

## Dates to REMEMBER

**August 29**

MS Sixth-Grade Orientation and Barbeque

**September 4**

Superintendent's Conference Day

**September 5**

First Day of School

**September 10**

Board of Education Meeting - 7:30 pm

**September 13-14**

Schools Closed

**September 18**

DG "Meet the Teacher" Night

**September 19**

SEW "Meet the Teacher" Night

**September 20**

GNR "Meet the Teacher" Night

**September 24**

Board of Education Meeting - 7:30 pm

**September 28**

HS "Meet the Teacher" Night

**October 8**

Schools Closed

**October 13**

Homecoming

## PROTECTING THE COMMUNITY'S INVESTMENT

The District has commenced, at no additional cost to taxpayers, several major building renovations this summer under the state's \$11.3 million EXCEL initiative approved by voters in January. These projects include roof replacements, masonry repair, and renovations at the high school and Great Neck Road Elementary School. The projects are proceeding on schedule and the District anticipates that all projects will be substantially completed by the opening of school in September.

## FOCUS ON WELLNESS

The Board of Education and administration have always identified students' health and well being as a high priority. The District will again participate in a free and reduced price program for Copiague area school children. Local school officials adopted a family eligibility criteria to assist them in determining eligibility. For details regarding eligibility and pricing please contact the Copiague School District at 842-4015. The District currently serves breakfast and lunch each day to more than 75% of its students. The price of school lunches has not been raised in more than a decade.



## SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION REQUESTS

A new childcare and/or medical transportation request must be submitted for each school year. Information is not carried over from year to year. Please contact the Transportation Office at (631) 842-4015 ext. 529 as soon as possible for a new application. These applications can also be downloaded from the District's website at [www.copiague.k12.ny.us](http://www.copiague.k12.ny.us). Additionally, these forms can be received via fax and completed forms may be faxed to (631) 789-8991 or (631) 841-4601.

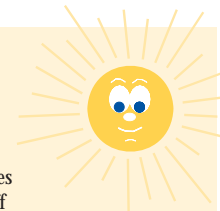


If a student needs to change a bus stop for any reason during the school year, please contact the Transportation Office in writing at least 48 hours prior to your requested start date. Also note that a request for a bus stop change due to a change in residency, within the District, must be accompanied by proof of your new address.

## LEARNING NEVER STOPS

Every summer, District teachers and administrators work together to review and revise various aspects of the curriculum. Summer curriculum and staff development ensures that the District is in the forefront of education and provides students with the most up-to-date curriculum available. During the summer, staff members participated in several curriculum based projects including mathematics and English Language Arts (ELA).

For the first time, the District initiated three, two-week summer enrichment camps in band, art, drama, computers, physical education, and technology for all middle school students. A three-week summer camp in reading and math was also provided for middle school students. The reading and math camps were designed to service students in need of remediation and focused on basic reading and math skills. These camps enabled students to maintain and build upon the academic skills acquired in the classroom, and encouraged students to approach the new school year with confidence.



## TITLE IX AND SECTION 504 NOTICE

The Copiague School District does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, national origin, or disability in the educational programs or activities it operates. It is required by Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, and by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (as amended), not to discriminate in such a manner. This policy of nondiscrimination includes the recruitment, employment, and promotion of employees; salaries, pay, and other benefits; counseling services to students; and student access to course offerings, educational programs, (including vocational educational opportunities), and other district-sponsored activities.

Inquiries regarding this nondiscrimination policy and grievance procedures should be directed to the Title IX Coordinator, Copiague Public Schools and/or the Section 504 Coordinator, Copiague Public Schools, 2650 Great Neck Road, Copiague, NY 11726 (842-4015, extension 520).

The U.S. Office of Civil Rights has requested that the following be included in this publication:

### Aviso Publico

El Distrito Escolar Copiague por la presente hace saber a estudiantes, padres, empleados, y publico en general que ofrece empleos e instruccion academica, incluyedo programas vocacionales, sin discriminacion de sexo, raza, color, nacionalidad, o incapacidad fisca.

Si desea mayor informacion sobre esta practica no-discriminatoria puede dirigirse al:  
 Coordinador del Titulo IX y Seccion 504  
 Copiague Public Schools  
 2650 Great Neck Road  
 Copiague, New York 11726  
 Teléfono - 842-4015, extension 520

 **Copiague Public Schools**  
 A GREAT PLACE TO LEARN

### BOARD OF EDUCATION

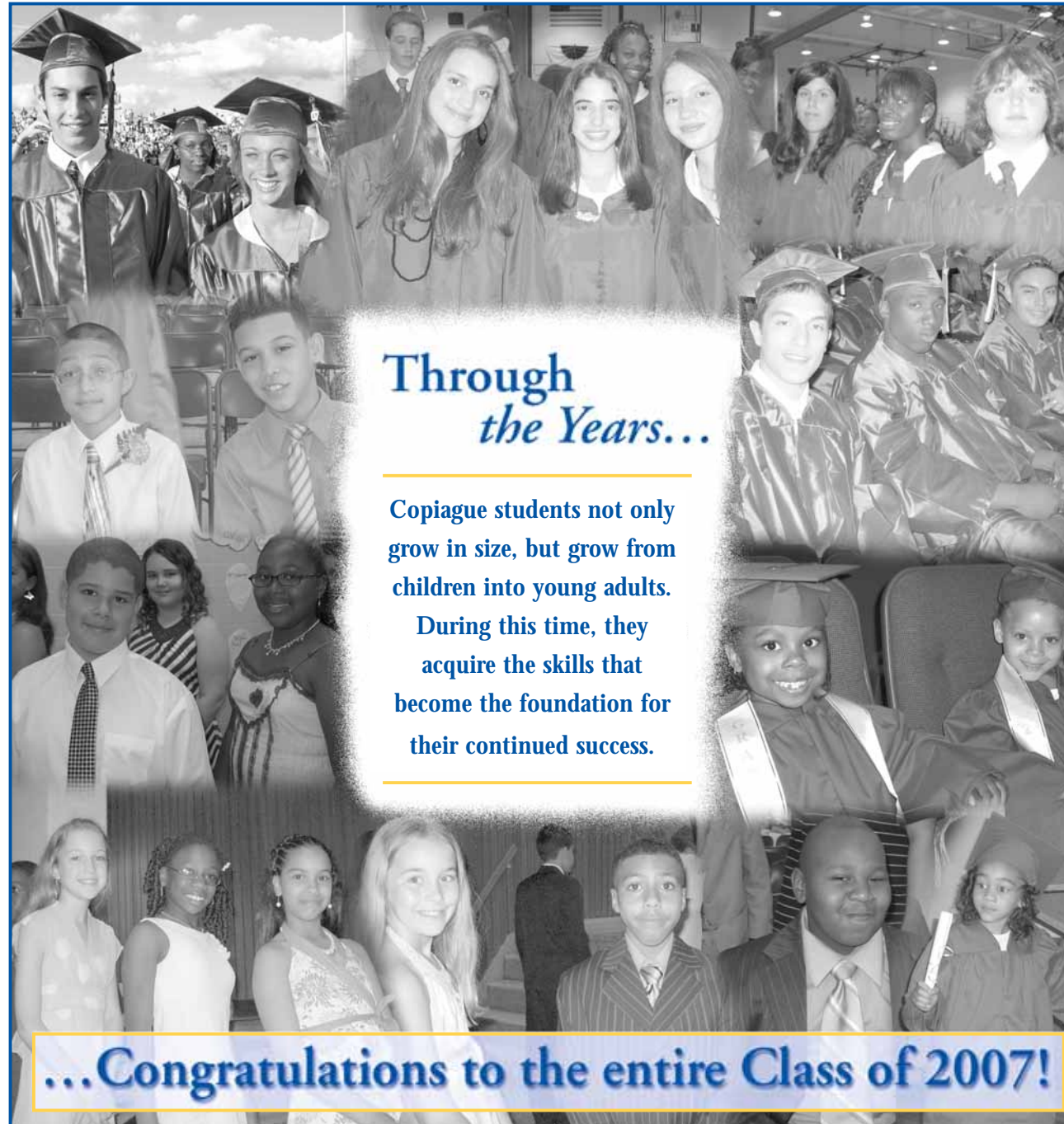
Brian J. Sales, *President*    Laura Gavey, *Vice President*  
 Michael Greb, *2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President*    Doris Fischer    Henry Johnson  
 Rosemary Natoli    Everett E. Newman III

Dr. William R. Bolton, *Superintendent of Schools*



# Copiague Public Schools

A GREAT PLACE TO LEARN



## Through the Years...

Copiague students not only grow in size, but grow from children into young adults.

During this time, they acquire the skills that become the foundation for their continued success.

...Congratulations to the entire Class of 2007!

Copiague School District  
Copiague N.Y. 11726

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

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

## A MESSAGE from your Superintendent

Dear Residents,

Over the past thirteen years, the members of the Class of 2007 have been eyewitnesses to a reformation of Copiague Schools. When these young people entered Kindergarten in 1994, we had, perhaps, a dozen computers districtwide, a student-to-teacher ratio of 21 to 1, state testing in only grades 3 and 8 and a Regents Diploma rate of about 17%. There were few elective courses and three librarians for five schools. The new sports complex was not even a dream and our buildings, grounds, and equipment left much to be desired. Of course, this has all changed.

When our graduating seniors walked out on the new all-weather athletic field on June 22, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. for commencement exercises, they were again making history. They graduated outside under a beautiful blue sky with a soft breeze blowing and the new athletic complex as their back drop. What a magnificent evening! This was only right, as they were part of the greatest transformation that this district has undergone since the opening of the Copiague High School in 1967.

We currently have more than 2,000 high powered PCs and laptops, five librarians, a student-to-teacher ratio of 15 to 1 and, of course, a Middle School. Seventy-five percent of our seniors currently earned Regents Diplomas with the majority of

students going on to college. Our top graduates this year have been accepted to and will attend Yale, Harvard, Columbia, and Duke as well as many other colleges both locally and nationwide. But, as they say, "You ain't seen nothing yet!" Stay tuned, for Copiague Schools are moving to even greater heights. This newsletter captures just a smidgen of all that our students have accomplished during the 2006/2007 school year. After reading the many articles about our students contained in this newsletter, you will know why, I believe, Copiague is a "great place to learn!"

Enjoy the rest of the summer, and I will see you in September.



William R. Bolton, Ed.D.

## Project SAVE

Throughout the years, the District has always been aware of the rising cost of education and continually looks for ways to fund programs without costing taxpayers. This past spring, the District submitted a grant application and was notified that the District has been awarded a three-year grant worth \$240,000 by the State Education Department. This grant money will be used to fund Project SAVE, Safe Schools Against Violence in Education Act: Instruction in Civility, Citizenship, and Character Education.

Project SAVE is a districtwide program that addresses character education concepts specifically targeted to each grade-level. Programs will run from recess and after-school activities to parent connection programs.

### Principal Albert Voorneveld Named

#### "Technology Administrator of the Year" by Western Suffolk BOCES

For his valuable contribution and commitment to the growth of instructional technology, Copiague Middle School Principal Albert Voorneveld was named "Technology Administrator of the Year" by Western Suffolk BOCES at their annual Technology Fair.



(from left to right) Western Suffolk BOCES Deputy Superintendent Dr. Michael Mensch, Middle School Principal Albert Voorneveld, Superintendent of Schools Dr. William R. Bolton, Director of Technology Todd Harris.

## Reaching an INTERNATIONAL AUDIENCE

Educators from throughout the world gathered the week of May 13<sup>th</sup> in Toronto, Canada for the International Reading Association's 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Convention, "Literacy Without Boundaries." This year's conference had more than 12,000 registrants, including Robin Natman, District Coordinator of Reading and Elementary Language Arts, and Dr. Julie Tedeschi, Staff Developer/Reading Specialist at the Middle School.



Mrs. Natman and Dr. Tedeschi were chosen to present their topic "Coaching for Change in Grades K-8." This presentation featured the 'literacy coach' work that Dr. Tedeschi and the elementary literacy coaches perform in their respective buildings. The presentation was a success, with more than 200 people attending their presentation.

"Literacy coaching is a research-based approach to help teachers reach their full potential, provide ongoing support, and improve the learning of adults and students alike," stated Mrs. Natman. "It was a wonderful experience to bring Copiague's teachings to an international audience."

## Meet the 2007-2008 Board of Education

During the Board of Education reorganization meeting, the Board presented outgoing President Doris Fischer with a plaque in recognition of her commitment and dedication to the school district and the community.



At the same meeting, the Board welcomed newly elected Board member Michael Greb, who served on the Board several years ago. The 2007-2008 Board of Education is as follows: Brian J. Sales, President; Laura Gavey, Vice President; Michael Greb, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Doris Fischer, Henry Johnson, Rosemary Natoli, and Everett E. Newman III, Trustees







## Honoring the Best at Annual Sports Awards Dinner

Walter G. O'Connell Copiague High School held its Seventh Annual Tri-yearly Varsity Sports Awards Dinner honoring the best and brightest of the Spring 2007 season. This season the District honored members of the Boys and Girls Track, Softball, Boys and Girls Lacrosse, and Baseball teams.

Continuing a yearly tradition, special awards in memory of Daniel O'Connell and Jared Pennington were awarded to a member of the Varsity Baseball and Lacrosse teams. This year the Daniel O'Connell Award was presented to senior Joseph Frevola and the Jared Pennington Award was given to senior Leonard Bristel.

The Section XI Gold Key Award, the highest Section XI honor that an athlete can receive, and Golden Eagle awards were also presented at the ceremony. The Gold Key is awarded to student athletes who letter in eight Junior Varsity or Varsity seasons in grades 10 – 12. This year's recipients were Kerriane Gordon-Davy, Leonard Bristel, and Ronnie Morrow. The Golden Eagle award is given to a student on each team who had the highest cumulative grade point average for the season. For the spring season, Sabrina Destime (Girls Track), Jonli Falk (Baseball), James Giordano (Boys Lacrosse), Melissa McNulty (Girls Lacrosse), Michelle Roy (Softball), and Sebastian Sztukowski (Boys Track) received the Golden Eagle.



# A Cut Above the Rest

Congratulations to the 22 Walter G. O'Connell Copiague High School student-athletes who were honored for their play on the field during the spring varsity sports season.

Spring 2007	Name	Award
Baseball	Matthew Tait	All-League
Boys Lacrosse	Joseph Jacobia	Hon. Mention All-Division
Boys Lacrosse	Dwayne Stewart	All-County/ All-Conference
Boys Spring Track	Ainsworth Ashman	All-League in 4 x 100
Boys Spring Track	Jelani Bledman	All-League in Triple Jump All-League in 110 high hurdle
Boys Spring Track	Kasheen Daniels	All-League in 4 x 100 All-League in Long Jump
Boys Spring Track	Steven James	All-League in 4 x 100
Boys Spring Track	Miguel Machado	All-League in 4 x 100 All-League in 100 meter All-League in Long Jump
Boys Spring Track	Johnathan Morgan	All-League in Long Jump
Girls Lacrosse	Kaitlyn Denby	Unsung Hero Award
Girls Lacrosse	Megan Denby	All-Division
Girls Lacrosse	Pamela McGirr	All-County Hon. Mention
Girls Spring Track	Dominique Cunningham	All-League
Girls Spring Track	Amie Dawo	All-League
Girls Spring Track	Danielle Dickson	All-League
Girls Spring Track	Lauren Heath	All-League
Girls Spring Track	Naja Hunt	All-League
Girls Spring Track	Thailia LeGendre	All-League
Girls Spring Track	Christine Wilkinson	All-League
Softball	Jessica Clemens	All-League
Softball	Kailee Hopkins	All-League
Softball	Samantha Smith	All-League/All-Conference



## Celebrating 100

At the annual Spring Sports Awards, Athletic Director Pete Cesare presented special awards to three varsity coaches for achieving more than 100 wins. Carole Olsen was honored for her 136 wins as girls varsity basketball coach and 171 wins as girls varsity volleyball coach; James Konen was honored for his 102 wins as coach of the boys varsity soccer team; and Steve Rebholz was recognized for his 113 wins as coach of the boys varsity basketball team. When accepting their awards, each expressed how grateful they were to coach such great kids, and to be part of the Copiague program.

## FALL SPORTS PHYSICALS

On Wednesday, August 15<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m., in the high school nurse's office, sports physicals will take place. Any high school or middle school students, who wish to participate in a fall sport, **must** receive a physical before being allowed to play.

## Recognizing Excellence

Twice a year the District and Board of Education hold a Recognition Ceremony to honor students for their outstanding achievements. During the spring Recognition Ceremony, a special honor is granted to a select few art students



throughout the District as they are inducted into the Superintendent's Art Gallery.

At the Board of Education Recognition Ceremony, thirty students from Deauville Gardens, Great Neck Road, and Susan E. Wiley elementary schools, as well as from the middle and high schools, were honored for their extraordinary accomplishments. The Board of Education and Superintendent of Schools honored the students for their outstanding performance in the classroom, on the playing field, and for their artistic and musical abilities. Students were also recognized for their incredible performances in local, county, and state competitions and for their



humanitarian contributions.

Students selected to have their artwork featured in the Superintendent's Art Gallery were nominated by their art teachers and personally selected by Superintendent Dr. Bolton. The pieces selected were framed and identified by a brass plate noting the student artist's name, grade level, and year the piece was completed. They will be showcased throughout the District.

## 45 STUDENTS INDUCTED INTO NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY

Continuing a longstanding tradition of excellence, students from Copiague Middle School were recently inducted into the National Junior Honor Society.

On hand to congratulate the students for this achievement were Deputy Superintendent Charles Leunig, Board of Education President Doris Fischer and members Laura Gavey and Brian J. Sales, Middle School Principal Albert H. Voorneveld, and middle school art teacher and special guest speaker Maria Ostrofsky, along with other middle school administrators. The students being inducted were honored for their school and community service, as well as their high academic achievements.

"The path you have chosen many would say is the right choice," stated Mrs. Ostrofsky. "Set your goals high, never say never, and always work hard."

Congratulations to the newest members of the National Junior Honor Society.



## HIGH SCHOOL RECOGNIZES THE BEST OF THE BEST ANNUAL SENIOR AWARDS



Suffolk County Executive Steve Levy presented the Suffolk County Executive Public Service Proclamation to Katherine Cheung.

The Walter G. O'Connell Copiague High School held a special recognition ceremony to honor members of the senior class at the Annual Senior Awards Ceremony. Members of the Administration, Board of Education, Parent Teacher Associations, and parents gathered to acknowledge the students who earned high marks in the classroom, on the athletic field, for community service, and for their musical, theatrical, and artistic abilities.

The night began when Superintendent of Schools Dr. William Bolton, on behalf of the entire Board of Education and administration, congratulated the students and their families for this impressive accomplishment and wished the students continued success in their future endeavors.



Alexandria Rengifo was presented with the Suffolk County Legislature Student of Excellence Proclamation from Legislator Elie Mystal.

Guidance Department Chairperson Dr. Louis Bamonte served as master of ceremonies throughout the night as community members presented scholarship monies to selected students and awards were given for high achievements.

## Paving the Way TO THE FUTURE

The week of June 18 was meaningful for members of the fifth- and eighth-grade classes as the students closed one chapter in their lives and readied themselves for the next stage of their academic careers.

Amongst a sea of students, family, friends, administrators, Board of Education members, teachers, and members of the PTA the fifth- and eighth-grade students at Deauville Gardens, Great Neck Road, and Susan E. Wiley elementary schools and

Copiague Middle School celebrated their achievements and reflected on their accomplishments as they took part in the commencement exercises.

During the elementary moving-up ceremonies, the students were presented awards for their academic excellence and dazzled the attendees with their musical talents by performing special musical selections.

At the middle school commencement,

as Principal Albert Voorneveld presided over his final middle school graduation before moving up to the high school, students were celebrated for continuing the middle school standard of excellence.

Following the presentation of diplomas, the newly anointed graduates gathered with parents, family members, and friends to take time and rejoice in their accomplishments. Congratulations to the graduates.



## STATE RECOGNIZES STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AGAIN!

The State Education Department and Board of Regents recently recognized Walter G. O'Connell Copiague High School, Copiague Middle School, and Deauville Gardens Elementary School as recipients of New York State's "**High Performing/Gap Closing**" award for school districts. The schools were designated as a result of meeting all applicable State standards for English Language Arts and math during the 2005-2006 school years and making Adequate Yearly Progress in English Language Arts, math, science, and, for the high school, the graduation rate during both the 2004-2005 and 2005-2006 school years.

In addition, the school must have been accountable for 30 continuously enrolled students in at least two racial/ethnic groups or at least one racial group and one of the following groups of students: low-income students, students with disabilities, or Limited-English Proficient (LEP) students.

"The Board of Education, Superintendent, and staff are to be commended for leading New York forward to accomplish our goals of increasing student achievement while closing the gap in student performance," stated Richard P. Mills, Commissioner of Education, in a letter sent to the District.

## NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT BOARD OF EDUCATION REGENT ROGER TILLES VISITS COPIAGUE SCHOOL DISTRICT

New York State Education Department Board of Education Regent Roger Tilles recently visited the Copiague School District to tour its buildings and view education in action.

During his visit with the District, Board of Education President Doris Fischer, Vice President Everett E. Newman III, Michael Greb, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, and trustees Laura Gavey, Rosemary Natoli, and Brian J. Sales and District administrators took Mr. Tilles on a tour of the grounds of the high and middle schools, and Deauville Gardens Elementary School.

The purpose of Mr. Tilles' visit was to demonstrate how the Copiague School District has successfully invested funding into student achievement, extra-curricular activities, and state-of-the-art facilities and how it plans to continue its vision to provide a high-value education and continue to raise student achievement.

"I am very impressed with the progress being made here in Copiague," stated Mr. Tilles at the conclusion of his visit. "I will be sure to share this information with others in the state."







# Spotlight Shines on C



Following years of hard work and dedication, the members of the Class of 2007 will be attending many prestigious colleges and universities across the country. This year students have been accepted to:

American International College  
Columbia University  
East Stroudsburg University  
Elmira College  
Flagler College  
Hofstra University  
Manhantenville College  
Morgan State  
New York Institute of Technology

Rutgers University  
Sacred Heart University  
St. John's University  
St. Peter's College  
SUNY Albany  
SUNY Cortland  
SUNY Oswego  
University of Massachusetts



*My wish for you is that this life becomes all that you want it to be. Your dreams stay big, your worries stay small. You never need to carry more than you can hold. And while you're out there going where you're gettin' to, I hope you know somebody who loves you and wants the same things too. Yeah, that's all. Congratulations to the Class of 2007!*

Celebrating the accomplishments of the graduates and sitting proudly were parents, members, teachers, and administrators. Official congratulations to the graduates Board of Education President Doris Fischer stated, "Be proud of where you came from, cherish all that you have learned, and stretch your wings to see where they take you. Acknowledging that the students did not make it through school alone, Ms. Fischer also offered her congratulations to the parents and teachers of the Class of 2007.

During the ceremony Superintendent of Schools Dr. William R. Bolton, Valedictorian Trinh Nguyen, Salutatorian Alexandria Rengifo addressed the graduates. "Tonight, we may make bittersweet farewells to our school. As we sit on the field of dreams, no other dream shines brighter than the road ahead of us." Superintendent Bolton also took a moment to honor Mr. Hodgkiss and present him with a plaque commemorating his years of service to the Copiague School District, and wished him well in his retirement.

As the graduates left the athletic field for the time as alumni into a world filled with possibilities, the words of Rascal Flatts and Principal Hodgkiss reverberated in their ears. *My wish for you is that this life becomes all that you want it to be. Your dreams stay big, your worries stay small. You never need to carry more than you can hold. And while you're out there going where you're gettin' to, I hope you know somebody who loves you and wants the same things too. Yeah, that's all. Congratulations to the Class of 2007!*

# Copiague Class of 2007



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**Trinh Nguyen, Valedictorian**  
 Yale University



**Alexandria Rengifo, Salutatorian**  
 Harvard University



**Katherine Cheung**  
 SUNY Binghamton



**Melissa McNulty**  
 SUNY Stony Brook



**Angelika Gorecki**  
 SUNY Stony Brook



**Sara Sherdon**  
 Quinnipiac University



**Nicholas Wood**  
 Molloy College



**Meloney Nash**  
 Duke University



**Nicole Coady**  
 Bryant College



**Marta Motyl**  
 SUNY Stony Brook

