



Copiague Public Schools

A GREAT PLACE TO LEARN

www.copiague.k12.ny.us

SPRING 2010

Musical Melodies

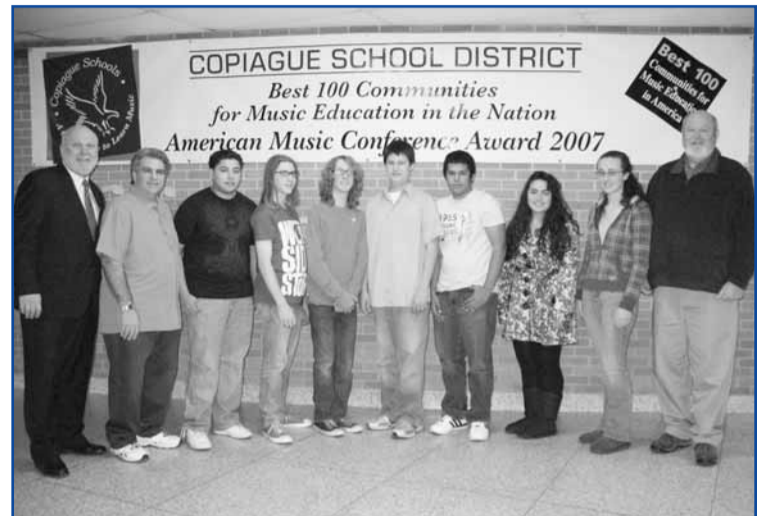
Twenty-two student-musicians from Walter G. O'Connell Copiague High School and Copiague Middle School were selected to participate in the Suffolk County Music Educator's Association (SCMEA) All-County Festival. The festival, which is divided into three divisions, was held in March.

The students selected represent the best from across Suffolk County and were chosen based on their New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA) scores, as well as teacher recommendations.

Congratulations to the following students on this outstanding achievement (listed below):

**WALTER G. O'CONNELL
COPIAGUE HIGH SCHOOL**
Cassandra Riggio, Piccolo
Dilora Altuner, Chorus
Ramon Carcamo, Chorus
Trevor Coady, Chorus
Matthew Edlind, Chorus
Roger Gonzalez, Chorus
John Romano, Chorus

COPIAGUE MIDDLE SCHOOL
Stephanie Fischer, Clarinet
Patricia Estevez, Flute
Jarita Lopez, Flute
Monique Golden, Clarinet
Marcus Weeks, Mallets
Duvanny Banegas, Chorus
Tatyana Bellamy-Walker, Chorus
Dylan Dejohn, Chorus
Gabrielle Davis, Chorus
Natasha McCombs, Chorus
Kiyonah Buckhalter, Chorus
Skylah McBean, Chorus
Kasandra Hanson, Chorus
Joseph Ramirez, Chorus
Andre Morgan, Chorus



Role Models Worthy of Recognition

Members of the Copiague School District Board of Education, administration, staff, parents and friends gathered at Copiague Middle School to celebrate and honor outstanding students throughout the District who lead by example.

This tradition, conducted twice a year, was started by the Board of Education to honor students who make unique contributions to their school community or have succeeded despite personal challenges. Twenty-one students were recognized and each was presented with a certificate of achievement by Superintendent of Schools Charles A. Leunig, followed by congratulations from the Board.

Congratulations to the following award recipients:

SUSAN E. WILEY: Mariana Espinoza, Nazar Tomjuk, Angelica Arroyo, Briana Marine; **GREAT NECK ROAD:** Corey Anderson, Anthony Martinez; **DEAUVILLE GARDENS:** Omar Corona, Safie Kamiloski, Jania Sims; **MIDDLE SCHOOL:** William Hernandez, Marcus Beazer, Danessa Collado, Lindsay Griffiths, Natale Manna, Veronica Zieba; **HIGH SCHOOL:** Tiffany Harris, Tyrek English, Jonli Falk, Dhara Shah, Jessica Taveras, Lyndsay Vollmer.



Copiague School District's newest role models proudly display their certificates of achievement, congratulated by Board of Education President Laura Gavey, Second Vice President Doris Fischer, Board trustees Brian J. Sales and Michael L. Greb, and Superintendent of Schools Charles A. Leunig.

Copiague School District
Copiague N.Y. 11726

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Resident
Copiague School District

A MESSAGE from the Superintendent

Dear Residents,

Welcome to the Spring 2010 edition of Copiague Connections. Contained within these pages are a featured host of activities and achievements that our students have been involved in over the past several months. These run the gamut from our Student Recognition ceremony to physical fitness and wellness, to articles about character education and our new Middle School Robotics Team. All of these featured items continue to make us proud of our children.

Over the course of this year we have also been rolling out various pieces of good news regarding the ever-increasing academic performance of our students. For instance, our Regents Diploma graduation rate increased to 86% for June 2009 graduates of the Walter G. O'Connell Copiague High School. Additionally, our students in grades 3-8 have made tremendous gains in their performance on the New York State Assessments

and are, in many cases, outperforming students in their respective grades across the state. The data demonstrates clearly that Copiague kids, given the resources and support, can compete with kids from anywhere in New York State.

All of these good signs are the result of many positive influences and everyone pulling in the same direction on behalf of our kids: a Board of Education whose sole agenda is the success of children, tremendous support and trust by our parents and community in the programs we provide for children that have proven to be successful, and an outstanding teaching, administrative and support staff who care deeply about Copiague kids.

Yet with all of these continuing achievements and accomplishments, the Board of Education and administration have been faced with declining state aid revenues for the last two years, despite the fact that the law requires the state to provide state aid at a certain level. As of the 2010-11 school year, under present law the state will owe the Copiague Public Schools in excess of \$14.5 million in unpaid Foundation Aid. The receipt of this promised aid, which was to come to our district in increasing increments over the four year period from 2007-2011, could be delayed for as much as ten years. Last year, when we were first notified by the Governor and State Legislature that Copiague

would be receiving less state aid for this year than the year before, the Board of Education and administration took serious steps to contain costs and reduce our operating overhead. Once again this year, as the Governor and Legislature wrangle over the state budget, which is again overdue for adoption, we continue to face declining financial assistance from the state.

By the time you are reading this, the Board and administration will be concluding our work on the budget for next year. As we move through this process during these trying economic times, please be assured that we remain committed to preserving programs for our children while at the same time protecting the community's interests by bringing forth these programs at an affordable cost to our taxpayers. As a community we have overcome challenges in the past. We are confident that by working together, Copiague will continue to be a great place to Live, Learn and Work.



Charles A. Leunig
Superintendent of Schools

District Hosts LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST

The Copiague School District Board of Education and administration recently invited local, regional and state legislators, along with community members and staff members, to attend a breakfast during which student and district achievements were highlighted and concerns about potential cuts of education aid in the state budget were discussed.

New York State Senator Owen H. Johnson, New York State Assemblyman Robert K. Sweeney, Suffolk County Legislator DuWayne Gregory, and Town of Babylon Councilwoman Jacqueline A. Gordon were joined by Copiague School District staff members, Board of Education members – President Laura Gavey, Vice President Rosemary Natoli, and trustees Michael Greb, Everett E. Newman III, and Brian Sales – as well as PTA members and community members. Mrs. Gavey and Superintendent of Schools Charles Leunig welcomed the legislators, thanking them for their support of the District and for their ongoing efforts in securing state aid.

“We wouldn't be the schools we are and Copiague wouldn't be the community it is without your continued support,” said Mr. Leunig. Added Board President Mrs. Gavey, “It's great to see so many people in one room supporting the education of our students.” She continued in her speech to discuss the governor's proposed budget, which would call for a reduction of \$3 million in state aid for Copiague and the need for relief from the numerous mandated expenses. “We need mandate relief and we need it now. Unfunded mandates are costing us approximately \$17 million. Imagine what we could do for our children and community with those funds.”

Following performances by the Walter G. O'Connell Copiague High School Madrigal Choir, under the direction of Larry Wurtzel, and Danielle Rizzo's first-grade class from Deauville Gardens Elementary School, who sang the District's College Day song, attendees enjoyed video presentations highlighting the College Day initiative and other student achievements put together by Director of Technology Todd Harris. The Class of 2010 Top Ten were also introduced by High School Principal Albert H. Voorneveld, who shared information about each student's achievements and future plans.

In closing the morning's event and addressing the elected officials, Mr. Leunig reinforced the importance of providing all students with a quality education by allocating the funds needed to accomplish that.



Stretching the Dollar Further

In January of 2007, Copiague residents voted on and approved a \$11.3 million capital improvement project that addressed the District's highest priority building infrastructure repair and replacement needs. The total cost of the project was funded through state building aid and Expanding Our Children's Education and Learning (EXCEL) aid at no cost to the taxpayer. The state's EXCEL aid was a one-time-only opportunity that was provided to fund specific types of school construction such as structural, roofing, masonry, ceilings, and lighting projects.

Through prudent financial planning and favorable bids, the District has close to \$1 million dollars in savings that can be utilized for additional building improvements. Since the money can only be used for construction projects, the District has worked with their architect, John Grillo, to prepare a new plan to use the remaining money on projects that were not included in the original outline.

The following is a partial list of projects that will be repaired and/or replaced:

- Replace windows at the Great Neck Road and remaining windows at the Susan E. Wiley Elementary Schools
- Replace ceilings, lighting and ceiling fans in the Susan E. Wiley All Purpose Room
- Replace lighting in the Susan E. Wiley Gymnasium
- Repair masonry at the High School
- Replace ceilings and lighting as remaining funds allow.

Making the Grade

The Copiague School District would like to congratulate Susan E. Wiley Assistant Principal Cynthia Florio and Walter G. O'Connell Copiague High School Physics teacher John Young for their recent accomplishments.

Ms. Florio was the recipient of a 2010 Mentoring Achievement Award from the Mentoring Partnership of Long Island for her part in the Susan E. Wiley Student Mentoring Program. She received a \$500 check to be used towards the program.

The Harvard Club of Long Island named Mr. Young as a Distinguished Teacher of 2010. He was one of only a dozen teachers from across Long Island to receive this award and was nominated by Class of 2007 Salutatorian Alexandria Rengifo, who is currently attending Harvard.

Congratulations to both Ms. Florio and Mr. Young!

Student-Athletes Honored at Awards Dinner



For the past several years, the Walter G. O'Connell Copiague High School Booster Club has sponsored an awards dinner following the conclusion of each athletic season, to honor the hard work and dedication of the student-athletes.

Throughout the night, coaches sang the praises of the students' commitment – both on the field and in the classroom.



Individual honors

were given to the most valuable and improved players on the teams, as well as special coaches' awards that were presented to the students who went above and beyond expectations for each team throughout the season.

In early March, the Booster Club sponsored the Winter Sports Awards at which they recognized members of Girls and Boys Bowling, Wrestling, Girls and Boys Winter Track, Cheerleading, the Step Team, and Girls and Boys Basketball. During the evening, dinner and dessert was provided to the student-athletes and their families, with Board of Education President Laura Gavey, Vice President Rosemary Natoli, Second Vice President Doris Fisher, and trustees Michael L. Greb, Everett E. Newman III, and Brian J. Sales, and administrators all in attendance.

WINTER SPORTS WRAP-UP

Sport	Name	Grade	Award
Wrestling	Clint Boone	11	All-League
Wrestling	Justin Boone	10	All-League
Wrestling	Marcus Evans	11	All-League
Girls Bowling	Tiffany Harris	11	Most Points
Girls Bowling	Dominique Montoyo	12	All-League
Girls Bowling	Alyssa Tasevoli	12	Sportsmanship Award
Boys Winter Track	Jarrick Ambrose	11	All-League
Boys Winter Track	David Footman	12	All-League
Girls Basketball	Hannalee Fordyce	12	All-League
Girls Basketball	Ihnacinse Grady	7	Camp Scholarship
Girls Basketball	Raven Walker	11	All-League
Girls Basketball	Chelsea Williams	11	All-League, All-County
Boys Basketball	Philip Page	11	All-League, All-County Academic
Boys Basketball	Wade Richardson	11	All-League Honorable Mention
Boys Basketball	Nasha Smith	12	All-League, All-Conference, All-County
Boys Bowling	Joe Costa	11	2nd Team All-League
Girls Winter Track	Janel Francis	10	All-League

Honored for Exemplary Sportsmanship

The District is pleased to announce that three teams have been commended by the New York State Public High School Athletic Association (NYSPHSAA) for having best exemplified the spirit of sportsmanship during the winter 2009/2010 sports season.

The promotion of good sportsmanship is one of the major goals of NYSPHSAA, which recognizes schools annually for their commitment to building exemplary sportsmanship programs. A Sportsmanship Committee established by NYSPHSAA selects teams for this prestigious distinction.

Congratulations to the following teams: Girls Varsity Basketball, Girls Varsity Bowling, and Junior Varsity Wrestling.

HONORING WOMEN IN SPORTS

To commemorate National Girls and Women in Sports Day, the Walter G. O'Connell Copiague High School Booster Club presented a plaque to long-time Copiague resident and ardent supporter of the Girls Varsity Basketball team Mrs. Dollie Calandrino.

Mrs. Calandrino has lived in Copiague for more than 50 years, and during that time has worked at both the former Scudder Avenue Elementary School and Copiague Junior High School. "She has always been an avid fan of our school, starting when her own children attended, through today," said Director of Physical Education and Athletics Pete Cesare.

The National Girls and Women in Sports Day is celebrated in all 50 states as a way of honoring the achievements and encouraging participation of girls and women in sports.



Pictured left to right: Booster Club President Toni Clemens, Dollie Calandrino, and Booster Club Vice President Teri Simone

AIDA – A Love Story

Aida, a rock musical that tells the story of the tragic romance between the slave-princess Aida (played by Sherley Demetrius) and the Egyptian prince Radames (portrayed by Matthew Edlind), graced the stage at Walter G. O’Connell Copiague High School for three nights in March.

With their voices pitched for success and their choreography in step, the students rehearsed tirelessly to ensure that this year’s show hit a high note with audiences. The musical, which was presented by the Fine Arts Department, was written by Elton John and Tim Rice, and based on Giuseppe Verdi’s Italian-language opera of the same name. Songs

included “Every Story is a Love Story” sung by Diana Peralta as Amneris, “Written in the Stars” by Sherley and Matthew, and “A Step Too Far” by Diana, Matthew, and Sherley.

The musical was directed by Gina Occhiogrosso with support from Assistant Director Michelle Budion, Choreographer Sylvia Walsh, Production Stage Manager Christina Rivera, Assistant Stage Manager Lauren Marotta, Vocal Director Larry Wurtzel, Backstage Manager and Costume Director Meredith Wanzer, Set Designer Lauren Lefkowitz, Dance Captain Ashley Noble, Art Designer Lois DeVito, Pit Conductor and Accompanist Marc Levenson, Light Designer Erik Putz, and Sound Design by Sensory Lighting & Sound.



Top of the POPS

Audience members were treated to a night of singing, music, and fun at the annual Walter G. O’Connell Copiague High School POPS Concert. During the concert, members of the band, jazz band, and chorus performed solo and group performances ranging from today’s hit songs to yesterday’s popular music.

The night started with the concert band, led by John Wevers, playing a medley of Beatles favorites. The choral group, backed by professional musicians including music teachers Larry Wurtzel and Gina Occhiogrosso, began their portion of the concert with a little humor by presenting a satirical performance of the song made famous by an American Idol contestant entitled “Pants on the Ground.”

Board of Education members, members of central and high school administration, and friends and family were also treated to performances of Rihanna’s “Please Don’t Stop the Music,” the Red Hot Chili Pepper’s “Under the Bridge,” and Keri Hilson’s “Knock You Down,” also featuring NeYo and Kayne West.



Winter Guard Winners

On February 27, members of the Walter G. O’Connell Copiague High School and Copiague Middle School Winter Guards participated in the Mid-Atlantic Indoor Network (MAIN) Winter Guard Competition at Hicksville High School. The 18 members of the high school team, which has been in existence since 1999, placed first out of 13 teams. Their win boosted them into a higher grouping, the Scholastic A Division. The middle school team, which was formed in 2004, currently has 14 members. The girls took second place in the competition, but took three out of five special category awards. Tracy Bapst coaches both teams.



Options Offered During Career Day

For more than ten years, the Copiague Middle School has hosted a Career Day to allow students to explore various career paths. More than 50 professionals from the community volunteered their time to talk to the students about their own careers.

The entire day featured professionals visiting with students within their classrooms, including Town of Babylon Supervisor Steve Bellone and Superintendent of Schools Mr. Charles Leunig. The students also had the opportunity to hear from WBAB disk jockey Keith "Fingers" Nutting, as well as lawyers, a gospel singer, members of the New York City, MTA, Nassau, and Suffolk police departments, as well as New York City firefighters, an FBI agent, a chef, and medical professionals.

Throughout the day the guest speakers presented the many different tasks that comprise their job description, while the students followed up with questions. Dressed in their Sunday best, the National Junior Honor Society members served as guides to the professionals.



Spotlight on Fitness



Fitness Made Fun

Every year, Great Neck Road Elementary School physical education teachers William Bennett and Barbara Olsen host a night for students to bring their parents and family members to showcase what they're learning in their gym classes and to work on their fitness. This year, representatives from Big Al's Family Fitness Center and South Bay Sports and Physical Therapy were on hand to assist in the four twelve-minute stations.

Each family traveled through the different stations, participating in various fitness-related activities. The circuit training station worked on strengthening all parts of the body, and Loren from Big Al's demonstrated karate moves, while his colleague Lisa turned the cafeteria into a Hip Hop aerobics studio. South Bay conducted a fitness-based activity game.



Keeping Hearts Healthy

For the last 15 years, students at Deauville Gardens Elementary School have been keeping their hearts healthy by participating in the American Heart Association's Jump Rope for Heart. Coordinated by physical education teachers Pam Atlas, Michelle Bonaventura, and John Sack, students showcased what they learn in physical education class to their parents and friends.

Coupled with the physical education curriculum, the program teaches students about cardiovascular fitness while raising funds for research, educational programs on heart disease, and programs to combat childhood obesity.

In addition to the Jump Rope for Heart program, the students danced along to music deejayed by parent volunteer Pat Coor. They also received information from South Bay Sports and Physical Therapy, and showed off the latest dance moves while on the Dance Dance Revolution pads.



LIVING A HEALTHY LIFESTYLE

Physical Education is an integral part of a well-rounded curriculum program. The Copiague School District provides its students with a program that helps to develop skills such as balance, coordination, and good sportsmanship, and enhances their physical, mental, and emotional health.

Recently, students at Susan E. Wiley Elementary School had the opportunity to showcase what they learn in physical education class to their parents through two nights of activities for Mothers/Important Female Figures and Sons and Fathers/Important Male Figures and Daughters. During the two nights, the fourth and fifth-grade students put their adult partners to the test by challenging them in games that tested their tactical skills, speed, coordination, and endurance.

Organized by physical education teachers Nicholas Crowe and Wendy Hrzich, each student was presented with a tee-shirt provided by the PTA and a jump rope to continue their exercise at home. Members of the high school football team and Varsity Club, as well as the middle school Double Dutch team, volunteered their time, along with numerous SEW staff members. The student-volunteers were also provided with tee-shirts, which were purchased by Mr. Crowe.



Building Character

Continuing a yearly tradition and its commitment to community service, members of the Copiague Middle School Builders Club visited the Tanner Park Senior Center in Copiague. During the visit, the students dedicated part of their school day to spending quality time with the seniors and participating in line dancing.

The Builder's Club is a student organization that encourages its students to plan and work on various community service projects to cultivate communication skills, values, teamwork and character.



Helping Haiti

Students at Susan E. Wiley Elementary School rallied together to help out the victims of the earthquake in Haiti during a penny drive. Upon learning of the drive, students at Deauville Gardens Elementary School donated their own pennies to the SEW cause. Through the generosity of the two buildings' students and staff members, they collected more than \$1,300. All funds were donated to Heart 911.



AROUND DISTRICT

Celebrating Young Authors

The 21 juniors in Ann Canniff's English 11 Honors class at Walter G. O'Connell Copiague High School showcased their writing, literacy, and technology talents during the first annual Young Authors Night. With a focus on the American Colonial period, the evening included readings of students' original works, presentations of Colonial tombstone epitaphs and artwork, SMART Board activities, and a viewing of student portfolios.



In class, the students have been reading *The Scarlet Letter* and other Colonial-period works and will take a one-day field trip to Salem, Massachusetts, where they will visit the historic town and view such places as the Charter Street Cemetery.

Audience members included Board of Education President Laura Gavey, Board trustee Michael Greb, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction Dr. Kathleen Bannon, members of the high school administration and staff, family members, and friends.

PROMOTING GOOD CHARACTER

Partnering together to promote character education, members of the Copiague Middle School National Junior Honor Society wrote, directed, and performed six short skits for the kindergarten, first-grade, and second-grade students at Great Neck Road Elementary School.

The skits focused on activities and tough moral dilemmas that the younger students could relate to such as cheating on a test, cutting in line, and bullying, and how by using good judgment and showing exceptional character they can make the right decisions. Following each performance, the middle school students hosted a discussion by asking the Great Neck Road students how they would handle themselves if they were faced with that situation.

"We're excited about our partnership with the middle school and hope to continue it in the future," said Joseph Agosta, Great Neck Road Principal.



Grandparents... some of the very... Gardens Elementary... VIP Day. To be... school's band... during a welcome... Following the... special friends... students' teachers... and participate...



nds for Haiti



OUND RICT *the*

They're VIPs

s, parents, aunts, and uncles were just
y important visitors to Deauville
ntary School during the school's annual
egin the program, members of the
reated invited guests to a performance
ne assembly.
e assembly program, grandparents and
visited the classrooms to meet the
ers, view their schoolwork and projects,
in games together.



It's a FIRST in Copiague

In their rookie debut, the Copiague Middle School Robotics Team, coached by Stephen Phillips, advanced to the For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology (FIRST) New York State Championship Tournament.

Competing against 65 other middle and elementary school teams at Berner Middle School in Massapequa, **the Copiague team was honored with 1st Place in Spirit at the Long Island FIRST LEGO League Qualifier Tournament. This qualified them for the School-Business Partnerships of Long Island (SBPLI) FIRST LEGO League State Championship Tournament, where they also placed first in the Spirit category.** The Team Spirit Award goes to the team that most enthusiastically demonstrates a commitment to getting others to see how accessible, fun, and rewarding science and technology can be.

In preparation for the tournament, the 10-student team built and programmed a robot built with LEGOs and created a research project on this year's theme of developing efficiencies in transportation systems. During the qualifier, the student-built robot had to perform various challenges on a 4'x8' field for which the team accumulated points. In addition to their robot's performance, the students were judged in a multitude of categories, included teamwork and professionalism.

FIRST LEGO League is an international program for children which combines a hands-on, interactive robotics program with a sports-like atmosphere. FIRST LEGO League International introduces children around the world in elementary and middle schools to the fun and experience of solving real-world problems by applying math, science, and technology.

Congratulations to
Drew Marino, Isaac
Garcia, Brandon Simoncik,
Sebastian Siwik, Anthony Guella,
Mark Norman, Steve Szabo, Peter
McKenzie, Collin Fuchs, David Grinthal,
and Dylan Chen for this remarkable
accomplishment.



Going for the Gold

Members of the Walter G. O'Connell Copiague High School Distributive Education Club of America (D.E.C.A.), under the guidance of advisor Louise Curci, represented the District in the D.E.C.A. State Conference held in Rochester, New York. Congratulations to the following Copiague students who triumphed at the state level:

- Emily Hall:** 1st Place State trophy and Gold Medal in Decision-Making Marketing
- Georgiana Patterson:** 2nd Place State trophy and Gold Medal in Job Interview
- Nicole Mangels:** 2nd Place State trophy and Gold Medal in Broadcast Advertising
- Jacob Ohrenberger:** Gold Medal in Mathematics
- Morgan Gorbet:** Gold Medal in Economics
- Shanice McKenzie:** Gold Medal in Public Speaking



COPIAGUE SENIORS MAKE A WISE CHOICE!

The second semester of the last year of high school can be like sitting in a waiting room for the next stage of life. Instead of resting on their laurels, some of Copiague's seniors are maximizing their time and opening doors for the future by participating in the Wise Individualized Senior Experience (WISE) program.

The WISE program, which has been offered for the last 15 years, provides seniors with the opportunity to intern at a site of their choice for academic credits. During the second semester, seniors can leave school two periods early to attend their nonpaid internship. The goal is to learn as much as possible about a profession that is of interest to them. To achieve this goal, students must shadow one of the cooperating professionals at their location.

As a part of the internship, students are required

to keep a journal. This serves as the communication link between the mentor and the mentee. WISE students must write in their journals on a daily basis, reflecting on the activities, feelings, daily experience, and acquired knowledge that they have gained. A mentor is a faculty member who volunteers his or her time to give advice and assist a student. Hours at the site can vary, but a minimum of seven hours per week is required. Each WISE student is given a time sheet on which they must log the hours they've served, and have the sheet signed by their career professional. By the end of the program all students should have at least 100 hours, written 10 articles about their career field, and delivered an oral presentation in mid-May to an audience that includes an evaluation committee of WISE members. Community residents, fellow students, and family members are encouraged to attend the presentation and become part of the experience. Lastly, seniors must answer whether or not they would like to pursue that career in the future in preparation for selecting a college major.

Mrs. Roseann Wilson, a teacher who has supervised the WISE program for 10 years, observed, "We have had WISE students complete internships in a wide variety of careers." Anthony Romeo, a Copiague senior in the WISE program, interns at the multi-brand boutique store, Steven Alan, in Tribeca, New York City. He takes the train to Manhattan twice a week. "It's such a great experience to branch out and practice what you love

doing before you enter the real world," commented Romeo, who admits that fashion has always been a way for him to express himself. Some of his duties at Steven Alan include editing pictures in Adobe Bridge, helping with photo shoots, and attending buying meetings with the boutique's buyer, Anne Maristella. When asked what the best part of his internship has been so far, Romeo excitedly said, "I got to go to Fashion Week!"

Other WISE seniors are interning in the fields of public relations, social work, teaching, and aviation. Mrs. Wilson explained, "WISE is education 'outside the box'. It gives students a unique opportunity to explore a career and learn about something they really like; seniors discover what they are interested in prior to college."



Editor's note: This article was written by Krystal Bates, member of the WISE program and current public relations intern.

Dates to REMEMBER

April 19-21

Late Kindergarten Registration

May 10

Board of Education Meeting and Public Hearing on the Budget

May 18

Budget Vote, Trustee Election, & Art Show
Great Neck Road School
10:00 am - 10:00 pm

Attention Alumni

The District is currently in the process of collecting current biographical information for the Walter G. O'Connell Copiague High School comprehensive directory of graduates, including former Copiague High School students.

If you receive or have received a postcard from Dr. Mary Klein, Director of Guidance K-12, please take a few minutes to verify your information.

Late Kindergarten Registration April 19-21 by Appointment Only

Kindergarten registration for the Copiague Union Free School District will be held at the District Administrative Office located in the Middle School on Great Neck Road from APRIL 19th - 21st, 2010 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

Children who will have turned age five on or before December 1, 2010 are eligible to attend school in September 2010. 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. A law recently enacted in 2008 expands a physical to include a Dental Health Screening.

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.

NIÑOS QUE CUMPLEN 5 AÑOS DE EDAD ANTES DEL PRIMERO DE DICIEMBRE DE 2010 DEBEN MATRICULARSE PARA KINDERGARTEN EN LA OFICINA ADMINISTRATIVA CENTRAL LOCALIZADA EN EL 2650 GREAT NECK ROAD EN COPIAGUE COMENZANDO EL 19 - 21 DE ABRIL, 2010 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 11, 2010.

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

- A citizen of the United States,
- 18 years of age or over,
- 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 OF ED ELECTION MAY 18, 2010



BOARD OF EDUCATION

Laura Gavey, *President*

Rosemary Natoli, *Vice President* Doris Fischer, *2nd Vice President*

Michael Greb Henry Johnson Everett E. Newman III Brian J. Sales

Mr. Charles A. Leunig, *Superintendent of Schools*