

## Dates to REMEMBER

**April 28-30**  
Kindergarten Registration

**May 5**  
Board of Education Meeting  
7:30 p.m. Board Room

**May 12**  
Board of Education Meeting  
Budget Hearing  
7:30 p.m. Board Room

**May 19**  
Elementary and Middle Schools  
Educational Fairs

**May 20**  
School District Annual Budget Vote  
10 a.m. - 10 p.m.  
Great Neck Road School

**May 26**  
Schools Closed

## Hall of Achievement Forms Now Available

The Copiague Hall of Achievement was created in an effort to recognize graduates of Copiague High School who have succeeded in their careers and lives. Inductees may also include those who have distinguished themselves by virtue of their contributions to community and society. The goal of the District's Hall of Achievement is to introduce positive role models to the school community. By their very nature, inductees to the Hall inspire students to adopt high aspirations. District residents should have already received a Hall of Achievement nomination form. If you know someone who meets the criteria, fill out and return the nomination form no later than May 31, 2008.

**Did You Know?**  
That Christian LaPersonerie is  
only the sixth County Wrestling  
Champion in Copiague High  
School history?

### Kindergarten Registration April 28-30

Kindergarten registration for the Copiague School District will be held at the District Administration Office, located in the Copiague Middle School on Great Neck Road, from April 28-30, 2008 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and again from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. each day, by appointment only.

Children who will turn five on or before December 1, 2008 are eligible to attend school in September 2008. Registration requirements include proof of the child's age, residence within the boundaries of the Copiague School District, and immunization against polio, measles, rubella (German measles), mumps, diphtheria, and hepatitis B. Additional information on immunizations should be requested from your child's physician. For registration information, call 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.

#### En español

Niños que cumplen 5 años de edad antes del primero de diciembre de 2008 deben matricularse para Kindergarten en la Oficina Administrativa Central Localizada en el 2650 Great Neck Road en Copiague comenzando el 28-30 de abril, 2008. Por favor de llamar al 842-4015 x538 para hacer una cita.

### DON'T FORGET TO REGISTER TO VOTE

**YOUR VOTE IS YOUR VOICE!** It is important that you play an active role in deciding how your child will be educated. Continuous voter registration is available in the office of the District Clerk from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, when school is in session, for both the Copiague School District and Copiague Public Memorial Library. For more information, contact the District Clerk at 842-4015. Residents who have voted or registered at any Annual or Special School District meeting or election held within the last four (4) years, or have voted at a general election or been registered with the Board of Elections of Suffolk County within the last four (4) years, are eligible to vote. The last day to register for this vote is Tuesday, May 14, 2008.

If you would like to register to vote, you must:

- Be a citizen of the United States,
- Be 18 years of age or over,
- Be a resident of the Copiague School District for at least 30 days prior to the voting date.

#### Absentee Ballots

Applications for absentee ballots are available at the Office of the District Clerk and must be completed and returned at least seven days before the election if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or the day before the election if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter.

**BUDGET VOTE AND BOARD ELECTION  
TUESDAY, MAY 20, 2008  
GREAT NECK ROAD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

### OFFERING OPPORTUNITIES

The district takes great pride in its diverse population and recognizes the challenges faced by students who speak little to no English upon entering the schools. With a student population that speaks languages such as Spanish, Polish, and Haitian/Creole, the district offers numerous programs for its students through the English as a Second Language (ESL) program ranging from the Newcomer Program to the Bring Your Parents to School Program.



To help prepare students as early as possible, the district has begun the **ESL Summer School Jumpstart Program**. It is geared to incoming kindergarten students and students in all grades, K-12, who can benefit from additional English Language instruction.

Programs are also offered before and after school to students so they can receive optimal learning time within the classroom. The **Newcomer Program**, provided before school and open to all new students, offers them English and content area instructional support. The **ESL Extended Day** is an after-school program open to all students in grades 3-12. This program provides students with content area review and support in preparation for all State Assessments. The **English Regents Preparation** program is also offered after school for juniors and seniors who need one on one and small-group tutorial in order to prepare for the State English Regents exam.

Other programs available to help ESL students learn the English language include a middle school **book club**, **home visits**, and **ESL Family Night**.

"The ESL Family Night annual meeting is scheduled in order to provide our parents with information regarding school policies and mandates, including testing, promotions, programs, health information, and strategies for success," said Vivian Fiallo, Coordinator of ESL, K-12.

Written and oral translation of letters, phone calls, and notices that are sent home is also provided so that parents are fully aware of the latest school news.



#### BOARD OF EDUCATION

Brian J. Sales, *President*    Laura Gavey, *Vice President*  
Michael Greb, *2nd Vice President*    Doris Fischer    Henry Johnson  
Rosemary Natoli    Everett E. Newman III  
Dr. William R. Bolton, *Superintendent of Schools*

Copiague Connections

Issued by the Copiague Board of Education as an information service to taxpayers and parents



# Copiague Public Schools

A GREAT PLACE TO LEARN

www.copiague.k12.ny.us

SPRING 2008

## Introducing...

**Zaneta Wykowska, Valedictorian**

**Dinosca Umana, Salutatorian**

**Pamela Keats**

**Jose Castillo**

**Carol Capone**

**Joseph Johnsen**

**Andy Dilone**

**Vanessa Vickers**

**Christine Wilkinson**

**Sabrina Destime**

**Class of 2008  
Top Ten**

**Walter G. O'Connell Copiague High School**

Copiague School District  
Copiague N.Y. 11726

\*\*\***ECRWSS**\*\*\*  
Resident  
Copiague School District

Nonprofit Organization  
U.S. Postage  
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Copiague, N.Y. 11726  
Permit No. 42



## A MESSAGE from the Board President

Dear Residents,

As promised in my letter to the community, dated February 18, 2008, I would like to share with you the information the Board of Education has received relative to our former School Attorney, Mr. Lawrence Reich, and the ongoing investigation into his employment status with our district.

Since February, the State Comptroller's Office has conducted audits in school districts across Long Island, including Copiague. After a thorough audit of the district's pension plan, the Comptroller's Office reported to the Board of Education that Mr. Reich was incorrectly classified as

a school employee. It was also noted that no other employees were found to be misclassified.

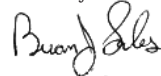
This was the first such guidance the district has received on the classification of employees for retirement in more than twenty years. The Board of Education is adopting an Action Plan to prevent any recurrence of misclassification. Please be assured, it is the intention of the Board to adhere to the directive provided.

It should be noted the Board takes exception to *Newsday's* continued use of the words "falsely reported," when they are well aware that Mr. Reich was "incorrectly" reported to the pension system by the district. It is further worth noting, as I mentioned in my previous letter to the community, that at no time did the district knowingly attempt to engage in inappropriate conduct with

regard to Mr. Reich during the time that he was employed by the district to serve as general counsel. At the same time, the law firm Ingerman Smith LLP provided litigation and other services, which were billed separately. At no time was the district billed twice for the same services.

The Board of Education and administration are very proud of our district's reputation for integrity, professionalism, and student achievement. On behalf of the Board of Education I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,



Brian J. Sales  
President, Board of Education

## LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST FOCUSES ON THE FUTURE

Members of the Board of Education and administration welcomed Senator Owen Johnson and Assemblyman Robert K. Sweeney to the District's annual Legislative Breakfast. Faculty and staff, along with representatives from many community organizations including Reverend Roy Kirton and members of the Ministerial Alliance of North Amityville and Vicinity (M.A.N.A.), also attended to thank the legislators for their past efforts on behalf of the District and to express their concerns about much-needed funding for the future.

Board of Education President Brian J. Sales used the occasion to share some of the District's more notable accomplishments including improved test scores, more students enrolled in Regents courses, a preschool program, expanded staff development, additional staff and support for at-risk students, improved facilities, increased Copiague pride, a leading technology program, before- and after-school programs, a Saturday Academy and an enhanced Summer School program. He thanked the legislators for their support and stressed the importance of continued funding to support the programs students need to be successful. "We are going to keep on working for you as we have in the past," stated Senator Johnson.

Several of the District's Class of 2008 Top Ten, along with their families, were introduced. Their impressive resumes and career goals were a testament to the education and encouragement they have received. "Everything we do is focused on student success," stated Dr. William R. Bolton, Superintendent of Schools. "I want an equal education for the children of Copiague. Leave here today with a message. Be an ambassador for our schools and our children."



## Copiague Board Member Named REGIONAL DIRECTOR OF SUFFOLK PTA



The Copiague School District would like to congratulate Board of Education Trustee Doris Fischer for being named Regional Director of the Suffolk Region PTA. As Regional Director, Ms. Fischer will also serve on the Board of Managers for New York State PTA. Regional Director of the Suffolk Region PTA is the highest PTA position in the county.

Suffolk Region PTA covers all of Suffolk County from Amityville to Montauk, and is the second largest region in New York State PTA, with more than 88,000 members.

## Making a World of Difference



The Long Island Mentoring Partnership recently honored Lisa Flores, a speech teacher and mentor at Great Neck Road Elementary School. At its annual Mentoring Matters Conference, Ms. Flores was awarded the 2008 Mentoring Achievement Award for her work as a mentor and coordinator of the mentor program at Great Neck Road.

"I was honored to receive this award," said Ms. Flores. "It is such a worthwhile program and I think every mentor makes a difference in a child's life."

Ms. Flores was nominated by Laura Smith, a fellow mentor and reading teacher, who in her nomination letter stated, "[Lisa] spends a great deal of time and effort to make our program successful. This year, we have even more teachers volunteering their time and, therefore, more children who benefit from this program."

# Early Admission

The Class of 2008 knows that it takes dedication, hard work, and teamwork to achieve the dream of attending the college or university of choice. Listed below is just a partial list of colleges and universities that have offered admission and scholarships to the Class of 2008:

Adelphi University  
American International College  
Barton College  
Clinton College  
CUNY @ Brooklyn College  
CUNY @ John Jay College  
CUNY @ Queens College  
CUNY @ The City College  
C.W. Post/Long Island University  
Dartmouth College  
Dowling College

Duke University  
Eastern University  
Fordham University  
Hood College  
Hofstra University  
Johnson & Wales University  
LaSalle University  
New York Institute of Technology  
New York University  
Pace University  
Rutgers University

St. John's University  
SUNY @ Albany  
SUNY @ Cobleskill  
SUNY @ Cortland  
SUNY @ New Paltz  
SUNY @ Plattsburgh  
SUNY @ Stony Brook  
Temple University  
University of Bridgport  
University of Delaware  
University of North Carolina @ Greensboro

## Alumni Day

Graduates from Walter G. O'Connell Copiague High School recently returned to their alma mater to share their college experiences with this year's senior class. Alumni Day, an annual event organized by the school's guidance department, brought recent graduates back to participate in small-group discussions pertaining to life after high school.

A question-answer session among the students focused on pressing issues facing college freshmen. Topics discussed included whether the graduate was attending their first-choice school, what didn't your college tell you on your campus tour that you wished they did, the variety of clubs and activities available on the campuses, roommate issues, dorm life, time management, and safety on campus.

The panelists included Matthew McCollough (2006, SUNY Stony Brook), Trinh Nguyen (2007, Yale University), Carolyn Nitowitz (2005, Queens College), Scott Snowden (2005, SUNY Geneseo), Laura Vollmer (2006, SUNY Binghamton), Christopher Duffy (2004, Five Towns College), Alex Linsalata (2006, Vassar), Joshua Hemmings (2007, Westminster Choir College), Jessica Kropp (2007, Fashion Institute of Technology), Albert Miller (2007, Columbia University), Vanessa Mullins (2007, Suffolk Community College), Tiffany Sanspree (2007, Nassau Community College), Brian Tweedy (2005, Emerson College), and Kelly Mackey (2005, St. Joseph's College).



## Taking Home the Trophy

Members of the Walter G. O'Connell Copiague High School Distributive Education Club of America (D.E.C.A.) recently competed at the D.E.C.A. Regional Competition, which was held at Suffolk County Community College.



Competing against high school students from across Long Island, Copiague students captured the spotlight in multiple categories, winning 20 first-place trophies and three second-place trophies. Students won first place in a multitude of different areas, including job interview, public speaking, visual advertising, and economics, and qualified to participate in the state competition in March.

At the D.E.C.A. State Conference held in Rochester, New York, the following students won gold medals:

Kris Sklandanek: Economics  
Chris Mangels: Sales Demonstration  
Khang Nguyen: Hotel Management  
Zaneta Wykowska: Wholesale Selling  
Brian Conroy: Automotive Services Management

The Copiague Chapter was also awarded the Gold-Level Membership Chapter Award. This award is given to a Chapter that has been in existence for more than ten years and has increased membership annually.

D.E.C.A. is a national student organization whose program of leadership and personal development is designed specifically for students interested in marketing, management, and entrepreneurship.

## Creating Positive Change

Students of Unified Leaders (S.O.U.L.) is a student organization that believes in making the best of the high school years, with the goal to influence, positively, the cultural environment of Walter G. O'Connell Copiague High School. Through the district's Character Education Grant, S.O.U.L. has been able to expand its services and has approximately 125 students involved.

"Our guiding principle this year is 'no friend left behind,'" stated Jamie Suarez, S.O.U.L. advisor. "Our goal is to get students to reach out to other students and create a positive change."

This year, for the first time, the students are broken up into brigades - some brigades are based upon academics (Future Teachers), cultural descent (Latin, Polish/Slavic, etc.), or interest in the environment, among numerous others. Together they work to bring about change within the school, such as beginning a recycling program through students involved in the environment brigade.

In January, S.O.U.L. held a conference in which the brigades each gave presentations focused on two areas they believed were preventing their peers from academic

achievement and how to fix it. The students are currently promoting their ideas throughout the high school. Last year they held a "Getting on Time and Ready to Learn" event. Members of S.O.U.L. wrote pledges, encouraged fellow students to sign the pledges, and promoted the event.

"We believe that to get the best results out of S.O.U.L. we should start young," said Mr. Suarez. "Currently, members are working on going to the middle school to promote S.O.U.L. and get students involved starting in sixth grade."



## Board Honors STUDENT EXCELLENCE

Twenty-five students in the district were recently selected to receive special recognition from the Board of Education for their outstanding achievements. These awards are presented only twice yearly to a small number of students for their extra-special accomplishments. The students were publicly recognized for their excellence in athletics, academics, community service, and for being positive leaders and role models to their fellow students.

### Congratulations to:

**Deauville Gardens:** Amaya Williams, Kelly Odulio, Kayla Dixon, and Erick Rivera

**Great Neck Road:** Mauro Villatoro, Oleg Kasianchuk, and Mark Norman

**Susan E. Wiley:** Adrian Chochorek, Emoni Nixon-Harris, and Luz Andrade

**Middle School:** Katherine Velasquez, Grace Hall, Roxana Jimenez, Matthew Edlind, Ian Morgan, Reginald Robinson, and Leslie Velasquez

**High School:** Jacob Ohrnberger, Richard Pongvitayapanu, Hasan Poole, Wills Ohrnberger, Sean Johnston, Adam Junge, Jonathan Morgan, and Dwayne Stewart



## Money, Math, Mania

PetraPuppets recently treated the students at Susan E. Wiley Elementary School to a performance highlighting the importance of math. The PTA-sponsored Money, Math, Mania presentation was a curriculum-based exploration of money and mathematics, which allowed and encouraged student participation.

Through puppets, games, and original songs and music, the students learned that math could be fun, in addition to learning about science, history, and many other curriculum-related topics.

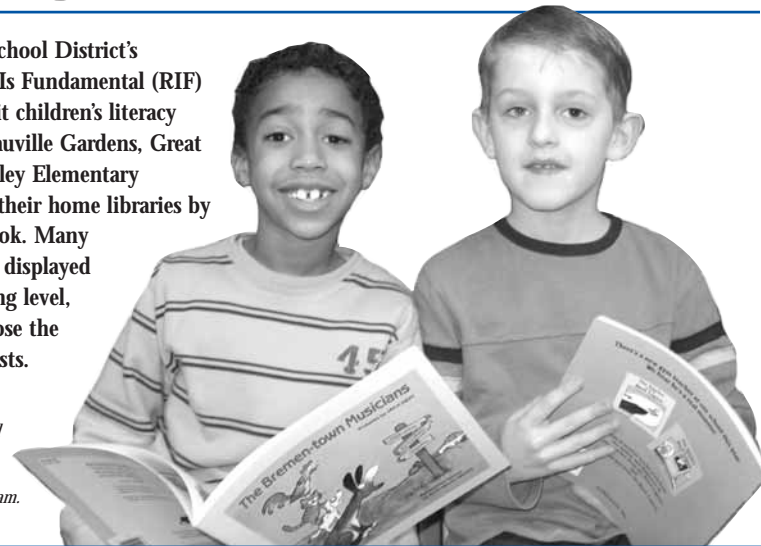
Ventriloquist Steve Petruzzella used his puppets to infuse humor into math and told the students, "Remember, if there is money in your pocket, there is math in your head."



## Reading Is FUNdamental

Thanks to the Copiague School District's participation in the Reading Is Fundamental (RIF) Program, a national nonprofit children's literacy organization, students at Deauville Gardens, Great Neck Road, and Susan E. Wiley Elementary Schools were able to expand their home libraries by choosing a free paperback book. Many different types of books were displayed according to grade and reading level, enabling the students to choose the book that best fit their interests.

Students from Great Neck Road Elementary School search for a new book during the district's Reading Is Fundamental (RIF) Program.



# AROUND DISTRICT *the*

## ROBOTICS FIRST

For the first time ever, a Robotics after-school club at Walter G. O'Connell Copiague High School has been offered to the students. The Robotics Club allows the students to design, engineer, and construct a full-functioning robot. In its first year of existence the club has attracted approximately 30 members, and received extra funds from School Construction Consultants Incorporated to construct their robot, which they named Spartan.

After completing the design of Spartan, the Robotics Team (the C-Bots) competed against 46 other schools from throughout Long Island and the United States at the Annual FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Long Island Regional Competition at Hofstra University.

Six weeks prior to the competition, the students, under the direction of advisors John Young and Sal Cimin, were faced with the challenge of designing and building an original 130-pound robot from a kit provided by FIRST. The kit was used to ensure that students were competing in accordance with standard game rules and that all schools competed at the same level. For this year's challenge, "FIRST Overdrive," students' robots were designed to race around a track knocking down 40" inflated Trackballs and moving them around the track, passing them either over or under a 6'6" overpass.



## Magical Approach

## TO GEOGRAPHY

The students at Deauville Garden Elementary School participated in a highly entertaining and educational program that introduced them to geography and the world in which they live. The students experienced a magical journey to all seven continents with Bob Conrad, who performed the "Magical Approach to Geography," stopping in China, India, France, Africa, Brazil, and Australia. Utilizing visual aides such as globes, a large map of the world, and a talking picture of the Earth, Mr. Conrad employed a variety of talents including magic, storytelling, puppetry, and ventriloquism to present an interesting and fun-filled geography lesson.

## PENNIES for PATIENTS

Great Neck Road Elementary School students participated in the "Pennies for Patients" campaign, raising approximately \$559 for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. The collection was used to encourage students to donate their spare change and reinforce the school's character education program, specifically the caring and citizenship pillars. Parents also assisted with the collection. The money raised will go towards supporting the society's mission, which is to help find a cure for leukemia, lymphoma, myeloma and Hodgkin's disease.

"We receive so much community support when we hold fundraisers," said Principal Domenica Catalano. "They need to be acknowledged and thanked for all of their generosity."

## Dancing in Line

Students from the Copiague Middle School Builders Club visited the Tanner Park Senior Center to spend time with local senior citizens and show their appreciation for the seniors' support of their education. During the visit, the students brought their creativity to the table and made arts and crafts for the seniors in celebration of Valentine's Day. In return, the seniors taught the students how to move, when they took to the dance floor to teach them country line dancing.





## TAKING THE CHALLENGE

The students at Walter G. O'Connell Copiague High School participated in their first Challenge Day. Challenge Day was instituted to provide the students with workshops and programs that demonstrate the possibility of friendship and understanding through the celebration of diversity and truth. Nine teachers, Assistant Principal Dr. Linda Caputo, and approximately 100 students participated in the program.

Throughout the daylong endeavor, specially selected students took part in numerous activities geared toward getting to know one another, build trust, and share commonality. The day began with a "Beat the Pan" activity, during which students were placed into small groups, in which each revealed one fact that no one knew about them. They ended the day with every student taking the microphone to speak; all were encouraged to talk about how they would like to make a change and foster a better culture and environment for everyone. This was followed by small-group discussion of what was learned and reactions about the day as a whole.



## Celebrating BLACK HISTORY

In celebration of Black History Month and in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day, the students at Copiague Middle School participated in numerous African-American history celebrations.

"Black History Month and Martin Luther King Jr. Day are important events to commemorate, especially in a community as diverse as Copiague," stated Social Studies Chairperson Lisa Dunn.

In Marie DeBlasio's eighth-grade social studies class, students combined social studies with English Language Arts and drama. The students acted out the Dudley Randall poem, "Two Leaders Who Did Not Agree," which is written as a conversation between W.E.B. DuBois and Booker T. Washington. The poem supported the African-American poetry unit the students were studying in their ELA Exploration Workshop.



Ruthie Flores' Native Spanish class related the struggle of Dr. King and the Civil Rights Movement to that of César Chávez and the social problems that currently face Hispanics in America. The students reviewed Dr. King's "I Have a Dream" speech, watched a video on his biography, and discussed how Dr. King's speech has been fulfilled.

Steve Cooney's social studies class broke into two stations. While one group read, signed, and created their own "Birmingham Pledge," an anti-bias, pro-tolerance statement, another group reviewed a PowerPoint presentation on Martin Luther King Jr. and the Civil Rights Movement set to the U2 song "Pride (In the Name of Love)," which was written as a tribute to Dr. King.

Students in Paula Popovski's and Renee Ferrera's classes created Bio-Poetry on famous Black Americans. Monica Csorny's students participated in a reading on MLK and Pete Casale's new student teacher, Brittany Paterson, gave a presentation on the Civil Rights movement.



## "N' No More"

Students from the Walter G. O'Connell Copiague High School's African-American Students' Organization (AASO) recently held its African-American History Month Celebration. This year, under the direction of Aredra Brown, the students performed an original play, "N' No More," written by teaching assistant Lelia Billings.

"It has become commonplace to hear young people use the 'n' word in casual conversation in a nonderogatory way," stated Ms. Brown. "I wanted to try and take this opportunity to tell the history of the 'n' word, how it has evolved over time, and address the social concerns and consequences of students using the word."

Set within a church, senior TySean Thomas played the Reverend preaching his concerns to his congregation: "We are saying out loud and publicly, 'n' no more! We have taken a stand and we are ready to break the cycle. We are ready for a change; we are ready for a miracle."



## HONORING WINTER SPORTS

Walter G. O'Connell Copiague High School recently held its Annual Varsity Winter Sports Awards Dinner, honoring the best and brightest of the Winter 2007-2008 season. Sponsored by the Booster Club, members of the Varsity Bowling, Wrestling, Boys and Girls Winter Track, Cheerleading, Step

Team, and Boys and Girls Basketball teams were honored by administrators and coaches.

During the ceremony the Golden Eagle Award was also presented to the student athlete on each team with the highest average for the quarter. The Winter Sports Golden Eagle Award

winners were: Julian Perez (Cheerleading), Maria Alte (Step Team), Vanessa Destime (Girls Basketball), Jacob Outsen (Bowling), Kaitlyn Denby (Girls Winter Track), Philip Page (Boys Basketball), Joseph Florio (Wrestling), and Maxwell Woelk (Boys Winter Track).



## Winter Sports Wrap-up

Congratulations to the following winter sports athletes who were recognized for their outstanding performances:

Sport	Name	Award	Sport	Name	Award
Var. Boys Bowling	Vincent Aponte	All-League Boys	Var. Girls Basketball	Chelsea Williams	All-League
Var. Boys Basketball	Jordan Barosy	All-League	Boys Winter Track	Jelani Bledman	All-League Triple Jump
Var. Boys Basketball	Marcell Lattimore	All-League, All-Conference	Girls Winter Track	Christine Wilkinson	All-League
Var. Boys Basketball	Philip Page	All-League Academic	Var. Wrestling	Pat Flynn	All-League
Var. Boys Basketball	Nasha Smith	All-League Hon. Mention	Var. Wrestling	Ronnie Hicks	All-League, All-County
Var. Boys Basketball	Mervin Springer	All-League, All-Conference	Var. Wrestling	Rashawn Hill	All-League
Var. Girls Basketball	Dominique Cunningham	All-League	Var. Wrestling	Christian LaPersonerie	All-League, All-County
Var. Girls Basketball	Gabrielle Gibson	All-League, All-County	Var. Wrestling	Randy Marine	All-League, All-County
Var. Girls Basketball	Ieasia Walker	Newsday All-Long Island 2 <sup>nd</sup> Team	Var. Wrestling	Ty Morrison	All-League
Var. Girls Basketball	Sabrina Destime	All-League, All-County	Var. Wrestling	Hasan Poole	All-League
Var. Girls Basketball	Vanessa Destime	Newsday All-Long Island Team	Var. Wrestling	Joe Pulido	All-League
		All-County Academic	Var. Wrestling	Jamal Walker	All-League
		All-County Academic			

## HIGH SCHOOL HONORS WOMAN IN SPORTS

To commemorate the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual National Girls and Women in Sports Day, the Walter G. O'Connell Copiague High School Booster Club presented a plaque to Patricia Field, secretary to the Coordinator of Athletics and nine-year district employee, for her many years of dedicated service and contributions to the young women of the Copiague community.

"Being honored for this is extremely surprising and I never expected it," stated Ms. Field. "This job is so much fun and it's nice to be able to work with such a great group of kids."



The National Girls and Women in Sports Day is celebrated nationwide as a way of honoring the achievements and encouraging participation of girls and women in sports.

Pictured left to right: Coordinator of Athletics Peter Cesare, Patricia Field, and Booster Club Secretary Theresa Pulido.

## Centennial Man

Prior to a wrestling match versus East Islip, Walter G. O'Connell Copiague High School senior Ronnie Hicks was welcomed into an elite group of wrestlers – the Suffolk County Wrestling "Century Club." Superintendent of Schools Dr. William R. Bolton presented Ronnie with a plaque for having achieved 100 wins. Varsity Head Coach Anthony Cipriano noted that with 114 victories Ronnie has surpassed the previous record of 109, and now holds the title of most wins in Copiague wrestling history. Congratulations, Ronnie!



Pictured left to right: High School Varsity Wrestling coach Anthony Cipriano, Superintendent of Schools Dr. William R. Bolton, senior Ronnie Hicks, Dawn Hicks, Ronald Hicks II, Coordinator of Athletics Peter Cesare, and Junior Varsity Wrestling Coach Darwin Ryan.