

\*\*\*ECRWSS\*\*\*  
Postal Customer

## New Meal Charge Policy

The Deer Park School District recognizes that on occasion, students may forget to bring meal money to school or may not have sufficient funds on his/her account to purchase a meal. This policy ensures that students do not go hungry, but also promotes responsible student behavior and minimizes the fiscal burden to the district.

To comply with the State guidelines and maintain a system for accounting for charged meals, regarding both full and reduced-price meals, the district has established the following policy:

1. The district will identify and record all meals as well as collect repayments using our computer-generated point-of-sale system.
2. At the elementary level (May Moore Primary School, John Q. Adams Primary School, John F. Kennedy Intermediate School), a maximum of two meals may be charged on accounts with no balances. A student cannot charge extras or snacks.
3. At the secondary level (Robert Frost Middle School, Deer Park High School) students will not be permitted to charge a meal or snacks on accounts with no balances.
4. Parents will be notified on a timely basis of outstanding charges by telephone or by mail.
5. If outstanding accounts are not paid in full prior to the beginning of the following school year, schedules will not be mailed and must be picked up at the school when the account is settled.
6. Families may apply for free/reduced-price meals at any time during the school year. Applications are mailed to all families prior to the school year. In addition, applications are available at the district office, school offices and online.
7. The school district shall send a letter home before the beginning of the school year to all parents, outlining the requirements of this policy. This policy shall also be published on the school district's website and in the summer newsletter.

The 2010-2011  
Transportation Newsletter  
will be arriving in homes by  
mid-August. The publication  
can also be accessed through  
the district's website at  
[www.deerparkschools.org](http://www.deerparkschools.org)  
at that time.

## Parents for Megan's Law Registration

The district is participating in the Parents for Megan's Law Community Support Sex Offender Email Alert Program. The program ensures broad, timely and cost effective notifications with community support from the Megan's Law Helpline. Below please find the community registration form.

Please clip and mail completed forms to: Parents for Megan's Law, P.O. Box 145, Stony Brook, NY 11790

\_\_\_\_\_ \$20.00    \_\_\_\_\_ \$40.00    \_\_\_\_\_ \$60.00    \_\_\_\_\_ \$100.00    \_\_\_\_\_ \$250.00    \_\_\_\_\_ Other

*There is no cost for this service, but donations are greatly appreciated.*

Complete Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ School District: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents for Megan's Law makes this information available and disclaims any and all warranties, whether expressed or implied, in providing for public use any services, materials, information, graphics, products, or processes contained in or made possible through this website. PFML does not assume any responsibility for the accuracy, completeness, currency, or the appropriateness for use for any general or particular purpose for this program. I also understand that I must complete another registration form to change my email address.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**If you are aware of a student or students attending our schools who are not district residents, please leave a message at 274-4133. All calls will remain anonymous.**



School news  
and photos  
compiled by  
Marissa  
Sanseverino.

### Board of Education

John Gouskos, President • Frank T. Wilkinson, Vice President  
Donna Marie Elliott • Robert Marino • Keith Rooney  
Dennis P. Ryan • Ronald Wayne  
Lisa Brennan, District Clerk  
Eva J. Demyen, Superintendent of Schools



# THE STANDARD

A PUBLICATION OF THE DEER PARK SCHOOL DISTRICT

**VALEDICTORIAN  
THOMAS DiBENEDETTO**



**School Attending:**  
Harvard University

**Awards:**  
Advanced Placement Scholar  
New York State School Music Association  
High Honors  
Principal's Gold Award -  
95 average or better for 4 years  
Spanish Language Award  
Young Men's Honor Choir

**Extracurricular Activities:**  
National Honor Society Vice President  
Environmental Club  
Yearbook Club  
Gay/Straight Alliance Vice President

**Community Service:**  
Community Service Club - Treasurer,  
Secretary and Mentor  
Habitat for Humanity  
Tutor and Freshman Orientation Volunteer



The Class of 2010 will be continuing their academic careers at a variety of the nation's finest institutions, including:

Berklee College of Music  
Dartmouth College  
Fordham University  
Harvard University  
Princeton University  
Rutgers University  
St. John's University  
Stony Brook University  
SUNY Albany  
SUNY Geneseo  
Syracuse University  
Temple University  
Towson University  
University of Connecticut  
University of Pennsylvania  
University of Rhode Island

**SALUTATORIAN  
BRIAN KAVANAGH**



**School Attending:**  
Princeton University

**Awards:**  
Departmental Awards in French and  
Social Studies  
Suffolk County Mathematics Competition  
Award Winner  
Regional Finalist DECA for Sports Marketing  
RYLA Youth Leadership Conference  
NY State Scholar-Athlete Fall & Spring Seasons

**Extracurricular Activities:**  
Varsity Leaders Club  
Academic Team  
National Honor Society  
National French Honor Society  
Symphonic Band & Wind Ensemble

**Community Service:**  
American Diabetes Association Special Event  
Volunteer  
Deer Park PAL Youth Football Coach

## At the Top in 2010

Prior to graduation, the district announced the Top 10 academically ranked students for the Class of 2010. Students, teachers, guidance counselors, families, Board of Education members and administrators came together for a breakfast that honored these talented students for their successes within the classroom and beyond. Each student's character was highlighted along with their educational accomplishments, community outreach, and extracurricular activities, which represented the diverse makeup of the high school's student body.



*Pictured here are (standing, left to right) Superintendent of Schools Eva J. Demyen, Daniel Zito (#9), Daniel Nunez (#10), Hui-Hung Hwang (#8), Randy Singh (#6), Christopher Ottersen (#7), Principal James Cummings, (seated, left to right) Christopher Drake (#4), Brian Giunta (#3), Thomas DiBenedetto (#1), Brian Kavanagh (#2), and Nicole Zeblisky (#5).*

### CLASS OF 2010 TOP TEN:

- Thomas DiBenedetto .....Valedictorian
- Brian Kavanagh .....Salutatorian
- Brian Giunta .....Third
- Christopher Drake .....Fourth
- Nicole Zeblisky .....Fifth
- Randy Singh .....Sixth
- Christopher Ottersen .....Seventh
- Hui-Hung Hwang .....Eighth
- Daniel Zito .....Ninth
- Daniel Nunez .....Tenth

# A Message from Your *Superintendent of Schools*



Dear Residents,

After just completing my first year as Superintendent of Schools in Deer Park, I look back on these past few months with great pride. Student achievement has reached an all-time high, our curriculum provides both challenging and enriching opportunities for students, and our community continues to support our goal of educating students to meet 21st century learning standards.

This year our administrative team worked in collaboration to create a new mission and vision for the future of the Deer Park Schools (DPS). The result was a mission aimed at bolstering **Distinction, Pride, and Scholarship** in our students and our community. We have made some great progress since September, but recognize that, as education is a lifelong *journey*, the race towards excellence has only just begun. I am confident that our planned curriculum enhancements, complemented by the administrative restructuring that has taken place the past few years, will help us better achieve our goals and provide all of our students with the resources and tools necessary for success at every level.

Equally as strong as our commitment to providing quality educational opportunities for students is our dedication to doing so in the most cost-effective and efficient way possible. Throughout the school year, our administrative team and Board of Education

monitor our district's spending and look for ways to cut back, contain, or offset costs for our taxpayers. Through an aggressive research approach, we have applied for and received a wide range of grants throughout the past few years. Three of the most recent grants Deer Park students and staff members have received are highlighted in the pages of this publication.

I would be remiss if I did not also take this opportunity to congratulate the members of the Deer Park High School Class of 2010. During their time in our district they have accomplished things that were not realized by the classes before them, and have set a high bar for the classes who follow. Many of our graduates will be continuing their educational careers at some of the nation's top colleges and universities this fall, some of which are listed on the cover of this issue of *The Standard*.

Additionally, I find it important to note that 95% of this year's graduates received a Regents Diploma, with 53% receiving a Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation. Furthermore, this year's class graduation rate was at a remarkable 95%, which carried a 15% increase over the 2005-2006 rate of 80%.

I hope you will join me in congratulating our students, faculty, and staff on the completion of an exceptional school year. I wish you and your families a safe and happy summer vacation, and look forward to continuing on the road to academic success with you at the start of the school year on September 7th.

Sincerely,

Eva J. Demyen  
Superintendent of Schools



## Meet the Deer Park 2010-2011 Board of Education

Standing (l-r) Trustee Ron Wayne, Trustee Keith Rooney, Trustee Donna Marie Elliott, Trustee Bob Marino, District Clerk Lisa Brennan, and seated (l-r) Superintendent of Schools Eva J. Demyen, Vice President Frank T. Wilkinson, President John Gouskos and Trustee Dennis P. Ryan.



# Technology-Driven Success

James Henry teaches college level Pre-Calculus and inclusion Algebra Regents to students at Deer Park High School by utilizing leading-edge academic technology resources. This past year Mr. Henry operated one of the district's model classrooms, which was equipped with interactive technologies including SMART Board whiteboards, MacBooks, SMART Document Cameras, iPod Touches, SMART Response interactive testing

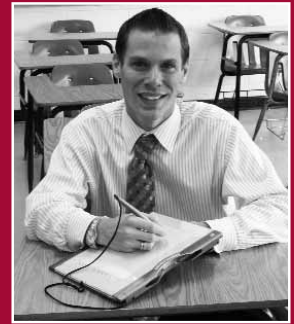
systems and SMART AirLiner Wireless Slates.

Through these tools students incorporated podcasting into the math curriculum and created live presentations to share and review with their peers. A variety of software applications enabled students to work directly with virtual materials such as graphing calculators, protractors and rulers and better

prepare for exams. The "SMART" devices also enabled Mr. Henry to collect and sort data in order to tailor his lessons and increase student performance.

Due to the initial successes of the model classrooms, the district plans to expand and further develop model classrooms throughout the district.

Chief Operating Officer of Western Suffolk BOCES Dr. Michael Mensch recognized the district's initiatives and honored Deer Park Director of Technology Dr. Jared Bloom as Administrator of the Year for the BOCES' Model Schools program. In addition, May Moore Elementary School teacher Susan Steinman won a Technology Integration Award and a \$1,000 grant for her work at the primary level.



*High school math teacher James Henry spearheaded the integration of advanced technologies into the math curriculum. Here he demonstrates the uses of a SMART AirLiner Wireless Slate: students were able to write on the template at their desks and information was transferred directly onto the SMART Board.*



*Director of Technology Dr. Jared Bloom and May Moore Elementary teacher Susan Steinman received awards and a grant for the district's innovative instruction. Superintendent of Schools Eva Demyen (center) congratulates them.*

## Frost Theatre Students Take Center Stage in NYC

Robert Frost Middle School theatre students had the opportunity to perform at the 17th Annual New York City Student Shakespeare Festival. The program, produced by the Paul A. Kaplan Center for Educational Drama at the CUNY/Creative Arts Team, encourages students to celebrate William Shakespeare's work. The festival featured a mentor-model of theatrical development, which enabled teachers and students to work together to develop student performances at an Off-Broadway playhouse.

District teachers directed Frost students in acted-out theatrical pieces, including a collection of scenes from Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. Prior to making the trip into New York City, students learned how to properly articulate the Shakespearian language and convey the culture and historical time periods in which the various works took place. This included rehearsing voice tone, body language and character interaction.



*Robert Frost Middle School theatre students brought the New York City Student Shakespeare Festival to the high school's stage, acting out scenes of love, death and tragedy from the iconic playwright's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *The Merry Wives of Windsor*.*

## SPRING SPORTS WRAP-UP

The district is proud to announce that five high school fall athletic teams achieved New York State Scholar-Athlete status. In order to receive this designation the team achieved and maintained a cumulative grade point average of 90 or better throughout the entire season. In addition, two

varsity and two junior varsity teams were selected as Section XI Outstanding Sportsmanship Teams for their fair play and good sportsmanship on the field of competition. What makes this award so genuine is that it is determined by officials and opposing teams.

The Girls Varsity Lacrosse squad claimed the Division II Championship, while Boys Varsity Golf won the League I Suffolk County Championship for the sixth consecutive year. The Robert Frost Middle School athletic program was represented by the Girls Seventh-Grade Softball team, who tallied an undefeated season.

In addition, individual spring athletes were named to numerous All-League, Academic All-League, All-County, All-Tournament, All-Division and All-State teams, and Girls Varsity Lacrosse player Jasmine Gonzalez who received the Unsung Hero Award.



*The Boys Track team was recognized for their academic and athletic successes this spring season.*

### New York State Scholar-Athlete Teams:

Boys Spring Track  
Girls Varsity Golf  
Girls Varsity Lacrosse  
Girls Varsity Softball  
Girls Spring Track

### Section XI Sportsmanship Team Award:

Boys Varsity Spring Golf  
Boys Junior Varsity Spring Golf  
Girls Varsity Golf  
Girls Junior Varsity Lacrosse

# Celebrating the *District's Future*

Students at Robert Frost Middle School and John F. Kennedy Intermediate School were joined by district teachers, administrators, Board of Education and community members for their moving-up ceremonies.

Robert Frost Principal Eliana Levey welcomed all in attendance and encouraged advancing eighth-grade students to explore the diverse courses, clubs and organizations the high school has to offer. Student Council President James Boss reflected on their years spent at Frost, and the mental, physical and social growth which the class has experienced.

To honor the outstanding in-classroom efforts of students, the district recognized those who achieved Presidential Academic Achievement and Presidential Academic Excellence Awards, while community awards were presented to students who made positive contributions to the school overall.

John F. Kennedy Principal Susan Bonner kicked off the fifth-grade moving-up ceremony at JFK by thanking the educational community for their support and congratulating students on their successes over the past three years. Student Council members spoke to classmates about the activities, assemblies and classes which brought them together, and looked towards the bright future of the class as they enter middle school.

Musical talents of the fifth-grade class shone bright when students sang and performed a variety of musical selections, including "We'll Meet Again."

To conclude both ceremonies, students were presented with certificates from Board of Education members and school administrators.



*Robert Frost Middle School students graduated from eighth grade and will spend the summer preparing for high school.*



*John F. Kennedy Intermediate students displayed their moving-up certificates and were joined by Board of Education members, teachers and administrators.*

## Students Move Up & Onward

The district commemorated the academic milestones of its students with primary moving-up ceremonies. District teachers, administrators, and Board of Education and community members came together to recognize the John Quincy Adams (JQA) and May Moore Elementary Class of 2010 second-grade graduates.

Students at JQA crafted paper balloons for their themed event "Up, Up and Away to JFK," while May Moore students sported their Falcon Pride dressed in maroon T-shirts, emblazoned with the school's logo "May Moore – The Place To Be." Students at both schools entertained the crowd by singing a variety of musical selections including, "Ready to Go" and "I Learned From You."

The events concluded with the presentation of students, during which teachers recapped the school year's activities and presented students with graduation certificates. John F. Kennedy Intermediate School Principal Susan Bonner attended both ceremonies and encouraged students to become active learners inside the classroom and participate in JFK's diverse offering of clubs and organizations.

At Abraham Lincoln's Pre-Kindergarten "Faces of the Future" celebration,

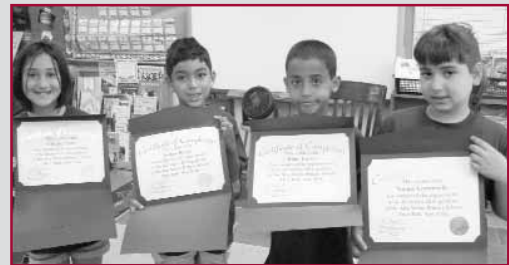
classes performed choreographed songs and dances, which illustrated the educational and social lessons students had learned throughout the year.

Decorating for the festive occasion, students created their own likenesses by painting their faces, bodies and clothes on paper cutouts, which were draped along the school's stage.

Advancing students had the opportunity to visit the schools they will be attending next year and meet the administrators and teachers who will guide them through their future academic ventures.



*JQA Elementary students are congratulated by (l-r) Assistant Superintendent of Business and Operations Marguerite Jimenez, Superintendent of Schools Eva J. Demyen, JQA Elementary Principal Jennifer Estrada and Assistant Superintendent for Pupil Personnel Services Frank Caliguiri, who were in attendance at the second-grade moving-up ceremony.*



*May Moore Elementary School second-grade students displayed their Certificates of Completion, which they received at the moving-up ceremony.*



*Abraham Lincoln Pre-Kindergarten students performed songs and dances on the school's stage, which was decorated with personalized paper cutouts of themselves for their end-of-year celebration.*



## Keep the Drive Team *Captures \$10,000 Grant*

The High School's Keep the Drive Team are winners of the 2010 "Act Out Loud: Raising Voices for Safe Teen Driving" contest and the recipients of a \$10,000 grant. The district plans to utilize the grant to develop and fund a variety of safe driving programs and initiatives to benefit district students and the community.

"Our team is pumped about the impact of our project and winning the grand prize," said Christian Montanez, student leader of the Keep the Drive team at Deer Park. "Our project brought our school and community together, which we believe

definitely raised awareness of this issue and will help save lives."

For their project, "Distracted Driving Resolution," 1,000 members of the Deer Park community, including students, parents, teachers and senior citizens, learned and performed a dance routine about the importance of staying focused on the road, while Keep the Drive team members played live music.

"The students of Deer Park High School are helping to raise awareness amongst their peers and we truly believe this will help save lives on our roadways,"

said Kelly Costanza, spokesperson for the Allstate Foundation.

Select students also had the opportunity to record public service announcements on distracted driving, which are being played on radio stations WBLI and WBAB during the 100 days between Memorial Day and Labor Day. This is historically the deadliest time of the year for teen drivers.

To view Deer Park's winning video and team page, and for additional information on "Act Out Loud," please log on to <http://www.ActOutLoud.org>.



## Students Receive Media Award from MSG Varsity Network

District Business Education students have fostered a partnership with MSG Varsity, the first television, online and interactive network devoted to local high school sports and activities. Students enrolled in the high school's Multimedia Business Applications course submitted segments to the network throughout the year, and in recognition of the exceptional content they provided, Deer Park High School was named "MSG Varsity's Outreach Partner of the Week." In addition, 12 business students received \$2,000 in scholarship monies for their outstanding audiovisual contributions.

To signify their accomplishments, an MSG Varsity reporter and camera crew visited the high school classes and interviewed students on their experiences working behind the camera with audiovisual and editing computer software, as well as serving as reporters, sharing Deer Park news on a regional platform.

Schools selected as Outreach Partners of the Week exhibit the values of community, leadership, friendship, teamwork and camaraderie, while engaging in activities that help to teach kids about the ideals of these principles. Deer Park was selected for the students' ability to maximize the power of media by bringing stories to life through compelling reporting, creative use of the camera and editing, and overall production value.

Prior to shooting and producing content for the channel, students learned about effective and responsible communication in an increasingly multimedia world. MSG Varsity provided students with the technology necessary to create segments and demonstrated how to properly edit and effectively present events and news.



*High school business students were awarded scholarships from MSG Varsity and recognized by the community at a Board of Education Meeting.*

## High School's Senior Falcons *Soar with Awards*



*High School Principal James Cummings kicked off the Senior Awards night, which highlighted a variety of presentations including the School Publication, Varsity Leaders and Falcon Pride awards.*

The High School Senior Awards ceremony recognized members of the Class of 2010 for their academic and athletic accomplishments, as well as their positive contributions to the district and community. A variety of departmental, schoolwide, memorial and administrator awards honored students for their work, both inside and out of the classroom. Parents, active community members, district teachers, administrators, and the Deer Park Board of Education came together for this memorable night to congratulate students with plaques, certificates and scholarships for their outstanding contributions.

Special guest Suffolk County Executive Steve Levy attended the event to present the Public Service Award, while Town of Babylon Supervisor Steve Bellone sponsored the Community Service Award and Congressman Steve Israel conferred the Citizenship Award.



# Class of 2010

The American Celtic Pipe Band led the Deer Park High School Class of 2010 through the opening processional of the district's annual commencement ceremony.

Principal James Cummings welcomed the students, teachers, administrators, elected government officials, community and Board of Education members on hand, who have all contributed in some way to the success of this year's graduating class. Mr. Cummings shared his pride in the class and recounted the years spent as both their middle school (at which he served prior to coming to the DPHS two years ago) and high school principal, watching them mature and develop into confident young adults.

Board of Education President Dennis Ryan introduced honored guest United States Congressman Steve Israel, who reminded students that they are valuable members of society and their contributions will continue to impact their community and world. In addition, Congressman Israel stressed the importance of public service and the valuable lessons "giving back" provides.

Valedictorian Thomas DiBenedetto described how the entire Deer Park community serves as a strong, supportive network, which helps students surpass their goals and reach their full potential. Salutatorian Brian Kavanagh spoke about the unity of the Class of 2010 and the educational and social experiences that





# of 2010

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have shaped them as individuals and as a group. Senior Class President Michael Prescia reflected on the activities and events that have both challenged and unified the class, as well as thanked the district's educators for their dedication and commitment to student success.

Commencement speaker and Deer Park Class of 2000 Valedictorian Elaine Kabaservice connected with the Class of 2010 through common educational and extracurricular experiences within the district. She encouraged them to become lifelong learners, always striving to discover, explore and improve the world around them. Prior to conferring the diplomas, Superintendent of Schools Eva Demyen used the initials of Deer Park Schools in her motivational message to students, describing the components of Distinction, Pride and Scholarship, all characteristics of a successful, well-rounded person.

Select seniors were recognized and received Memorial Plaque Awards, honoring the memory of prominent Deer Park individuals while recognizing student service and leadership. Principal's Awards were presented to those class members who contributed positively to the overall high school community. The ceremony concluded with the Board of Education's presentation of diplomas to the Class of 2010.

