

THE LIONS PRIDE

WEST ISLIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE WEST ISLIP SCHOOL DISTRICT



Technology Transformation Across the District

The technology department relocated classes at the high school this year, offering its two digital photography courses in a new state-of-the-art photo lab equipped with mobile recording devices and an enclosed sound recording studio. Livestreaming of the morning announcements has created a new sense of awareness about activities at the school, both during and after the school day.

continued on page 2...

Bond Work UPDATE

Several major bond work projects for the district have been completed or are nearing completion.

At the high school, a turf field, bleachers and safety netting were added to the stadium complex at the Barberry Road entrance, and a scoreboard is anticipated in October. A turf baseball field will also be added in the late fall/winter.

The high school performing arts center received a facelift, including a refinishing of the stage and upgrades to the stage and house lighting.

Lexan window replacements and screen installations are almost completed at the elementary and middle schools, and the track at Udall has been upgraded.

The roofs at Beach Street and Udall Road middle schools are nearly finished, with the balance of the work to be accomplished after school hours so as not to interfere with the business of instruction, athletics and extracurricular activities. Both buildings received new ceilings and lighting, brightening up the hallways and classrooms immensely.



...continued from page 1

Technology Transformation Across the District

The art and music departments began the year with a renovated learning facility and updated equipment. Mac devices are being used to facilitate learning in several courses, including music technology and IB music, graphic design and advertising. Cintiq tablets, advanced digital sketchbooks used by graphic arts students, allow progressive experiences in the 2018 art environment.

The 1:1 Chromebook initiative has now been extended to all students in grades 6-12, and 1:1 carts were issued in all fifth-grade classrooms. This has fostered teamwork among our students in all areas, where students are engaged in everything from geometric transformations to collaborative writing activities.

The replenishment cycle for Smart Boards will result in multiple deployment of flat-panel monitors in all school buildings. The technology has been added to art and music classrooms districtwide and has resulted in novel ways to approach instruction in the fine arts. These new devices do not require a projector and are compatible with the Google Education environment. Options that are more compatible in the science labs are also being investigated.

Wi-Fi is now available throughout the district, enabling students to access and share resources from the web and mobile devices, within district accessibility limitations.



www.wi.k12.ny.us



Have you seen our new website?

PELLATI NAMED NEW ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT FOR BUSINESS

Elisa Pellati was appointed as the district's new assistant superintendent for business, effective July 1. She previously worked, since 2014, as assistant superintendent for business in the Seaford School District and as assistant business official for the Oyster Bay-East Norwich Central School District from 2008-2014. She began her career working as a tax staff accountant and audit manager for Ernst & Young LLP in Melville.

"I look forward to working with the Board of Education, administration, staff and the community to support the district's educational vision," said Pellati, a West Islip resident.



BACK★ ★ to School



FULTON TAKES OVER TECHNOLOGY

Reanna Fulton was named the new director of technology for the district. She had served as assistant principal at Beach Street for the past two years. She previously was employed as a CSE administrator in the Rocky Point School District, as a special education teacher at both Beach Street and the high school, and as an in-school-suspension teacher at the high school. Fulton also served as an information systems technician in the U.S. Navy and Naval Reserves.

"My goal is to continue to move West Islip forward using technology," Fulton said.



LORRIE DIRECTOR NAMED NEW COUNSELING DIRECTOR

Lorrie Director was named the new director of counseling for the district. Before coming to West Islip, she worked for the New York City Department of Education as a school counselor and lead college adviser, frequently presenting on best practices in the field of college admissions counseling in New York City and at the state and national levels. She previously worked at Hofstra University.

"I'm excited to be a part of the community and look forward to establishing relationships with the students, parents and faculty," Director said. "I also look forward to collaborating on new initiatives that promote high achievement and excellence for all students."



Other new teachers and staff members include:

Kristen Amoia – Elementary
Jami Ashley – Social Worker
Rebecca Burleson – Special Education
Flavia Cestaro – World Languages
Giavanna Donarumia – Social Studies
Cara Douglas – Elementary
Kathryn Dranoff – Social Worker
Caryn Drezner – World Languages
Pamela Dubler – Reading
Amanda Felix – Special Education
Daniel Formichelli – Science
John Guerriero – Psychologist
Meghan Johnston – Special Education
Alexandra Kaulfers – Reading
Janine Lalia – Family and Consumer Sciences
Meghan LaRocca – Health
Meghan Linderman – Business
Erin Meade – Special Education
Marissa Simonetti-Villani – Special Education
Krystal Townend – Counseling

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Homecoming Proves Perfect From Parade to Shutout



The high school's Sept. 29 homecoming began with a sunny, spectacular parade through town, energized by the entertaining marching band, color guard and cheerleaders and punctuated by a quartet of creative banners from each grade level. Waving to the crowd from the two pairs' respective vehicles were this year's Mr. and Miss West Islip, homecoming king Brian Parrett and homecoming queen Erin Bevan, and runners-up Jake Maresca and Melissa Khoury.

Once at the stadium, the excitement hit a new level for the packed house of fans clad in Lions blue and gold. Striding onto the field with energy

and pride, West Islip's varsity football squad seemed more than ready to take on Northport's Tigers, with both teams entering the game undefeated. In this battle of the big cats, the Lions proved dominant, cruising to a 28-0 shutout victory and status as Suffolk III's only undefeated team. After throwing an early touchdown pass to Patrick Cunningham, West Islip quarterback Mike LaDonna ran for three touchdowns, including a final, fantastic 87-yard effort. The defense, led by linebacker Kyle Haff's six tackles, had a particularly strong day, earning four sacks, three interceptions and three fumble recoveries.



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