

Highlights

Go to [Highlights Online](#) for color photos of Moving-Ups and color photos and video coverage of Class of 2008 Commencement of the Sayville School District

SUMMER 2008

DISTRICT NEWSLETTER
VOLUME 24.1
<http://www.sayville.k12.ny.us>

NEWSWORTHY



Sayville Administrators and Board of Education members during the **2008 Commencement ALUMNI WALKING**



(below) The following names were on the Alumni Walk 2008 Participation List:

•1936 Nelson Slager •1943 Marjorie O'Grady Feeny, Corinne Berger Robinson (Anderson), Kenneth Rehm, Jack Danes •1945 Ruth Colson Krsnak, Arthur Krsnak •1947 William Paauwe, June Smith, Elaine Beebe •1948 Charlene Tichy Schneeberg, Harold Schneeberg, John Wells, Butzy

Nagel Van Wyen, Ken Meierdierks •1949 Marilyn Schneider Levin, Jean Zahradka McCarthy, Carole Mortensen Meade, Barbara Buys O'Brien •1952 Barbara (Herring) Meierdierks, Walter Sutorius, Robert Verschure •1953 Katherine Steenland Paauwe, Emil Palak, Jack M. Beebe,

Oliver Conkle •1954 William Schneider •1955 Unis Van Wyen Conkle, Janet Hoek, Fran Kaelin, Janet Weedon, Ann Watstencroft, Howard Jones, Bill Ludlem •1957 Charles Tichy •1958 Judie Jayne •1960 Paul Patin •1969 John Patin •1970 Thomas Reeve •1973 Cynthia Schneeberg Smith, Sherie Lacara Cannizzaro, DeAnna Lacara,

Glenn Kucera, Arlene Kucera, Doreen Kessel Columbo, Pamela Mizzi, Jay Demeusy, Linda (Meierdierks) Vanderstreet •1974 Gerhard Pagels, Tara Patin, Fred Schreiber, Debi (Meierdierks) Demeusy, Robert Demeusy, Jane Koropsak •1975 Kathleen Mawhinney Goldsmith •1976 Nancy (Meierdierks) Bowllan,

Vivian Demeusy, Victor Lopreto, Jay Gerzog •1978 Carol LaFountain, Lori Hodgkinson, Cindy (Carlton) LoPreto, Christopher LoPreto •1981 Kathy Longman •1983 Audrey Llobell •2006 Lorelei Schreiber, Jeannette Rowland •2007 James Goldsmith

LOFTY WISHES for the CLASS OF 2008



Hot may have described the weather on the Saturday morning of June 28th, but the Class of 2008 seemed hot-to-trot through the final moments of their High School careers with the traditional Commencement Exercises.

While spectators withstood the toasting sun or held umbrellas as shields in the aptly named bleachers, the stream of graduates, glimmering in their purple and gold robes, proceeded to their seats on the football field. They were guided by both the marching rhythms of the Sayville High School Band, conducted by Mr. Pete DeSalvo, and the cheers of the crowd. Following them were fifty flag-bearing alumni, representing classes from the years 1936 to 2007, who participated in the Alumni Walk.



Salutatorian Meredith Gudesblatt and Valedictorian Stephen Tuozzolo



Highlights of the Sayville School District



BOARD OF EDUCATION

JOHN VERDONE,
PRESIDENT
NORMAN DEVENAU, VICE PRESIDENT
THOMAS COOLEY
MAUREEN DOLAN
KEITH KOLAR
RAYMOND J. NELSON
DEBORAH VAN ESSENDELFT

BOARD NOTES

AT THE JULY 10TH BOE REORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

- John Verdone was elected Board of Education President.
- Norm deVenau was elected Board of Education Vice President.
- Thomas Cooley was sworn in as trustee.

AT THE JULY 10TH BOE MEETING

DR. ROSEMARY F. JONES,
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS,
REPORTED ON THE FOLLOWING:

1. Board Meeting Dates for:

- August 16, 2008 @ 6 p.m.
- December 4, 2008 Business Mtg.

2. Kindergarten Registration 2008-09 – Status Report – Ms. Lamanno

3. Status of Secondary Summer School Program – Dr. Sullivan Keck

4. Education Grants – Dr. Sullivan Keck

5. Bond Project Update

BOARD OF EDUCATION DISCUSSION

- Meeting with Internal Claims Auditor and District Treasurer

UPCOMING EVENTS

AUGUST 18 Scheduled for Monday, Board of Education Business Meeting, Admin. Bldg. 6 p.m.

SEPT 2 First day of School for teachers

SEPT 4 Schools Open for students



HS Guidance Counselor Mary Jane Stevens walks in the procession with Class Advisors: (l-r) Alexis Kister, Amy Walsh, and Michael Pace during 2008 Commencement ceremonies.

MEREDITH GODESBLATT CLASS OF 2008 SALUTATORIAN “Vox Populi”



The “gifted, respectful, and outstanding” Meredith Godesblatt greeted her classmates with humility. She admitted her latest anxiety

in writing “my graduation speech” was wanting to avoid “spouting out meaningless clichés.” Input during a family dinner conversation with her brother and his friend helped her realize that wisdom exists in family, friends, and classmates.

“Each and every one of you has a reason for living, something that makes you tick, and most importantly...a message.” Inspired to give her class *Vox Populi* (*voice of the people*), Meredith collected statements under the pretext of an English class assignment, “Advice to Fellow Graduates.” In her speech, she gave credit to her classmates for their inspirational messages.

Since classmate John DeBonis felt that friends are “one of the most undervalued things in our society,” Meredith gave a “heartfelt and resounding thank-you” to all friends. With the advice of both Dan Calise about thanking families and Megan

Fuschius to “keep your friends close, but your family closer,” Meredith graciously acknowledged her family.

Recognizing that teachers (“*like my BFF, Mrs. Bernstein*”) change lives by challenging us, Meredith quoted Annie Gruttadora who learned “not to argue with Mr. Shaw or Mr. Bennett, because they KNOW EVERYTHING!”

Meredith noted that disparate personalities among her classmates shared similar views on life, love, and laughter. She also accepted the advice that “through our mistakes” we will grow, change, and evolve. Quoting “Mr. Schmieder, as channeled through Eddie Mac: “Time flies like an arrow; fruit flies like bananas,” Meredith looked at today as the beginning of a new adventure—as Sean Nolan said, today is “our day, we own it,” but then she added that the Class of 2008 should own every day.

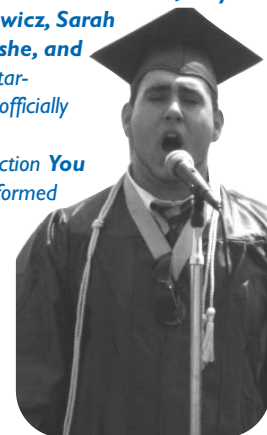
“We all have wisdom, so we need to raise our voices, share our messages, and speak out for our beliefs. Live every moment as you believe it should be lived. Love your friends and your family. Learn from every teacher and every experience. Laugh not only at your triumphs, but also at your mistakes. But most importantly,” Meredith concluded, “listen to yourself. Thank you and congratulations to the Sayville High School Class of 2008!”

Musical Interludes

The band accompanied the harmonious vocal talents of the High School Jazz Choir members (below left) (Seniors Sarah Bartlett, Dayna Montalto, Kristie Lankowicz, Sarah Marcellus, Jenna Hanshe, and Adam Rizzo) for the Star-Spangled Banner, which officially opened the ceremonies.



(right) The vocal selection *You Raise Me Up* was performed by the dynamic and incomparable Adam Rizzo, Winner of the Patricia Ann Kubelle Memorial Vocal Music Award, and an outstanding Sayville High School All-State vocalist.



STEPHEN TUOZZOLO CLASS OF 2008 VALEDICTORIAN “A Treatise on the Importance of... Commendable Characteristics of the Ewoks”

Class of 2008 Valedictorian Stephen Tuozzolo, “a remarkable musician, an excellent athlete, an outstanding scholar, and a true gentleman, who achieved the highest honors in each academic discipline,” gave a formal greeting, then offered a special salutation in a louder voice to a classmate already serving in the U.S. Air Force Academy: **“AND JOHN DEBONIS, IF YOU CAN HEAR ME FROM HERE, THEN I GUESS I AM PROJECTING WELL! I HAVE FUN IN COLORADO!”**

In his “Treatise,” Stephen entertained his classmates by succinctly retelling a well-known and beloved classic—*Star Wars: Episode VI: The Return of the Jedi*, in which the diminutive Ewoks with “stone-age technology” fought off Storm Troopers and defeated the Galactic Empire.

Stephen’s lighthearted tone had depths of significance. For thirteen years, the Class of 2008 has tried to reach goals as “insurmountable as destroying the Death Star. We watched the millennium turn at the stroke of the midnight clock; we survived the Pokemon craze and three disappointing prequels to the original Star Wars; we celebrated the inclusion of the word ‘D’oh’ into the Oxford English dictionary; we saw our country be attacked and go to war; witnessed the growth of the military-industrial complex; and acknowledged the largest environmental threat the world has ever known.”

The purpose of these reflections, Stephen explained, was “to remind you of what we are: As much as we are here to

celebrate our individual successes—and volleyball throwing skills—I am speaking NOT to 290 students, but to ONE Class of 2008.”

Camaraderie and solidarity have united this class with “common experiences,” e.g., growing up in Sayville and maturing at the beginning of a new millennium. Although society is in transition and turmoil, fraught with “negative impacts of global warming, globalization, the growth of the corporate state, nuclear proliferation, famine, and the horrible writing that has befallen Saturday Night Live,” Stephen encouraged the class to work together. Rather than outperform or outcompete one another, Stephen urged his classmates to “feed off the spirit of solidarity to overcome the incredible odds which have been stacked against us by previous generations.”

Tying up his conclusion with another reference to the stalwart Ewoks, who “believed in each other,” Stephen closed by quoting Obi-Wan Kenobi’s remark to Luke Skywalker. “You have taken your first step into a larger world. Good Luck, and May the Force be With You!”

For comic effect, Stephen imitated a Jedi Hand Movement to hypnotize the audience and said in a faux commanding voice: “You will now give me a wonderful ovation.”

More Commencement coverage on page 4.



Superintendent: “Life is a series of moments...”

“As I look at our graduates,” Sayville Superintendent Dr. Rosemary Jones said, “I can’t help but feel proud and at the same time hopeful. You’re living in a world that is rapidly changing and that is filled with unprecedented opportunities and risks, but you have proven to us that you are ready to begin to tackle that world. So, we congratulate you....you have brought distinction to yourselves, your family, your school, and your community.” Praising the class for being more involved in a variety of academic, athletic, artistic, and

community service activities and for going to college in greater numbers, Dr. Jones especially acknowledged John DeBonis, Eric Duroskey, and Matt Brooks, who have chosen to serve their country.

Dr. Jones also congratulated the parents for all their support.

The lyrics “life is a series of moments” from the popular song *One Hundred Years by Five for Fighting*



prompted Dr. Jones to suggest they “do what that song encourages...make the most of your moments and years. The alumni here today can tell you how quickly time passes.”

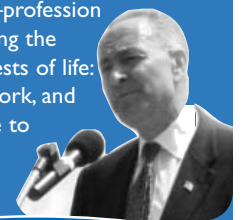
Quoting Mahatma Gandhi, You must be the change you want to see in the world, Dr. Jones declared, “you can no longer depend on others...you must make it happen for yourself. In the end,” she concluded, “life is the sum total of the decisions we make. Make decisions that give meaning and character to your life. The way to be happy is to like yourself and the way to like yourself is to do only things that make you proud. God bless you!”

SENATOR SCHUMER HAS A FEW WORDS

U.S. Senator for New York Charles Schumer made a special appearance. Acknowledging Sayville High School’s excellent reputation for being one of the best high schools on Long Island, as well as (according to a recent *Newsweek* poll) among the best in the nation, Mr. Schumer thanked everyone for the great job done here. After reminding parents and graduates about his “class gift”—the law which gives Middle Class parents, who earn less than \$200,000 a year; a \$4,000 tax deduction for college tuition—Mr. Schumer compared his

experiences as a student with the opportunities of the Class of 2008.

“My advice is simple. Try to find a major—job—profession that you love.” Mr. Schumer concluded by wishing the graduates success in the two most important tests of life: The Monday Morning Test—wanting to go to work, and the Friday Afternoon Test—wanting to go home to your family. “If you can say yes to both of those tests, then God has been good to you; don’t complain. Good luck! Godspeed!”



Highlights of the Sayville School District

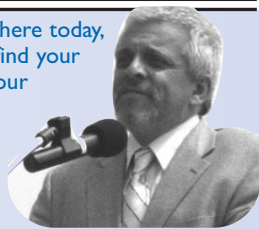
LOFTY WISHES

BOE President: "Live, love, laugh..."

After his greeting, President of the Sayville Board of Education John Verdone wondered "what's to come for the Class," but he hoped the graduates would realize that the "future is not something that is just going to happen." Quoting from his favorite Beatles song, *In My*

Life, Mr. Verdone focused on the idea of "moments" and "moments to live, love, laugh, and learn," "moments for looking forward to goals and aspirations, and moments for looking back at what you have already achieved." Pausing to describe a snapshot of moments for the Class of 2008 on Graduation Day, Mr. Verdone urged

the students to leave here today, "with open eyes and find your vision. Take pride in your endeavors, create something that gives you purpose and meaning. Remember live, laugh, love, and hold on tight to your dreams!"



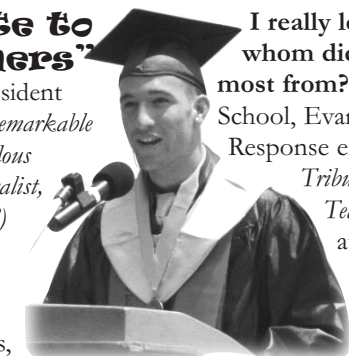
Following the presentation of diplomas to the Class of 2008, Class President Evan Martel gave an inspired Response for the Class.

"A Tribute to My Teachers"

When Class President Evan Martel, ("a remarkable role model, a tremendous athlete, a talented vocalist, and a special person") took the podium, he utilized his dramatic talents, leadership qualities, communication skills, and comic timing to fasten his audience's wandering attention. While his tongue-in-cheek wit made them listen, his poignancy, sincerity, and wisdom kept them focused.

"Hi, Mom!" he began with a grin and then recounted how, as an eighth grade Band member playing the clarinet ["Yes, the clarinet—and it is STILL, a very COOL instrument for men!"], during his sister's graduation, he realized he could never be two of the three students who gave speeches at commencement—so, he ran for Class President in his Senior year. He continued to draw laughs of appreciation, when he cleverly compared his High School experience to the many different ranks of people and many different branches in the Military.

To answer his own question, "What have



I really learned and whom did I learn the most from?" in High School, Evan gave his Response entitled, *A Tribute to My Teachers*. He listed attributes from many of his classmates while naming specific

students who have taught him "that life is best spent laughing" (*Lenny Olmstead*), "that a dark day can be uplifted by a smile" (*Ronnie Pascariello*), "that true strength lies in those who can stay positive even in the darkest of times" (*Stephen Hayes, Joe Fernandez*), "that sometimes the quietest kids are the ones you should listen to the most" (*Jimmy Black, Daniel Johnson, Stephen Rowland*).

Others taught him "the absolute value of friendship" (*Willie Slevin*), "Family Guy is still funny no matter how many times you talk about it" (*Tim Clemente*), "how sexy it is to be tan DURING THE WINTER!" (*Brynn Sterback, Kate Gregory, Kayleigh Holloway*), "how one of Sayville's finest athletes could go unnoticed all four years" (*Tyler Fliedner*), "saving gas by riding bikes is not too horrific a sacrifice even if it's in the pouring rain" (*Dan Calise*), "the meaning of true vision" (*John Gil*), "the definition of determination and sacrifice" (*Shawn Mazzarone*), "the feeling of

rejection" (*Emily Jung*), and that "you don't have to be a giant to have a big heart" (*Robby Demensy*).

Evan noted with admiration in his voice that "John DeBonis, Eric Durososky, and Matthew Brooks have taught me what true patriotism is—especially John who is not able to attend Prom or this graduation because of his nation's call to the elite Air Force Academy in Colorado."

With a few anecdotes about closest friends and their funniest memories, Evan referred to an embarrassing moment in Middle School when an "evil little girl pulled my shorts down in gym class...and I got into trouble for yelling at her. Five years later, Erin Gross was my Prom date!"

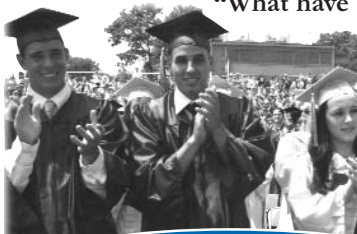
As only Evan can, each of his comments elicited either laughter or cheers in a literal response from his class.

Evan admitted that lessons in High School were not just about friends: "Our families were also a major part. My parents played a huge roll in my high school career. They were pretty tough a lot of the times. To put it into perspective: getting compliments from my Mom was like getting snow days

from Dr. Rosemary Jones—it very rarely occurs. I could have won a bunch of awards, aced a math test. My Mom would simply say, 'Evan, that's what you're SUPPOSED to be doing.'"

When the last chuckle settled down, Evan was in earnest in the final moments, admitting they were ready to go, it was time to move on, but that "Thanks for being my friends. Thanks for everything '08. I love every one of ya!"

As Evan raised his arms in triumph and smiled a goodbye, the entire assembly rose to a thunderous standing ovation.



Highlights of the Sayville School District



"Members of the Class of 2008 won significant honors both individually and collectively and have been tremendous representatives of our school."

FOR THE CLASS OF 2008

Enumerating (see below) the statistics of class accomplishments with a "great deal of pride and satisfaction," Mr. Buderman also announced the Community Scholarship winners.

- The graduates met and/or exceeded the academic standards: 94% of the students in the Class of 2008 will go on to further education and 92% have earned a Regents Diploma this year.

- At the 34th Annual Scholastic Awards program, administrators, faculty, and staff presented 175 awards to 91 deserving students. Gold- or purple-ribboned medallions worn by the graduates indicated these awards.

- So far, 134 students received academic or community scholarships that value well over 2.2 million dollars.

- Four students were recognized by the National Merit Scholarship foundation for academic excellence: **Cory Faragon, Katelyn Harlin, Erika Schreiber, and Stephen Tuozolo.**

Cory Faragon and Stephen Tuozolo were named National Merit Scholarship semifinalists. **Stephen** was later named a **National Merit Scholarship winner!**

- Our **Art** students earned numerous awards and received great recognition at such exhibits as SAVA, SMBA, the BAFFA High School Student Invitational Art Exhibit, at the Huntington Arts and Humanities Juried Art Competition, and a number of works were entered at the 27th Annual Congressional Arts Competition.

- Our **Music Department** held many outstanding concerts throughout the year and the Wind Ensemble, under the direction of Mr. Peter DeSalvo, received the highest Award possible, **Level 6 (Gold) Rating with Distinction at the New York State Festival.** Our music students have been recognized locally and throughout the county, state, and nation with awards from NYSSMA, All-State Awards in Band, Orchestra, Chorus, and Jazz, National School Choral and Orchestra Awards, Long Island Spring

Festival Awards, SCMEA All-County Awards, a NYSAME scholarship, John Philip Sousa Band Award, Louis Armstrong Jazz Award, and Chopin Piano Award; and if an award were available, the students would have earned one with their performance of John Rutter's *Mass of the Children* this year. It was clearly an outstanding year for the Music Program.

- Our **Theatre Arts** program, under the direction of Mr. Steven Hailey, successfully held the Fall Play (*Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream*), Winter Play (*The Fantasticks*), and Senior-directed/written May One-Act Plays. In addition, the Music Department worked collaboratively with Sayville Theatre Arts and successfully produced this year's outstanding musical **GUYS & DOLLS.**

- In the arena of **Interscholastic Athletics**, 21 of our 25 varsity teams participated in postseason competitions; 23 of our varsity teams were NYSPHSAA Scholar-Athlete teams; Sayville won individual/team championships in 11

sports, won 2 Division Championships in *Girls Cross-Country* and *Boys Golf*, and 2 County Championships in *Boys Soccer* and *Boys Golf*, earning Long Island Championship titles. *Girls Tennis*, *Girls Swimming and Diving*, *Girls Soccer*, *Field Hockey*, and *Girls Lacrosse* were County finalists. In *Football*, *Swimming and Diving*, and *Track & Field*, our athletes were named to All-State and All-American teams. Ten student-athletes in the Class of 2008 earned an unprecedented number of Gold Key awards from Section XI this year. Congratulations!

- High School **Service Organizations** provided volunteers, support, and raised money for *The Special Olympics*, *The American Heart Association*, *The Lupus Foundation*, *The Salvation Army*, *The American Cancer Society*, *The March of Dimes*, *Relay for Life*, *Earth Day*, *The 5th Annual March to the Sea to Fight Leukemia*, *The Keith Nintzel 5K Memorial Event*, and raised thousands of dollars and tons of food, clothing, and toys for the less fortunate on Long Island.

During his closing remarks, Principal Joseph Buderman thanked all for their support throughout the academic and curricular careers of the students. After the Jazz

Chorus led the assembly in God Bless America, Mr. Buderman closed the Commencement program, declaring: "As the representative of our faculty, staff, and administration, it has been my pleasure to have worked with you for the past four years. Ladies and gentleman, I congratulate the Class of 2008, and wish you success, health, and happiness in all your future endeavors!"

With explosive cheers, the Class of 2008 graduates lofted their hats skyward!



Highlights of the Sayville School District

Moving Up through Elementary Moments

The Sayville District auditorium on Greene Avenue afforded each elementary school a spacious venue for their individual Moving-Up ceremonies. On different days and at varying times, Cherry, Lincoln, and Sunrise created their own distinctive programs that included music, guest speakers, the Principal's Address, recognition to outstanding students (see lists below), nostalgic essays or slide presentations about their learning experiences through the years, and a PTA-sponsored reception enjoyed by all the students and their guests.



(above) This Sunrise Drive's Fifth-grade Class has been a sentimental favorite for Rose Castello who began as Principal when these students were Kindergarteners. "We both entered Sunrise Drive six years ago," Principal Castello admitted, her voice breaking with emotion. "You have a special place in my heart!" After each teacher announced the names of the students who were moving up and awards were distributed, the students performed various songs, which included a humorous paraphrased version of Sweet Caroline that recapped their elementary education.



At each Moving-Up ceremony, Dr. Walt Schartner assured the Fifth-grade students that their **parents** would adjust "just fine" to the Middle School.

He congratulated the students for their successful completion of elementary school and reminded them to attend the **Sixth-grade Orientation and Ice Cream Party** on Wednesday, August 27th.



During the Moving-Up visits, Legislator Bill Lindsay spoke about how things have changed from previous generations: i.e., Dick Tracy vs cellphones; tap water vs bottled water; room-sized computer mainframes vs laptops.

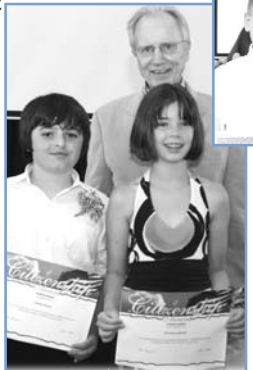


In a witty response, Ginny Field's representative Kevin MacVetti admitted that he was just a little older than the Fifth-graders and has only known bottled water.

The following is a list of Fifth-grade 2007-2008 Presidential Academic and Physical Fitness Award Winners...

CHERRY AVENUE
PRESIDENTIAL ACADEMIC FITNESS AWARD (GOLD)
 Paul Bevilacqua
 Troy Arzt
 Jordan Zanetti
 Brianna D'Amico
 Gianna Fazio
 Liam Haber
 Christopher Gale
 Brian Walsh
 Ryan Moran
 Ryan Kelly
 Robert Boos
(SILVER)
 Nicole Pelletier
 Mackenzie Burns
 Marielle Borzello
 Olivia Kaczmarek
 Ryan Rattazzi
 Sarah Koehler
 Amanda Bonney
 Emma Philbin
 Patrick Fitzgerald
 Jordan Darmento
 (above left)
 Jordan Zanetti, and
 Emma Philbin with
 Ms. Susan Connolly

COMPTROLLER AWARD
 Paul Bevilacqua
SUFFOLK ZONE WINNERS
 Kyle Steck
 Sarah Koehler
COUNTY EXECUTIVE STEVE LEVY PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD
 Sergio Botto
KEMPER AWARD
 Victoria Leyboldt
 and
 Joseph Visone
 with Mr. Kemper
PRESIDENTIAL PHYSICAL FITNESS AWARD
 Ryan Rattazzi
 Sarah Koehler
 Mackenzie Burns
 Gianna Fazio
 Kyle Steck
 Mariel Lucian
 Ryan Moran



LINCOLN AVENUE
PRESIDENTIAL ACADEMIC FITNESS AWARD (GOLD)
 Matthew Bavaro
 Autumn Bradley
 Lauren Colavito
 Mariana Dominguez
 Dalen Ferreira
 William Fridrich
 Jeremiah Ginty
 Owen Guinessey
 Erin Gunther
 Erin Herbst
 Julianne Johnston
 Tara Litvin
 Selkie Maloney-Coffey
 Kayleigh Mullaney
 Chelsey Nadler
 Kayleigh O'Halloran

Thomas Reilly
 Rebecca Seeba
 Alex Sneddon
 Zachary Svendsen
 Kyle Wilson
 Zachary Yale
(SILVER)
 Morgan Cannini
 Zackary Clement
 Thomas Esposito-Kelley
 Timothy Fraccalvieri
 Kara Interemesoli
 Jonathan Litter
 Nicholas Medile
 Kelly Mullagh
 Allison Murphy
 Ruth Murray-Coppolone
 Arthur Nixon
 Paul Radzewsky
 Brian Sputh



Lincoln students gave personalized statements and recollections for each Fifth-grade teacher, with a special goodbye for the retiring Mrs. Carol Guinaw

PRESIDENTIAL PHYSICAL FITNESS AWARD
 Sabrina Bencivenga
 Samantha Cascardo
 Ashley Coia
 Robert Colarusso
 Nicholas Connestro
 Jessica Griffin
 Erin Gunther
 Julianne Johnston
 Ryan McEnerney
 Kayleigh Mullaney
 LeeAnna Sullivan
TRIPLE C
 Owen Guinessey



Highlights of the Sayville School District

Moving Up through Elementary Moments



(above) **Cherry Avenue Fifth-graders** moved up in style. After the speeches were given, all the awards announced, and the music *For Just a Little While* sung, Principal John Stimmel enlisted the help of some Fifth-graders to hold his collection of props (below). This year's addition to the **lantern, megaphone, telescope, and Meet the Robinsons** poster was a **CLOCK**. Mr. Stimmel advised the students to make good use of their time.



(below) At their Moving-Up Ceremony, **Lincoln Avenue Fifth-graders** received recognition and awards for all their outstanding accomplishments.



During her address, Mrs. Gunther recognized many Lincoln Avenue families who were making their last goodbyes with the students moving up. (below) Student Dalen F. rewrote lyrics for *Piano Man* and performed his song with his classmates.



The following is a list of Fifth-grade 2007-2008 Presidential Academic and Physical Fitness Award Winners...

SUNRISE DRIVE

PRESIDENTIAL ACADEMIC FITNESS AWARD (GOLD)

- Haley Alber
- Shannon Bohman
- Timothy Costorf
- Nicholas Cowan
- Emily Faughnan
- Stephen Geiger
- Zoe Gomes
- Kathleen Hill
- Adam Laterza
- Philip Maehr
- Isabella Mangan
- Joseph Mullen

- Kevin Murphy
- Shreeya Panigrahi
- Kayle Pitts
- Emma Prokesch
- Bridget Read
- Tanner Russo
- Sarah Walsh
- (SILVER)
- Molly Andrews
- Lucas Brennan
- Michaela Conlon
- Andrew Hillsberg
- Demitrios Kalomiris
- Eileen Keenan
- Jessica Klassert
- Daniel Murphy

- Jessica O'Shaughnessy
- Tara Rini

PRESIDENTIAL PHYSICAL FITNESS AWARD WINNERS

- Haley Alber
- Colin Anderson
- Molly Andrews
- Jesse Arias-Brown
- Samuel Blitman
- Lucas Brennan
- Marissa Breul
- Kelliann Camp
- Tyler Campbell
- Nicholas Cowan
- Joseph DeVenuto
- Emily Faughnan
- Diana Ferretti
- Shannan Flanagan
- Stephen Geiger
- Zoe Gomes
- Edward Hernandez
- Andrew Hillsberg
- Alexander Jankowski
- Demitrios (Jimmy) Kalomiris

- Shaun Keane
- Kyle Kearney
- Eileen Keenan
- Sean Kelly
- Alyssa Klassert
- Paige Kolar
- Lauren Krug
- Matthew Laskowitz
- LeighAnn MacLellan
- Philip Maehr
- Joseph Mazzie
- Joseph Mullen
- Kevin Murphy
- Jamie O'Connor
- Justine Odierna
- Jessica O'Shaughnessy
- Dana Passin

- Timothy Peyton
- Emma Prokesch
- Jessica Reilly
- Tara Rini
- Laine Rubin
- Stephen Scala
- Timothy Stecher
- Kristen Tisch
- Alexa Truglio
- Sarah Walsh
- James Weik
- Gillian Woods
- Suffolk Zone Winners**
- Erin Koehler
- Lucas Brennan

TRIPLE C WINNERS Erin Lankowicz and Stephen Scala



Highlights

SAYVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWSLETTER
Linda A. Mittiga,
Producer, Writer, Editor, Designer

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99 Greeley Avenue
Sayville, New York 11782

School Tax Code 566

Dr. Rosemary F. Jones, Superintendent of Schools

****ECRWSS****

POSTAL CUSTOMER

Up, Up, and AWAY

Opening the evening program, Middle School Principal Dr. Schartner reflected on the students' birth year, 1994, "rechristened" them the Class of 2012, and



offered statistics on their academic, artistic, and athletic accomplishments. However, Dr. Schartner told the assembly that statistics alone do not define this successful class. "Generally everybody gets along. What you have as a group is very special. You respect each other's differences and you support each other."



Kailey S. and Alexis S. sang the National Anthem.

Motivational speaker Paul Failla appreciated their respectful manners during his visit and had remarked, "It is my belief our future is in good hands!" This quote, Dr. Schartner felt, truly defined the class. "You are a wonderful reflection on your parents and your upbringing. This is better than all the other awards."

Informing the class that "the High School has limitless opportunities," Dr. Schartner also reminded the students, "what you do next in your High School will be on a permanent record—kept forever—but you will be building a resume for your next step, either college, career or whatever steps you take to become a productive citizen....The sky is the limit for this group because you're intelligent, hardworking, and a giving group of kids."

Concluding, Dr. Schartner had the students stand to face their parents. His final words, "Congratulations, Good Luck!" were followed by applause and cheers.



7th Grade Orchestra



Jazz Band & Chamber Orchestra



8th GRADE AWARDS
2007-2008 DEPARTMENTAL AWARDS

ENGLISH • JACQUELINE KALOMIRIS
SOCIAL STUDIES • JESSE WEAVER
MATHEMATICS 8 • DEREK HARTNETT
ALGEBRA • CAITLIN DONNELLY
LIFE SCIENCE • NICOLLE FERREMI
LIVING ENVIRONMENT • ALLYSON MARCHAN
TECHNOLOGY • CODY RODRIGUEZ
COMPUTER APPLICATIONS • KAYLA STENBERG
CONSUMER & FAMILY SCIENCE • KIERA MUSCARA
PHYSICAL EDUCATION (BOYS) • DAKOTA EDWARDS
PHYSICAL EDUCATION (GIRLS) • EMILY MEIER
BAND • MICHAEL LAPINTA
ORCHESTRA • KYLE TIEMAN-STRAUSS
CHORUS • MOLLIE DRINKWATER
ART • EMILY DIEHL
SPANISH • KYLE TIEMAN-STRAUSS
FRENCH • ANNA MIZZI

Eighth-grade Class Statistics

- 104 students received the Presidential Academic Award
- 121 Eighth graders made Honor Roll
- 59 were NJHS members, having a 95 average or better for 4 consecutive quarters
- Many students have received 3.5 HS credits before their Freshman year
- There were many award-winning Artists
- There were many award-winning Musicians
- There were many Varsity & JV Athletes
- Ranking Community Service: 3 students achieved 100 hrs (gold); 4 students worked 75 hr (silver), and 8 students gave 50-74 hrs of service (bronze)
- 90% of MS teams were Scholar-Athlete teams

The 8th Grade 2007-2008 Presidential Awards

(Students who maintained a 90+ average for 11 marking periods)

Madeleine Albano
Matthew Ali
Patrick Andrews
Robert Arrasate
Rose Bastian
Asia Bauland
Joseph Black
Althea Bourdeau
Garrett Boyce
Jillian Braverman
Tiffany Bruno
Taylor Callis
Madison Cannini
Lindsay Carbone
John Carlin
Kimberly Colavito
KerriAnn Culhane
Brendan Cunningham

Emily Diehl
Caitlin Donnelly
Mollie Rose
Drinkwater
Sarah Elsesser
John Farese
Julianna Fiorillo
Andrew Fisher
Emily Gallagher
John Gatta
Katherine Greenbaum
Allie Gressler
Jesse Hirsch
William Hudson
Oliver Hull
Brooke Iorio
Nicole Kaczmarek
Jacqueline Kalomiris

Margaret Kavanagh
Marissa Klassert
James Klopp
Matthew Kollegger
Lindsey Kuri
Michelle Langton
Thomas Langton
Michael LaPinta
Breana Lindquist
Shannon Litvin
Emily Lumley
Kayla MacFarlane
Kathleen Maehr
Allyson Marchan
Nicholas Marino
Kimberly Marra
Jeremy Mayrose
Theresa McAuliff

Kathryn McCurdy
Emily Meier
Shannon Michelini
Courtney Mignone
Anna Mizzi
KeriAnn Murphy
Payton Murphy
Kiera Muscara
Alysa Nadeau
Haley Nicolino
Connie Nielsen
Daniel Nolan
Harley Norton
Kevin O'Neil
Brianna Olsen
Gabrielle Pacia
Chintu Patel

Alicia Protus
Michael Rahn
Brian Rini
Justin Rippert
Cody Rodriguez
Matthew Romeo
Dylan Russell
Ian Scala
Dana Schulz
Ben Schwartz
Matthew Seeba
Stephanie Seredenko
Julia Sergison
Christopher Siracusa
Alexis Skalkowski
Anthony Spalma
Danielle Specce

Kayla Stenberg
Ashley Stengel
Zachary Stephan
Harrison Teplitz
Kyle Tieman-Strauss
Qxiara Tomasetti
Helen Tristano
Kelsey Truglio
Jessica Tully
Ryan Vahey
Jared VanBrunt
Jesse Weaver
Erica Weinberg
Colleen Whitehurst
Brandon Woelfel
Nicole Zanetti
Ejay Zarett

County Executive's Public Service Award • Tara Gross
Triple C Award • Anna Mizzi, Kyle Tieman-Strauss