

Save the Date

February 25  
Board of Education  
Meeting @ HS  
Auditorium 7:30 PM

March 3-19  
Kindergarten  
Registration

March 20-24  
Easter Recess

March 31  
Board of Education  
Meeting @ HS  
Auditorium 7:30 PM

May 20  
School Budget Vote  
and Election @ HS  
Gym 7 AM - 9 PM

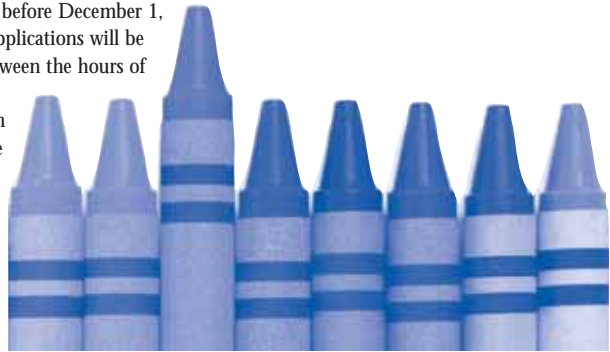
# Registration Information

## Kindergarten Registration:

Kindergarten registration for the 2008-2009 school year will begin in March. Children turning five years old on or before December 1, 2008 are eligible for kindergarten. Registrations are by appointment only. Applications are available on the district website ([www.rockypointschools.org](http://www.rockypointschools.org)). Kindergarten applications should be returned to the Frank J. Carasiti Elementary School main office. Appointment times and registration packets will be mailed to your home after initial application has been received. If you have any questions, please contact Nancy Morcerf at 744-1601, extension 7201 between 8:30 am and 4:45 pm.

## Universal Prekindergarten:

The Rocky Point Union Free School District would like to continue prekindergarten services pending New York State funding. Based on current enrollment projections, this program will be located at the Frank J. Carasiti Elementary School. It is anticipated that the program will continue to run two and a half hours daily. Transportation will be the responsibility of the parent/guardian. Enrollment is limited. Student selection will be made by a lottery system for any child who will be four years old on or before December 1, 2008, as per state regulations. Applications will be available at the district office between the hours of 8:30 am and 4:00 pm, on the district website, and at the North Shore Public Library. If you have any questions, please call Principal Scott O'Brien or Coordinator of Reading and Compensatory Services Maria Dorr, at 631-744-1601, extension 7201. All applications are due by March 14, 2008.



[www.rockypointschools.org](http://www.rockypointschools.org)

Rocky Point Schools

# Soaring

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE ROCKY POINT UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

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ROCKY POINT, N.Y.

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\*\*\*\*ECRWSS\*\*\*\*

## POSTAL PATRON

## *District Mission Statement*

The mission of the Rocky Point Union Free School District is to develop each child's full potential in a nurturing and supportive student-centered environment that will promote a foundation for lifelong learning.



# Soaring

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE ROCKY POINT UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

## Real Math FOR REAL LIFE

At the beginning of the 2007-2008 school year, both Frank J. Carasiti (FJC) Elementary School and Joseph A. Edgar (JAE) Intermediate School adopted a new math series entitled SRA Real Math. This program encompasses true-to-life applications and standards-based curriculum that enable students to apply mathematical concepts to their daily routines in the classroom, including other subject areas.

Many lessons are hands-on and require students to think critically in order to better prepare them for real-world applications.

There is a technology component for school and home use that helps students formulate strategies and solve realistic problems. All teachers are incorporating this new program into their daily classroom practices and finding that students are enjoying it and progressing academically. The available technology suite includes eTools, which utilizes manipulatives to encourage student participation and build understanding.

Students and parents may log on at home to the SRA Real Math website to practice and extend their learning and math knowledge. Several third-grade teachers at JAE have engaged in a Professional Growth Option to explore supporting student math achievement at home through this new technology, and a presentation was held to share components of this program with parents.

JAE Principal Carol Tvelia spoke with parents about the new math program at a recent Principal Coffee. FJC hosted a Math Game Night for parents on Wednesday, January 30<sup>th</sup>. Parents had an opportunity to be informed about some of the math games that students are learning and using in class that may also be used at home to enhance instruction. In addition, parents learned about technology support that is available to utilize at home.

## INSIDE

- Teachers Honored for Achievements
- RPHS Students Soar Academically
- RPMS Inducts New NJHS Members
- CSI at JAE
- FJC Introduces M&Ms

## RPHS Sings with Soul for Good Cause 200 Perform at Benefit for Senior Citizens, Community

Rocky Point High School's Singing Santas dazzled audiences once again during its 20<sup>th</sup> annual holiday show held in the high school auditorium. With over 200 student performers, students raised money to help host their annual senior citizen prom and provide donations for families in need in the Rocky Point community during the holiday season.

The Singing Santas stem from a school club called "Be A Nicer Neighbor," which is an organization that works to benefit the community. With the assistance of teacher and advisor Brooke Bonomi and guidance counselor Michael Conlon, the Singing Santas



perform numerous shows each year, including performances at area nursing homes and soup kitchens.

This year's theme was "That 70's Santa," which showcased songs and performed skits with renditions from that decade in front of a sold-out audience. They also turned the classic, *Soul Man* by the Blues Brothers, into *Snowman*, with two Santas dressed for the part. Many of the songs performed were rock songs transformed into holiday ballads, with some traditional music as well.

Thanks to the fun, spirited nature of the Singing Santas, all those who attended enjoyed a marvelous show that benefited the community.

## BUDGET WORKSHOP SESSIONS WITH BOE

**February 25<sup>th</sup>** - 5:30 PM - Instruction (HS Library)

\*Regular Board Meeting - 7:30 PM

**March 11<sup>th</sup>** - 5:30 PM - Personnel (MS Library)

**March 31<sup>st</sup>** - 7:30 PM - First Budget Overview (HS Aud)  
Regular Board Meeting

**May 13<sup>th</sup>** - 7:30 PM - Budget Hearing

**May 20<sup>th</sup>** - 7 AM - 9 PM - Budget Vote/Election

## A Message from Your Superintendent

DR. CARLA D'AMBROSIO

After the beauty of the holidays, the winter season is upon us with the need to review alternate weather related emergency and child-care plans. The decision to close or delay school is based on many factors, including the conditions of district access roads and availability of our bus transportation. Once the bus company issues the alert that the roads are a concern, an action plan is put in to effect. With the weather being so unpredictable, please make sure the schools have the emergency contact number of the person who is responsible for your children in the event that you may not be available at dismissal. There have been a few incidents where children have been at the building until the evening waiting for parent pick-up. The decision was made by the FJC Shared Decision Team this year that FJC would dismiss first in the event of a future early dismissal. It is critical that all parents who have children in the primary building have their emergency plans ready. The rest of the district will dismiss in the usual order, high school, middle school, and then JAE.

The second part of the school year brings the budget development process to the community. Information is located on the website for the budget workshops and scheduled public presentations. More than 35 Long Island school districts recently united in a grassroots campaign, Long Island Advocacy, to fight for adequate state funding. These districts, representing more than 195,000 students and approximately 466,000 taxpaying households in Suffolk and Nassau Counties, are outraged by the current proposal by the New York State Board of Regents and are demanding Long Island's fair share of state funding. The website lists the email and phone number of the Governor's office for you to advocate for our schools. The mandates issued by the state and federal government are not commensurate with the state aid necessary to support educational programs.

We are very proud to announce that Frank J. Carasiti, Joseph A. Edgar, and the Rocky Point Middle School have met all accountability requirements under NCLB and the New York State Education Department. You may access additional information at [www.emsc.nysed.gov/irts/accountability/home.shtml](http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/irts/accountability/home.shtml).

## MESTRACT Grant Recipients

Rocky Point School District's innovative and hardworking teachers and administrators have outdone themselves this year as they received five mini-grant awards from the Mid-East Suffolk Teacher's Center (MESTRACT). The teachers and administrators were awarded Terri Peters Mini-Grants and Technology Grants. In total, the recipients received \$7,002 to fund various educational projects.

The Terri Peters Mini-Grant Program is designed to provide funding of up to \$1,500 per program to teachers/administrators for the implementation of educational projects for which funding is not available through normal district channels. The purpose of the Technology Mini-Grants is to provide the educational professional with the opportunity to develop innovative, curriculum-based, technology-integrated projects suitable for the classroom. Recipients will display their projects at the Mini-Grant Showcase on May 21, 2008.

### TERRI PETERS MINI GRANTS

**Nicole Fernandez, Frank J. Carasiti Elementary School**

Grant Amount: \$1,500

Title: Big Books, Little Books, Our Books!

**Bettina Tripp, Frank J. Carasiti Elementary School**

Grant Amount: \$1,500

Title: Little Puppets for Little ELLs

### TECHNOLOGY GRANTS

**Kristin Coen, Rocky Point High School Business Teacher**

Grant Amount: \$1,305

Title: Seventh Avenue Here We Come! Design Apprentices in the Classroom

**Susan Wilson, Rocky Point High School Technology Coordinator & Business Teacher**

Grant Amount: \$1,305

Title: Podcasting: They heard it through the grapevine—learning with MP3's

**Laura Keenan, Frank J. Carasiti Elementary School**

Grant Amount: \$1,392

Title: An Exploration of Immigration Past and Present

## TEACHER NAMED EDUCATOR OF THE MONTH

*By News 12/Dowling*

Joseph A. Edgar (JAE) Intermediate School fifth grade teacher, Leah Larson, was named 2007-2008 Dowling College/News 12 Long Island Educator of the Month. Dowling College representatives Dr. Clyde Paine and Doug Simonton visited JAE, where Ms. Larson's students and administrators gathered for the achievement of one of their finest teachers.

The Educator of the Month Program praises the outstanding dedication of many Long Island teachers. Ms. Larson's accomplishments place her in a most distinguished group of excellent educators who have received this award.

"Ms. Larson is a truly dedicated teacher with a great deal of integrity and a genuine passion for teaching children...her enthusiasm, innovativeness, and genuine concern for the growth of her students are quite evident," said Assistant Principal Kenneth Crawford. "She certainly demonstrates the highest level of professional commitment and competency in her work with her students and fellow staff."

Dr. Paine spent time talking with the students in Ms. Larson's class to learn more about the innovative lessons they experience every day. "To be acknowledged for something you love to do is unbelievable to me," commented Ms. Larson on winning her award.

News 12 Long Island highlighted Ms. Larson during brief segments that aired regularly for the month.



*Dowling Representative Dr. Clyde Paine awarded Joseph A. Edgar Intermediate School teacher Leah Larson 2007-2008 Dowling College/News 12 Long Island Educator of the Month for her dedication to teaching and excellence in the classroom.*



*JAE fourth grade teacher, Kenneth Krapf, was designated Educator of the Week by the New York Lottery/WLNY-TV. He is pictured with Assistant Principal Kenneth Crawford, who nominated him for this accolade.*

## JAE TEACHER NAMED EDUCATOR OF THE WEEK

The New York Lottery and WLNY-TV55 named Joseph A. Edgar Intermediate School fourth-grade teacher, Kenneth Krapf, "Educator of the Week". Mr. Krapf has demonstrated excellence in teaching and enhances his lessons with creative and quality instruction, always placing the educational and developmental needs of his students first.

For one week, WLNY-TV55 (which broadcasts on Channel 10 on most local Cablevision systems) will air a brief segment highlighting Mr. Krapf's accomplishments. For more than 11 years the station, in conjunction with the New York Lottery, has featured extraordinary educators during the weekly television segment.

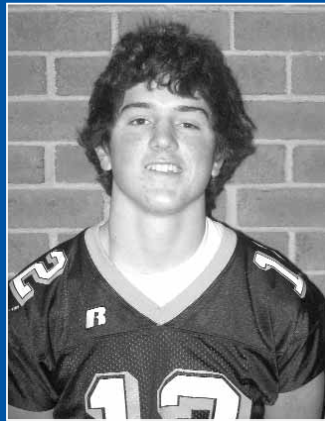
# Signed, Sealed, and Delivered

Rocky Point High School seniors Tom Palasek, Jesse Passiglia, Justin Annunziato, Brianne LoManto, Michele Kurz, and Allison Stuart all signed letters of intent to play lacrosse for their college of choice on National Signing Letters of Intent Day. These six student-athletes are all dedicated scholars, as well as promising athletes.

Next fall, Tom will be heading to Johns Hopkins University, Jesse will be attending New York Institute of Technology, and Justin will begin his collegiate career at Syracuse University. Northeastern University, Bloomsberg University and Adelphi University will be opening its doors to Brianne, Michelle, and Allison, respectively. The district would like to wish them the best of luck as they continue their journeys, in the classrooms and on the fields.



## ACADEMICALLY & PHYSICALLY IN THE ZONE



Rocky Point student-athletes Dan Kramer and Meagan Lewis-Bie were named Suffolk Zone Winners from the New York State Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance. The Suffolk Zone honors only one senior male and female student from each high school in the county.

Students must have earned at least a 90 average in physical education class and a minimum 3.0 overall grade point average in all classes prior to the senior year, demonstrate outstanding character, show leadership skills in both physical education class and general schoolwide activities, and serve as role models for other students.

Dan participates on the football, basketball, and lacrosse teams and Meagan plays for the volleyball, basketball, and softball teams. To be designated a Suffolk Zone Winner, each student demonstrated outstanding athleticism and high academic scores.



## Fall Sports Wrap-Up

### Football: Big 4 Champions

Matt Clark – All-County  
Tom Palasek – All-County  
Matt Toohey – All-County  
Mike Carusso – 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Division  
Tom King – 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Division  
Dan Kramer – 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Division  
Pete Vivonetto – 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Division  
Justin Annunziato – 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Division  
Chris Gerace – 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Division  
Billy McGee – 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Division

### Girls Cross-Country:

Caitlin Mallin – 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-League; All-Division

### Boys Cross-Country:

Ed Canepa – All-League

### Golf:

Peter Craig – All-League

### Girls Volleyball:

Meagan Lewis-Bie – All-League  
Nicole Reany – All-League  
Catie Swiderski – Honorable Mention

### Girls Soccer:

Kara Mupo – All-State  
Aimee Capps – All-League  
Mary Veach – All-League

### Boys Soccer:

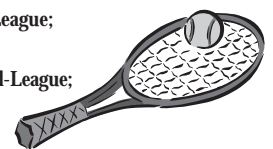
Javier Rodriguez – All-Conference  
Ethan Goldman – All-League  
Jacob Rusek – Academic All-County

### Field Hockey:

Cassie Jonaitis – All-Division  
Maureen Quinn – All-Division  
Jeanne Timmons – All-Division  
Aimee Zlotoff – All-Division

### Girls Tennis:

Katie Dallon – All-League; All-Division  
Renee Ferretti – All-League; All-Division  
Christina McDonnell – All-League; All-Division  
Marielle McMahon – All-League; All-Division  
Katie Side – All-League; All-Division  
Katie Thalen – All-League; All-Division



# D.A.R.E. TO BE GREAT

Students at Joseph A. Edgar Intermediate School celebrated their solidarity in drug awareness and prevention by participating in the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) graduation.

D.A.R.E. is a program that provides students with social skills to help them avoid involvement with drugs, gangs, and violence. Under the program, Suffolk County police officers are trained to appeal to young children and effectively communicate a strong anti-substance abuse message over the course of several weeks, using their firsthand experience as validation. This entails regular visits to JAE to teach students how to handle a wide range of unique situations.

Local police officers, elected officials, parents, and faculty at JAE came together to celebrate the students' achievement during the D.A.R.E. graduation. A student from each class was chosen to read, sing, or act out his or her projects, which included songs and speeches describing what they had learned from the program. Student Nicholas Roalef sang a song about quitting smoking, to the tune of Queen's "We Will Rock You."

Students ended the ceremony with the D.A.R.E. pledge. This is the last class to participate in the program which will be replaced with HealthSmart next year. While still covering drug and alcohol prevention, HealthSmart will add a segment on bullying and Internet safety.



# A Soldier Salute

Following the inspiration of one of their teachers, Frank J. Carasiti (FJC) Elementary School students helped to send some holiday cheer to a local soldier who is fighting in the war overseas.

FJC front office secretary Nancy Morcerf's son Joseph is currently serving in the armed forces in Iraq. One day when teacher Lois Ingebersten and Ms. Morcerf were speaking, the idea came to Ms. Ingebersten to do something for the Morcerf family.

Ms. Ingebersten formed a committee of her FJC peers, including Jamie Adamski, Jess Lukas, Cathy Conner, Scott Guinther, and Christine Edmonds. Together they collected donations from fellow teachers to raise money for a video camera. Students were asked to join in the project.

Students in the second-grade chorus prepared two songs for a special assembly. With the entire student body and faculty joining in to sing, the students taped performances of "God Bless America," along with some special messages. Principal Scott O'Brien shared some kind words, and Ms. Morcerf thanked everyone for their thoughtfulness and generosity. The video also captured all the students thanking Joseph for his bravery and service to his country. FJC students sent these tapes to Joseph and his fellow troops.

Additionally, Mr. Guinther and Ms. Ingebersten presented a new video camera to Ms. Morcerf for her to send to Joseph so that he can record a message of his own to send back to his family, and perhaps the students at FJC. P.C. Richard and Son Appliances covered a portion of the cost of the camera.

"I felt it was important to connect their family through the videos because there is nothing better than hearing and seeing a family member who cannot be with you for the holidays," commented Ms. Ingebersten.



# Speaking Volumes by Volunteering

Several Rocky Point Middle School students volunteered their time at the Fourth Annual Long Island Autism Conference held at the Hyatt Regency Wind Watch in Hauppauge. The conference provides parents and medical professionals with hope for treating individuals with autism spectrum disorders (ASD). ASD is a bi-neurological disorder that can affect communication and social skills in 1 out of 150 children today.

Students hope to promote awareness for the disorder. They assisted with welcoming and signing in guests, directed attendees to the conference areas, distributed informational packets, and assisted at various information stations. These student volunteers were recognized at a recent Board of Education meeting for their dedication to helping teach others about ASD.



# Absolute A Cappella

Rocky Point High School and Rocky Point Middle School music students were treated to the melodic harmonies of the Binghamton Crosbys a popular a cappella group. The Crosbys were founded in 1983 and are the only male a cappella group on the Binghamton University campus.

Styled in jeans and blazers, the Crosbys performed a number of songs for the students, including selections from rock legends Queen and The Who. Using their humor and perfect blend of vocals, students were encouraged to join in with applause and laughter.

President of the group and Rocky Point Alumnus, Jack Wilson, brought the group to his hometown. Jack and his Crosbys colleagues regularly participate in the International Championship of Collegiate A Cappella (ICCA) Competition. Last spring they competed against other collegiate a cappella groups at Lincoln Center.



## At the Forefront of Technology

Rocky Point School District once again had a strong showing in Eastern Suffolk BOCES Model Schools' eighth annual Celebration of Technology in Education. The daylong conference was filled with innovative and best technological practices from districts throughout Suffolk County. The day lends itself to teaching students new ways to learn and for teachers to brainstorm new ideas on how to implement technology into the classroom to expand curriculum.

All district buildings participated in this year's celebration, held at Stony Brook University, which highlighted technology used at the elementary, middle, and high school level. Rocky Point students provided live demonstrations of the instructional technology resources they use on a daily basis to enhance standards-based learning.

The different buildings showed how technology has enhanced a variety of areas in the curriculum. For example, students in Nicole Fernandez's English as a Second Language (ESL) class at Frank J. Carisiti Elementary School gained a greater understanding of facial expressions and vocabulary using a program called Alpha Smarts along with PowerPoint to aid the students learning.

Joseph A. Edgar teacher Craig Knapp utilizes a myriad of programs in his music classes for students to learn if they are on pitch, rhythm, tempo, and one program allows students the ability to compose their own music. Rocky Point Middle School Technology teacher Mark Moorman benefits from the Paxton Patterson software to aid students in building and designing CO2 Dragsters, which is similar to building and designing a current day automobile. Rocky Point High School teachers Susan Wilson and Joyce Connolly provide technology in their business and art classes. Ms. Wilson uses programs such as Dreamweaver to design web pages, while Ms. Connolly alters and enhances creative drawings using special software.



## 28 AP SCHOLARS HONORED

Rocky Point High School is proud to announce that 28 students have been named Advanced Placement (AP) Scholars by the College Board in recognition of their exceptional achievement on the college-level AP Exams.

The College Board's AP Program offers students the opportunity to take challenging college-level courses while still in high school and to receive college credit, advanced placement, or both for successful performances on the AP Exams. About 18% of more than 14 million high school students in more than 16,000 secondary schools worldwide who took the AP Exams performed at a sufficiently high level to merit the recognition of AP Scholar.

Six students qualified for the AP Scholar with Distinction Award by earning an average grade of at least 3.5 on all AP Exams taken, and grades of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams. These students are: James Browning, Ahmad El-Gendi, Michael Filimon, Daniel Leckie, Danielle Lyons and Kara Sparling.

Anna DeFrank, James Dimino, Gregory Hanson, Christina McDonnell, and Kaitlin Sidorsky qualified for the AP Scholar with Honor Award by earning an average grade of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams taken, and grades of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams.

Seventeen students qualified for the AP Scholar Award by completing three or more AP Exams, with grades of 3 or higher. The AP Scholars are: Lindsey Altan, Sean Caffrey-Agoglia, Alicia Distefano, Rebecca Gimple, Adam Kurtz, Meagan Lewis, James Mayr, David Napolitano, Peter Noto, Nicholas Palun, Colleen Quinn, Joseph Ricigliano, Jacob Rusek, Hirrah Sajjad, Dylan Schaefer, Katie Smith, and Kevin Tobiassen.

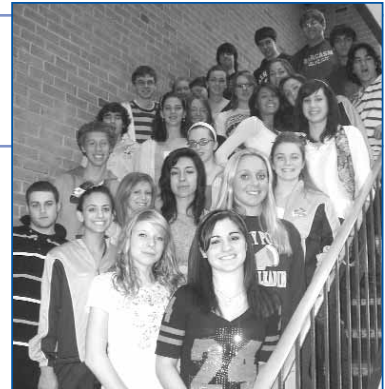
Of this year's award recipients at Rocky Point High School, nine are juniors or seniors: Lindsay Altan, Adam Kurtz, Meagan Lewis, Christina McDonnell, James Mayr, Peter Noto, Joseph Ricigliano, Jacob Rusek, and Kevin Tobiassen. These students have at least one more year in which to complete college-level work and possibly earn another AP Scholar Award.



## An Eagle's Eye on EXCELLENCE

Rocky Point's High School newspaper, *Eagle Eye*, has been chosen as a Silver Medalist in the Columbia Scholastic Press Association's annual competition for school publications for the second year in a row. The newspaper has placed numerous times over the past several years in the competition, maintaining a high level of quality.

Every issue of the *Eagle Eye* published during the 2006-2007 school year was reviewed and recognized for excellence in writing, editing, and publishing. Schools nationwide compete for this renowned distinction by submitting school magazines, newspapers, yearbooks, and online media to be judged on best practices.



## Musical Masterminds

Three of Rocky Point High School's exceptionally talented student-musicians were selected to participate in this year's New York State Council of Administrators of Music Education/Suffolk County Music Educators Association (NYSCAME/SCMEA) All-County Music Festival. The students were chosen to participate based on their NYSSMA solo scores from the year before, as well as their teachers' recommendations. This is a great accomplishment for these young musicians. The All-County students are as follows: (Band - French Horn) Sarah McDonnell, (Mixed Chorus) Jacob Rusek, and (Women's Chorus) Jessica Micallef.

One of Rocky Point High School's finest string-musicians was also selected to represent the district in the prestigious Long Island String Festival Association's (LISFA) winter concerts at the beginning of January. Having been selected, Carl Millard is considered among the top string players in Suffolk County.

Congratulations to all these students on their musical achievements.

# INDUCTED *with* HONOR

Rocky Point Middle School welcomed 71 new inductees into the National Junior Honor Society. These students were recognized not only for being top students, but for also displaying excellent character. Rocky Point High School freshman and last year's NJHS President Allyson Kaleita welcomed families and students on this special evening.

Outgoing NJHS officers, Joanna McDonnell, Kathleen Dallan, Anthony Lopez, Zachary Myslinski, Andrew Vaccaro, and Raniah El-Gendi participated in the candle-lighting ceremony, during which each student spoke about the character traits that represented the National Junior Honor Society. Each candle represents a specific character trait.

After all new inductees were sworn in, student inductee Jessica Kenyon presented Italian teacher Tara Scalone with an honorary membership. The ceremony ended as the newest members joined in taking the National Junior Honor Society Oath.



# WE'RE ALL ISLANDERS

Joseph A. Edgar Intermediate School students hosted the "We're All Islanders" School Assembly Program, thanks to the help of Physical Education teacher Maria Amoscatto. The assembly promoted teamwork and featured former Islanders forward Steve Webb, Islanders Ice Girl Monica, and well-known Islanders mascot Sparky.

Students enjoyed a video on the importance of building teamwork and how it has helped the Islanders players on and off the ice. Volunteers were chosen from the audience to participate in a demonstration on teamwork. A three student team participated in a spirited competition to determine how quickly they could dress in hockey gear against a teacher. The students knew how to 'sport' the equipment accurately and took less time getting dressed.

Mr. Webb also made an analogy, relating members of the Islanders to students in a school. Players are the students, coaches are the teachers, and the general manager is similar to the role of the principal. Students gained a better understanding of what it means to work together as a team.

**The assembly promoted teamwork, and featured former Islanders forward Steve Webb, Islanders Ice Girl Monica, and well-known Islanders mascot Sparky.**



# AROUND THE DISTRICT

## Business *as Usual*

Rocky Point High School is once again soaring to new heights with their Career Advisory Partnership (CAP). Newly appointed CAP Education Chairperson, Lynne Basileo, welcomed over 30 business people, educators, administrators, Board of Education members, teachers, school-related professionals, and students to the first CAP meeting of the 2007-2008 school year. The CAP program is now entering its fourth year under the guidance of Roseann Bufalino and Louise Ti

CAP's primary goal is to provide students with the skills necessary to learn about meetings with local business people. The educational chairperson, Susan Wilson, spoke impressively in her role as the newly elected CAP president. Lydia and her executive board procedure, demonstrating the importance of preparing for the future. The students meeting the goals of the organization.

During the meeting, members participated in a brainstorming session, discussing Résumé writing, interviewing, etiquette, dressing for success, business ethics, and the list of workshops that will be offered this year and facilitated by the business and

This year's CAP brunch is scheduled for April 2008 at The Inn at East Wind. To date. If you are interested in joining this dynamic group, please call Ms. Basileo at 856-281-1234. For a complete list of upcoming events, visit the website at [www.rpcap.org](http://www.rpcap.org).



## WARM & FUZZY

As the cold winter weather shapes up to midseason form, Frank J. Carasiti Elementary School students participated in a "Warm and Fuzzy Drive" that provided community members in need with warm winter accessories. Students donated winter hats, gloves/mittens, scarves, ear muffs/ear warmers, and warm socks to a "Sharing Sled" located in the main lobby of the school, to provide some much-needed warmth to others during the holiday season.

School Nurse Joan Noonan and her husband helped to build and decorate the sled, which was overflowing with items in a matter of days. The items dropped into the sled were distributed to families in need from the Rocky Point community.



## Mag

Rocky Point Middle School classes recently. Brookhaven Middle School program entitled "Magnets and Electricity". During this program students learned theories and experimenting with magnets that are magnetic and ones that are not (final experiment they determined which were magnetic). Some were temporary magnets used electricity to determine if they were magnetic and gained a strong

# OUND RICT *the*



lino and Louise Timms, CAP's industry co-chairs. sary to learn about different career opportunities through workshops and , Susan Wilson, spoke about lifelong learning, while student Lydia Belanich was and her executive board conducted the meeting following parliamentary ture. The students dressed in business attire, showing their commitment to

session, discussing dates and topics for workshops and the annual career brunch. iness ethics, wellness in the workplace, and stress reduction were on the top of by the business and industry members. n at East Wind. The CAP program is looking forward to its most productive year e call Ms. Basileo at 744-1600 or e-mail her at [basileo@rockypoint.k12.ny.us](mailto:basileo@rockypoint.k12.ny.us). [pcap.org](http://pcap.org).

## ZZY

Frank J. Carasiti Drive" that stories. Students ners, and warm ol, to provide some

and decorate the items dropped into int community.



## Magnets to Go

Point Middle School sixth-grade students received a hands-on lesson in their science ently. Brookhaven National Laboratory representatives visited the school for a entitled "Magnets to Go".

g this program students learned the science of magnetism by applying scientific nd experimenting with magnets. Students learned the difference between materials magnetic and ones that are not, and put the laws of attraction to the test. For their riment they determined the effect electricity has on different metals (not necessarily ). Some were temporary magnetized, while others experienced no effect. They also ricity to determine if magnets could carry a current to turn on a light bulb. Students l and gained a strong understanding of the science at work, as the bulb lit.

## CSI at JAE

Fully clad in white lab coats and goggles, and with proper clearance badges for access to closed-off police crime scenes, Joseph A. Edgar students became crime scene investigators in the mock case of "Who Killed Dr. Tur Key?" Dr. Tur Key was a renowned scientist who was best known for his work in discovering tryptophan - the chemical found in turkey.

JAE students analyzed "blood" on a knife and bird feathers, strands of hair, fingerprints and a muddy footprint to help form a hypothis and come to a conclusion in the case. During their investigation, students applied their knowledge of the scientific method, reasoning skills, and forensic tests to solve the case. Performing tasks that would be used in a real crime scene investigation, teachers Leah Larson and Francine Jacobellis worked with their pupils to help match DNA evidence.

"Science can be so engaging and we can bring it to a higher level for the students," commented Ms. Larson.

Students conducted fingerprint identification, hair identification, blood analysis, and shoeprint identification using equipment such as microscopes and digiscopes. After analyzing all the information, they coded their data as per their suspects and ultimately solved the crime.

"I like to watch shows like CSI and I am really interested in science, so it was fun to get to do this myself," stated student Jillian Babinsky of the work involved in solving the case of who killed Dr. Tur Key.



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## More than Just Candy

Frank J. Carasiti Elementary School has introduced the M&M Mentoring Program to its students for the first time this school year. Spearheaded by Assistant Principal Dr. Courtney Herbert and co-advised by Student Assistance Counselor Jamie Adamski, the program was

introduced several months ago to a handful of students and has proven to be a growing success.

Thanks to teacher recommendations over the past several months, the program has grown to include 45 mentees and 45 mentors. Teachers, secretaries, aides, the head custodian, and administrators serve as mentors. The program is friendship based and is designed to increase self-confidence in the mentees and provide opportunities for them to exercise their social skills.

The program kicked off with a "getting to know you" lunch with families of the mentees. Since then, the M&Ms have met once a week each week. During their time together, students and their mentors tell stories, play games, and work on activities together.

