



# COPIAGUE. Connections

Winter 2014

COPIAGUE PUBLIC SCHOOLS - A GREAT PLACE TO LEARN

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## COPIAGUE TOP TEN ANNOUNCED



Walter G. O'Connell Copiague High School has announced the top 10 students of the Class of 2014. At the top of their class are valedictorian Krystal Howell and salutatorian Alessandra Altruda.

"Throughout their educational careers, these 10 students have shown determination to succeed in all of their academic endeavors," said Principal Jeanette Altruda. "In addition to their standout performances in the classroom, they have also left an indelible mark on their community through various service-oriented projects. I am very proud of these students and offer them my congratulations on this achievement."

Krystal Howell, with a weighted GPA of 102.245, has earned the distinction of being named valedictorian of the Class of 2014. Throughout her academic career at Walter G. O'Connell Copiague High School, Krystal has excelled

academically. Taking multiple Advanced Placement courses, including her current course load of four APs, Krystal has been named an AP Scholar with Honor by the College Board. In addition to her academic success, Krystal is also President of the Bringing Unity Through Youth club, a member of the math team, a Girl Scout, a volunteer for the Homework Helpers club and a sales associate at P.S. from Aeropostale, where she also serves as an ambassador for the company doing community service projects. She plans to study international business in college.

With a weighted GPA of 101.904, Alessandra Altruda ranks second in her class of 311 students. Having taken 10 AP courses, including literature and economics, Alessandra has been recognized by the College Board as an AP Scholar

with Distinction. Heavily involved in her school community, she serves as President of the National Honor Society and DECA, Vice President of the Student Council, Captain of the Girls Varsity Soccer team, and as a volunteer for the District's Saturday Academy. This fall, Alessandra plans to study economics in college.

The District congratulates the Walter G. O'Connell Copiague High School Class of 2014 Top 10:

- Krystal Howell, Valedictorian**
- Alessandra Altruda, Salutatorian**
- Stephanie Fischer, Third**
- Zachary Wilson, Fourth**
- Janiece Morgan, Fifth**
- Lindsay Griffiths, Sixth**
- Ashley Simon, Seventh**
- Albert Collado, Eighth**
- Isabel Colon, Ninth**
- Veronica Zieba, Tenth**



*Pictured from left (standing): Assistant Principal Tamika Eason, Isabel Colon, Ashley Simon, Lindsay Griffiths, Albert Collado, Veronica Zieba and Principal Jeanette Altruda. (sitting): Janiece Morgan, Stephanie Fischer, Krystal Howell, Alessandra Altruda and Zachary Wilson.*

Copiague School District  
Copiague, N.Y. 11726

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# A Message from the Superintendent

Dear Residents,

Welcome to our Winter 2014 issue of Copiague Connections, our official district newsletter. As you receive this latest edition, the first half of the school year is just coming to a close. This issue provides highlights of the many activities, initiatives and events that have taken place in our schools during the last few months since our fall newsletter was published. Featured in this latest issue are articles about our annual Road to College activities, this year's Top 10 Students from the class of 2014, our annual Senior to Senior Dinner, Board Recognition, our Saturday Academy program, student athletic achievements, highlights of our science program and a variety of other great activities involving Copiague students.

I would also like to draw your attention to an item on this page entitled: "Space and Facilities Advisory Committee Update," which highlights recent developments related to our planning for a much needed capital project to address both infrastructure deterioration and additional space needed as a result of enrollment growth. As the Board of Education and I have been discussing publicly for more than a year now, our buildings' aging infrastructures are in need of maintenance, as many building systems such as plumbing, heating, etc. are approaching the end of their useful life. Add to this a growth trend in enrollment, which has been going on for a couple of years and is anticipated to continue for a few more years, which is unique on Long Island, where the overall population has actually declined. The growth in enrollment in our schools has resulted in every usable space being utilized in our elementary schools, as well as the middle and high schools becoming tighter in space. The Committee will be working throughout the remainder of this school year to help formulate a plan to address both needs. Stay tuned for more information as they make progress.

And finally, once again we are in budget season. The Board and Administration are in the process of building next year's school budget, which, like our budgets over the past five years, is a challenge to put together, as state aid and other revenue sources have continued to decrease. We are hopeful that the uptick in the state's economy will translate into more of a state aid increase this year. The Board and I hope that you participate in the budgeting process by attending our upcoming budget work sessions and providing your input. Between our facilities and our children, we have a huge responsibility to protect our investment and we need your help.

Sincerely



Charles A. Leunig  
Superintendent of Schools

## Space and Facilities Advisory Committee Update

The Space and Facilities Advisory Committee has been meeting monthly since October to review the District's current facilities and infrastructure conditions, as well as projected enrollment growth, to determine future facility space and maintenance options to meet those needs.

As the committee reviews packets of information, some recent examples of infrastructure deterioration being experienced throughout the District include, but are not limited to, the following:

- In September 2013, the District experienced an underground electrical failure at the high school as the result of aging electrical equipment installed in 1968, when the school was first built.
- In October 2013, a sinkhole developed in front of the middle school, the result of an original drywell that had collapsed.
- In November 2013, a high-pressure hot water heating main ruptured where the 1961 addition to the middle school connects to the original 1958 building.
- In December 2013, Deauville Gardens Elementary School experienced a water main break, which forced the emergency relocation of students and staff as well as an additional daylong closure of the building.

The frequency of these issues indicates that our aging buildings and grounds infrastructure is in need of extensive repairs as systems in buildings require constant maintenance yet still have a limited life span. As part of the planning process for a future capital project to address these needs, in December, the Board of Education appointed the firm Turner Construction as Construction Manager for this anticipated work. Shortly, we anticipate the Board choosing an Architectural/Engineering firm, as well. Both firms will be working closely with the committee over the course of the school year to provide input on the necessary ingredients for this capital project that we anticipate presenting to the community in the fall of 2014.

To remain updated on the progress of the committee, please visit the District's website at [www.copiague.k12.ny.us](http://www.copiague.k12.ny.us).

## COMMUNITY RECOGNIZES BOARD

Recognizing the hard work and dedication its trustees commit to helping the community, the District honored its Board of Education during its Oct. 21 meeting. The recognition was made to mark the New York State School Boards Association's School Board Recognition Week, which enables community members to thank their board for its volunteer service to the schools.

"This event is held annually to recognize a very special group of people who give so much to our community," said Superintendent of Schools Charles A. Leunig.

During the ceremony, members of the Copiague Middle School Chamber Singers, under the direction of Kaitlin Schneekloth, sang two songs, and members of the PTA Council, Copiague Teachers Association, Copiague Principals Association, Copiague Supervisory Association and Copiague Clerical Association, along with the Copiague Teacher Aides and Assistants, donated funds to various charities, local organizations and scholarships in the name of each board member.



# Making Their MARK ON SCIENCE

## Copiague Students Named Finalists in the SSEP Mission 5 to the International Space Station

Students in Joseph Vanasco's Advanced Placement chemistry class at Walter G. O'Connell Copiague High School were selected as finalists in the Student Space Flight Experiments Program Mission 5 to the International Space Station.

"We utilized the writing research lab and database, with assistance

from librarian Beth Kattleman, as well as laptop carts, independent research and experimental design, all the while using logistical planning and parameters of limitation," said Mr. Vanasco. "It was an awesome experience for our students."

The students' proposal, "The Effects of Microgravity on the

Growth Rate of Tumor Cells," was one of three finalist proposals selected for the opportunity to fly to the International Space Station. According to the SSEP, if the project were selected, it would have been ferried to the ISS using one of a variety of transport vehicles such as the Russian Soyuz, the SpaceX Dragon, or Orbital Sciences Cygnus. Once the vehicle docked, the student experiments would have been transferred to the ISS where the astronauts would perform the necessary protocols for the SSEP student research mission.

According to the student proposal, "This experiment is designed to determine if the rate of tumor growth after exposure to a tumor suppressor is affected in a microgravity environment compared to terrestrial conditions." The students who participated

in the proposal are co-principal investigators Heather Konko and Zachary Wilson and collaborators Joseph Amorosino, Marica Aracena, Maryann Assaf, Bryan Bena, Thomas Clark, Nadia Dudley, Christopher Dundon, William Estevez, Gabriela Figueroa, Michael Hararah, William Hernandez, Eduardo Ortega, Montell Robinson, Carlos Saravia and Steven Velasquez.

The SSEP (<http://ssep.ncesse.org>) is undertaken by the National Center for Earth and Space Science Education (NCESSE; <http://ncesse.org>) in partnership with Nanoracks, LLC. This on-orbit educational research opportunity is enabled through NanoRacks, LLC, which is working in partnership with NASA under a Space Act Agreement as part of the utilization of the International Space Station as a National Laboratory.



## Science Stars

In the District's continuing efforts to expand science, technology, engineering and mathematics opportunities for its students, Copiague Middle School hosted its first science fair on Dec. 10. Forty-three student participants in the science core and science research classes presented their projects in class, with select works chosen for the building-level fair. Projects at the fair included figuring out if eco-friendly laundry detergent was really eco-friendly; whether what is served in the school cafeteria is actually what students want to eat; and discovering if fingerprints are an inherited trait.

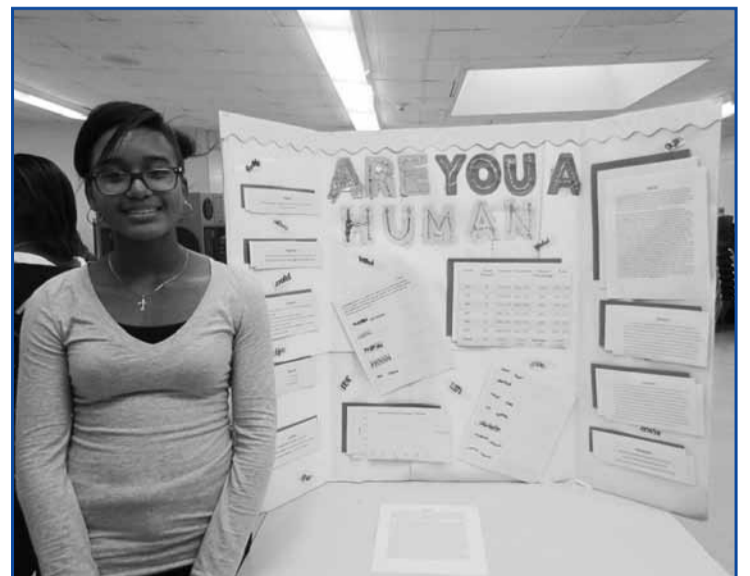
During the fair, students had to present their findings in an articulate and well-thought-out process to the judges, including middle school staff members, Walter G. O'Connell Copiague High School science teachers and science research students, as well as special guest judges from the Cradle of Aviation Museum and Renewable Energy Long Island. Each judge was supplied with a rubric where students were awarded up to 10 points in each category, including originality of project, oral and visual presentation of findings, and the validity of findings. One overall winner, two second-place finishers and five awards

for third place were presented. Special awards for artwork, STEM and future scientists were also given out. Once all of the projects were evaluated, Brittany Faustin and her project on "CAPTCHAS," which are distorted text images used to verify a computer user is human and not a computer program, placed first. Brittany's research concluded that younger people are able "see" the proper images in the CAPTCHA more accurately than older people.

"It's always been our ambition to show what great stuff happens in Copiague," said Middle School Chairperson of Science Dr. Daniel Leccese. "I think it is a great opportunity for our kids to feel empowered and have that sense of accomplishment."

Principal Andrew Lagnado added, "We've worked hard over the years to offer our students multiple opportunities in STEM. The science fair is just one aspect and we look forward to growing our program, which will ultimately benefit the students as they move on in their educational and professional careers."

According to Dr. Leccese, the school hopes to enter many of the student projects in upcoming islandwide science competitions.



# On the Road to College

## Planning for *the Future Today*

As an extension of its Road to College initiative, on Oct. 28 the Copiague School District hosted an evening college and community service fair for students and parents in grades 6-12. With more than 100 colleges in attendance from across the country, Copiague families were afforded a diverse array of options to obtain information. To begin the night, each family was presented with an oversized canvas bag to hold all of the college information packets, a list of the colleges and community organizations in attendance, and a sample list of important questions to ask.

In addition to the fairs, ninth-graders and their parents were invited into the auditorium for an introduction to the college process. During the program, Superintendent of School Charles A. Leunig and Director of Guidance Mary Klein spoke about the importance of grades, SAT scores, being involved in school clubs and active in the community, and how to set up a resume to make sure it shines for admissions officers.

“Our district and our resources are here to help you realize that dream of college,” said Mr. Leunig. “Let’s make that dream a reality.”



## College Day

Recognizing the importance of higher education and early planning, the Copiague School District hosted its sixth annual College Day on Jan 10. Following months of planning, each school hosted various events centered on getting students excited about the prospect of attending college. The goal of the initiative is to create a positive college-going culture among the young students, and to have every child achieve his or her potential and be college and career ready by the time he or she graduates high school.

“The purpose behind the creation of College Day is to empower Copiague’s students to aspire to higher education,” explained Superintendent of Schools Charles A. Leunig.

Throughout the day, various events and activities were held within each building with a focus on different college majors and career opportunities. Learning about the law, fifth-graders at Great Neck Road Elementary School hosted a mock trial based on “Goldilocks and the Three Bears”; Deauville Gardens East Elementary School was transformed into a university, with students traveling to various schools to learn different disciplines; Deauville Gardens West Elementary School hosted a student performance that spotlighted careers in the performing arts; and fifth-graders at S.E. Wiley Elementary School showcased their knowledge of college life as they participated in “The Wiley Challenge,” a “Jeopardy”-type game show.

At Walter G. O’Connell Copiague High School and Copiague Middle School, students were provided with information regarding which classes they can take now that will help them in their postsecondary careers, as well as various occupations related to specific departments. They were also treated to visits from alumni who spoke about their own careers and the paths they took to get there.



# Success on Saturday

For many years, the Copiague School District has recognized the importance of reaching out to its English language learners and offering them ample opportunities for success. One program offered for this purpose is the Saturday Academy. Funded by federal Title III grant money, at no cost to district taxpayers, the Saturday Academy services 240 students in grades K-12 and offers ESL classes, as well as bilingual Regents prep courses for high school students in algebra, geometry, U.S. history and global history. In addition, the 20-week program offers the students breakfast and transportation.

"These courses are a great opportunity for our beginning English learners to catch up," said Michelle Budion, District Coordinator of English Language Learners. "We try to make the program fun while language-rich for the students." She continued, "Each week we have 14 teachers, three teaching assistants and nine student volunteers who

assist classes at different levels. Many of the student volunteers went through the Saturday program when they were in ESL; however, in the past three years, we've had high school students interested in volunteer hours participate in the program even though they were never ESL students."

One student volunteer is Walter G. O'Connell Copiague High School sophomore Katherine Morales, who tutors math. "I like coming here to help my friends," she said. "The classes are smaller and it helps them express what they've learned a little more easily."

In addition to the student programs, the Saturday Academy offers English and citizenship classes for adults. "This program has strengthened the home-school connection that we all know is directly connected to our students' success," said Ms. Budion.

"Because the parents come here on Saturdays, they begin to feel comfortable coming into their children's schools. We make them aware of the bilingual clerical, counseling, teaching and administrative staff available to them in each building throughout the District."

The Saturday program is also used as a vehicle to disseminate information to parents that will



help them and their families in other areas. As Ms. Budion explained, "We have brought in speakers to educate our parents about breast cancer screenings, mental health resources, available assistance in relation to Hurricane Sandy, and informational assistance for filing taxes. We are constantly looking for ways to expand the information and resources we offer families by bringing more community organizations in to speak at the program."

High school sophomore Jessi Garcia volunteers his time on Saturday to act as a translator, while his parents attend the program to better their English skills. "My parents feel great because they get a chance to learn English," he said. "This way, they can look for a specific job they really want to do. I'm glad Copiague does this, because it shows students and adults that they can have a better future."



## DEAUVILLE STUDENTS MAKE Healthy Choices

Each year, as part of Red Ribbon Week activities, students at Deauville Gardens East and West elementary schools participate in the Run Against Drugs. Organized by the physical education department, the program teaches students about the negative effects of drugs and alcohol as well as the importance of making good decisions, and culminates with the annual run. "We talk about making healthy choices and incorporate the run by stressing the importance of staying active," explained physical education teacher John Sack.

Following this year's run, the students tied red ribbons on the fence bordering the school field to spell out "Red Ribbon." Additionally, every student was presented with a rubber bracelet, provided by the PTA, that reads, "A healthy me is drug free."



# A Night of Dinner and Dancing

A few snow flurries couldn't keep the local seniors from visiting Walter G. O'Connell Copiague High School and taking part in the annual Senior to Senior Dinner. Organized by the Class of 2014 and its advisers, Alline Stanton and Tracy Wenzler, the evening included a performance by the Madrigal Choir, directed by Gina Occhiogrosso, and music by the Hip Hop Club and its adviser, Yvan Garcia.

"We have three senior citizen centers represented here, with close to 300 people in attendance," said Ms. Stanton. "The kids are really excited to spend time with the seniors doing community service." A spirited occasion filled with dinner, dancing and multigenerational interaction, the Senior to Senior Dinner is a highlight for both community residents and high school seniors alike.

"I am so proud of these students and their teachers," said Adriana Ludgate, a district alumna, Hall of Achievement member and yearly attendee at the Senior to Senior Dinner. "I come every year because I have a passion for education and I am proud of everything the students do for the seniors of Copiague."

"This event is a very good way for the students to give back to the senior citizens and the community in general," said Senior Class President Zachary Wilson. "We'd like to say thank you for supporting our education."



*This event is a very good way for the students to give back to the senior citizens and the community in general. - Senior Class President Zachary Wilson*

## Copiague Students Honor Local Veterans

In honor of Veterans Day, students and staff at Copiague's Great Neck Road and Susan E. Wiley elementary schools hosted two ceremonies to honor local heroes for their sacrifices.

On Nov. 4, Susan E. Wiley fifth-graders hosted veterans from Dominican Village in Amityville for a special presentation. During the celebration, students read original essays and poems about Veterans Day, sang an armed forces medley with music teacher Karen Swenson, and viewed a photo slideshow that highlighted the veterans in attendance during their years of service.

"This is our fifth year coordinating with Dominican Village to honor our veterans," said Susan E. Wiley Principal Cynthia Florio. "It's a time when we can teach our children how and why the United States of America is the land of the free. It also teaches them the true meaning of responsibility, courage, honor and respect."

At Great Neck Road, the staff and students invited members of the local VFW, as well as relatives of students who have served or are currently serving in the armed forces, to a breakfast celebration. The

attendees enjoyed musical performances, a video slideshow and student recitations. As a special touch, students gave a presentation on America's White Table, which is a table set in many mess halls as a symbol for and remembrance of service members fallen, missing or held captive in the line of duty. It is the table where no one will ever sit.

"Today, the staff and students of Great Neck Road Elementary School are proud to honor the members of the United States armed forces," said Principal Joseph Agosta. "Time and again, ordinary people have served our nation in extraordinary ways so that all Americans can pursue the happiness our founding fathers envisioned. By their service, they have kept America strong, and they have protected our way of life for more than two centuries."

"It's a real honor to have the young people here acknowledge us as veterans," said United States Navy veteran and Board of Education trustee Everett E. Newman III, who along with Board President Michael Greb attended both ceremonies. "It made me feel really special. All of the service is worth it when you see these young children."



# Fall Sports Recognized

Walter G. O'Connell Copiague High School recently held its annual Fall Varsity Sports Awards Dinner, hosted by the Booster Club, honoring the best and brightest of the fall 2013 athletic season. This season the district honored members of the cross-country, field hockey, football, gymnastics, girls and boys soccer, tennis and volleyball teams.



Continuing a yearly tradition, five special memorial awards were handed out to outstanding athletes for demonstrating leadership on and off the field. This year Alessandra Altruda (girls soccer) was awarded the Michael S. Cohen Award, Stephanie Fischer (field hockey) received the Barbara Day Award, Lindsay Griffiths (gymnastics) was the recipient of the Delores Sandefur Award, Olivia Johnson (volleyball) received the Deborah Tekosky Award, Andrew Marino (cross-country) was the recipient of the Christopher Urban Award and Christian Morales (boys soccer) was presented with the Lombardo Award.

## Copiague Suffolk Zone Winners Announced

Walter G. O'Connell Copiague High School seniors Alessandra Altruda and Zachary Wilson were presented with the New York State Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance Suffolk Zone Award on Dec. 4. The two were awarded certificates and gold medals recognizing their outstanding achievements as physical education students, scholars and citizens. The ceremony was held at the Hyatt Regency Wind Watch in Hauppauge.



## Copiague Students Dig Pink



Commemorating October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month, the Walter G. O'Connell Copiague High School girls varsity and junior varsity volleyball teams, coached by John Sack and Barbara Olsen, respectively, hosted two special Oct. 21 Dig Pink games that served to raise money for breast cancer awareness. Joining together with the Suffolk County Girls Volleyball Coaches Association and the national Side-Out Foundation to raise money, the games also help educate the public about breast cancer in hopes of one day eradicating the disease. Together, the two Copiague teams raised more than \$250 for the cause.

# Fall Sports All-Stars

Sport	Name	Award
Boys Soccer	Alexis Batres	All-Division, All County, All-Conference, Exceptional Senior All Star
Boys Soccer	Jonathan Delgado Gomez	All-League
Boys Soccer	Emgi Gousse	All-Division, All-Conference
Boys Soccer	Mark Martinez	Academic All-County
Boys Soccer	Christian Morales	All-Division, All-Conference, Exceptional Senior All-Star
Boys Soccer	Nicholas Reyes	All-League
Boys Soccer	Erick Umazor	All-League
Cross Country	Andrew Marino	All-League
Field Hockey	Isabel Colon	All-Conference
Field Hockey	Stephanie Fischer	All-Division
Field Hockey	Nicolette Giordano	All-Division
Girls Tennis	Camille David	All-League
Girls Tennis	Isabella Dusanenko	All-League
Girls Tennis	Janiece Morgan	Sportsmanship Award, All-Division
Girls Tennis	Jennifer Ruiz	All-Division
Gymnastics	Lindsay Griffiths	All League Honorable Mention
Gymnastics	Caroline Zaczek	All-League Vault, All-League Bars, All-League Floor
Football	Michael Illicete	2nd Team All-Division
Football	Willie McFadden III	1st Team All-Division, All-County
Football	Tyler O'Brien	2nd Team All-Division
Football	Shamar Weir	2nd Team All-Division
Girls Soccer	Julia Woelk	All-League
Volleyball	Brionna Silva	All-League

# Golden Eagles

The Copiague School District takes great pride in its students and all of their achievements in the classroom and on the playing field. To award its athletically and academically inclined students, Walter G. O'Connell Copiague High School created the Golden Eagle Award. At the conclusion of every athletic season, the top scholar-athlete on each sports team for the quarter is presented with this award.

The district congratulates the winners of the prestigious Golden Eagle Award for the Fall 2013 athletic season. Pictured from left: Director of Physical Education and Athletics Pete Cesare, students William Estevez (cross-country), Carlos Saravia (boys soccer), Michael Hararah (football), Alessandra Altruda (girls soccer), Isabel Colon (field hockey), Melanie Barreiro (gymnastics), Natalie Korba (cheerleading), Nadia Dudley (volleyball) and Janiece Morgan (girls tennis), and Walter G. O'Connell Copiague High School Principal Jeanette Altruda.



## BUDGET DEVELOPMENT UNDERWAY

The Board of Education and administration are currently in the process of reviewing expenditures for the district for the 2014-15 school year. All residents are invited to attend the meetings and offer their input and questions. Listed below are the dates of the meetings and the topics that will be discussed. All budget meetings are held in the Copiague Middle School cafeteria and begin at 7:30 p.m.

**February 10**

Cost Center Update

**March 10**

Proposed Expenditure Budget

**March 24**

Cost Center Update

**April 7**

Further Revisions to Expenditure Budget

**April 24**

Budget Adoption Target Date

**May 12**

Public Hearing

**May 20**

Budget Vote and Trustee Election  
10 a.m.–10 p.m.

Great Neck Road Elementary School

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To keep updated on important information and upcoming events, please "like" the Copiague Public Schools Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/CopiaguePublicSchools>

# Transportation Reminder

All requests for transportation to private and parochial schools for the 2014-2015 school year must be made in writing no later than April 1, 2014. Required information includes the student's name, grade, address, telephone number, date of birth, and the name and address of the private or parochial school for which transportation is requested.

Requests should be submitted to Copiague Public Schools, c/o Transportation Office, 2650 Great Neck Road, Copiague, NY 11726.

## Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten Registration for the Copiague Union Free School District will be held at the District Administrative Office located on the side of Middle School on Great Neck Road from: FEBRUARY 3rd – 7th, 2014 from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

Children who have turned age five on or before December 1, 2014 are eligible to attend school in September, 2014. Registration requirements include proof of the child's age, residence within the boundaries of the Copiague School District, and immunizations against polio, measles, rubella (German measles), mumps, diphtheria and hepatitis B. Additional information on immunizations should be requested from your child's physician. A law recently enacted in 2008 expands a physical to include a Dental Health Screening.

For registration information, call (631) 842-4015 ext. 538. Those who do not plan to register their children at this time should also call school officials to assist in the District's planning.

## A Special Holiday Treat

At the Dec. 16 Copiague Board of Education meeting, a student performance group traditionally showcases a portion of its winter concert repertoire. This year, under the direction of Chantall Charles-Alleyne, the Deauville Gardens East and Deauville Gardens West elementary schools combined select

chorus sang two songs. As a special treat to kick off the meeting, the choral group performed "Frosty the Snowman" and "I Have a Little Dreidel."



## Building Character Through Community Service

Continuing their annual holiday tradition of community service, the students in the Copiague School District hosted numerous character-building and service-oriented fundraisers.

During the months of November and December, the students and staff of Walter G. O'Connell Copiague High School, Copiague Middle School, Deauville Gardens East, Deauville Gardens West, Great Neck Road and Susan E. Wiley brought in hundreds of cans and boxes of nonperishable food, which were donated to school community families in need. Additionally, student groups wrote letters to servicemen and women; participated in the Macy's Believe campaign, which raises funds for the Make-A-Wish Foundation; and collected toys for the U.S. Marine's Toys for Tots program.

"We take great pride in ensuring our students are well-rounded individuals," said Superintendent of Schools Charles A. Leunig. "Through these various community service activities, our students learned the value of helping others."



### BOARD OF EDUCATION

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