

Dear Residents:

This autumn is particularly superb, as the sign of trees becoming more colorful and the air turning a bit crisper means our schools are now in full swing. The fall season also represents an exciting time filled with wonderful energy, hope and resolve.

In reflecting upon these first three months of the school year, I am particularly pleased with the reconfiguration of our four elementary schools. Aside from some transportation issues that were resolved, all four buildings reverberate with youthful energy as new students and staff successfully make the transition a positive one.

As we continue into the fall season, we will remain centered on strategic planning and improved communication with all constituents. Our five priority areas to help guide our work in making East Islip a

premier district on Long Island remain the same: 1) high academic standards, 2) safe school climate, 3) fiscal responsibility, 4) technologically advanced schools and 5) transparent communication.

A list of specific 2014-2015 SMART goals for each priority will be unveiled soon – look for it on the district website under the Board of Education District Strategic Plan tab.

We have a committed faculty and staff who are responsible for creating pathways for learning and bringing out each student's unique gifts. Developing students who are engaged in our classrooms, stages, athletic fields and community reaffirms the extent to which we have been successful in achieving our mission. It is, after all, what binds us together as a school community.

As we build on our fall momentum and navigate our way through the year, we look forward to partnering with our families and greater community. That partnership is a critical component of our commitment to provide our children with school days filled with meaningful learning, the excitement of discovery and the pride that comes with working hard. Schools are a reflection of a community, and in East Islip, the success

Nine outstanding seniors – Nicholas Buquicchio, Krista Cook, Derek Dattero, Lauren Farrell, Rebecca Fitzmaurice, Joseph Guadagno, Thomas Leddy, Valli Manni and Joseph Prato – have earned AP Scholar with Distinction honors for 2014 from the College Board, along with eight recent graduates.

In order to be recognized as an AP Scholar with Distinction, a student must receive an average score of at least 3.5 on their Advanced Placement exams and scores of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams.

Several different award levels are offered by the College Board's AP Program, all recognizing academically strong students who display college-level achievement through AP courses and exams. These exams are graded on a scale of 1 to 5, with a score of 3 or higher qualifying students for college credit. East Islip boasted 57 Scholars in total for 2014.



The high school's Culinary Arts and Hospitality Career Academy debuted this school year as the newest of the school's four academies, enrolling a dozen juniors and seniors, including students from the Cleary School for the Deaf.



Students are taught the entire career field in an integrated manner. On the culinary side, enrolled students learn about culinary preparation, food sanitation and food signage while

working in a special kitchen housed in the administration building. On the hospitality end, courses cover economics, hotel management, party planning, catering and food safety.

East Islip's Career Academy program is one of very few that have been given CTE approval by the state's education department. The Board of Regents recently approved the career and technical pathway, allowing students to master technical skills, use work-based learning, and take a rigorous CTE exam to help fulfill graduation requirements.

Internships with Academy sponsor

North Shore-LIJ, as well as local hotels, catering halls and food businesses, will ensure valuable networking for the Academy graduates.

The choice for the fourth Academy reflects Long Island's changing employment trends. "We discussed what career fields are in demand, and hospitality and tourism are the next areas that are exploding," said Career Academy Director Israel Malinowitzer.

UPCOMING *Events*

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Board of Education Business Meeting

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EIABC Redmen 5K Run/Walk

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Board of Education Workshop Meeting

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Parent/Teacher Conferences

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RCK Winter Concert

e .
JFK Winter Concert

e . 4
EJ Autism Black Tie Hoodie Fundraiser

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Evening with Santa at HS

e . -10
MS Winter Concerts

e . 11
Board of Education Business Meeting

e . 1 -1
HS Winter Concerts

e . 17
HS Fall Sports Awards

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2nd Annual Community Advocacy Breakfast

According to Richard Zwyczewicz, the district's executive director for student achievement and instructional technology, work has commenced to advance the district's top current technological priority – providing an equitable distribution of technology services throughout all of the district's school buildings.

To that end, infrastructure work is moving forward to make each building Wi-Fi ready and to ensure that the number of computers in each school is appropriate for that building's population size. We have already increased overall Internet speed (from 20MB to 100MB), replaced switches and desktop computers, and installed a new Brocade network, iPrism Web filter, firewall and storage area network. Recent