance.
- Atkinson students kicked off Hispanic Heritage Month at the Board of Education meeting on Sept. 30 with a performance of informative readings, singing and dancing.

ALTRUISM

• Staff members at Columbus Avenue worked with local nonprofit organization Friends of Freeport to beautify the school's courtyard and playground.

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- Students learned the value of paying tribute to the nation's heroes in a patriotic ceremony honoring the lives lost in the Sept. 11 attacks. The program was also attended by veteran members of the Freeport Fire Department.
- Archer fourth-graders visited the Freeport Police Station and "adopted" their police officers as part of an annual tradition.
- Columbus' four dual language classes went pumpkin picking in Flushing Meadow Farm.