



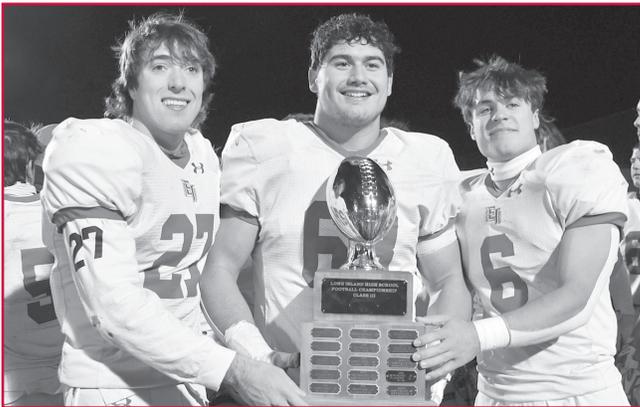
# EAST ISLIP

## UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

WINTER NEWSLETTER 2024



## El Claims Second-Ever LONG ISLAND FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP!



In a thrilling game at Hofstra's Shuart Stadium, East Islip High School claimed its second-ever Long Island football championship title on the evening of Nov. 24 in front of hundreds of happy hometown fans who braved the cold to watch their team defeat South Side 19-14. EI was led by the fantastic play of junior quarterback Thomas Costarelli, who completed 9 of 19 passes for 244 yards; Matt McIntee, who caught seven catches for 156 yards; and captain Sebastian Regis, who notched seven tackles and a sack. The Redmen took the lead on the very first play, with Costarelli connecting with Matt Ferrara on an 80-yard completion. Connor Junior recovered an onside kick on the following kickoff, and Costarelli hit McIntee in the end zone to make it 13-0 just five minutes into the game. South Side came back strong to take a 14-13 lead, but Costarelli was far

from done, connecting again with McIntee for a 22-yard touchdown pass with 5:49 on the clock.

The champions were officially recognized at the Board of Education's Dec. 14 meeting and at a Dec. 21 ceremony in the school's forum. A representative from Suffolk County Legislator Trish Bergin's office was on hand to present coach Ciampi and his team with a proclamation commemorating their achievement.

"With the amount of talent and kind of kids we have, it's not surprising that we were able to get there, but it was a bumpy road at times," Ciampi said. "It shows the true character of the team and everyone involved in the program that despite setbacks and adversity from time to time, we were still able to achieve the goal we had hoped to achieve and end up being the Long Island champions."

# Message *from the* SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

As we begin the new year, I want to take a moment to reflect on the incredible kindness and caring that has been displayed by our students, staff and community.

Throughout the holiday season, our community came together in remarkable ways to support those in need. Countless food drives, toy drives and coat drives were organized, ensuring that families in our community had the resources they needed to celebrate the holidays. The generosity and compassion shown by all was amazing.

The support and unity that we have

witnessed throughout this year has been nothing short of inspiring. It is during times like these that the power of community shines brightest, and I am grateful and truly proud to be a part of a community that exemplifies the spirit of "EI Cares."

Wishing you all a happy and healthy new year filled with kindness and caring.

Sincerely,  
Paul E. Manzo  
Superintendent of Schools

# Message *from the* BOARD OF EDUCATION VICE PRESIDENT

I hope all of you had a wonderful holiday season. I am looking forward to a productive second half of the school year for all in our district.

During my early morning walks, I often think about how lucky I am to live in such a great community and have the honor of serving you on the Board of Education.

Since our last newsletter, so many exciting events have taken place. All our fall sports teams played unbelievably, with one team winning a Long Island championship and many individuals receiving Section XI awards. Our music department at all levels put on unbelievable shows, and

our elementary school's holiday festivities were excellent.

In the next few weeks, we will begin our budget process. I urge you all to come to the budget hearings, which are posted on the district's website. I know that our administration and Board members value all opinions and take them into consideration when formulating our final budget for Board approval. I find that many residents do not attend until the budget is up for Board approval. I would recommend that you go to the earlier budget hearings and not wait until the day we vote on the adoption of the budget.

As we begin the second

half of the 2023-2024 academic year, there will be a host of winter and spring events such as concerts and sporting events. In the beginning of April, we will have our STEAM Day, in which you will be able to see the creativity of our students. I urge the community to attend.

As Board Vice President, and on behalf of the Board of Education, we are committed to continue to work with our families and students to provide the best educational experiences and academic offerings.

Sincerely,  
Stephen A. Ruland  
Board of Education Vice President

# The Season Of Giving In East Islip

## EAST ISLIP HIGH SCHOOL

The EIHS National Honor Society organized its most successful annual food drive this fall. With the participation of the Class of 2025, the World Language Honor Society, Career Development and Occupational Studies students, Student Government, and clubs such as Interact Club, Key Club, Leaders Club, SADD and STARS, this became a true community event. The entire district was divided into 49 geographic zones. Over 200 students volunteered and were placed in groups to distribute flyers to over 8,000 households during Veterans Day weekend, making the

community aware of the collection date of Nov. 15. That evening, the students went back to their assigned zones to collect any donations that the community left for donation. A total of 152 turkeys and thousands of pounds of food were donated. Many members of the community came and dropped off donations as well. In a true example of EI Pride, local food pantries at the Church of St. Mary, the Church of St. Peter the Apostle and Full Gospel Assembly overflowed with the generosity of the East Islip community.

The varsity softball team participated



in their annual Christmas Magic service project on Dec. 3, shopping for children ages 5-12 from the local Youth Enrichment Services program.

The JFK fourth and fifth grade student council ran a food drive to support the Suffolk County Women's Alliance to End Food Insecurity's Thanksgiving food distribution event, which annually feeds thousands of Suffolk families. Student council members organized, promoted and made important decisions about the food collection, and JFK students and families donated almost 1,000 food items.

At Connetquot's annual Turkey Trot, students dressed up in Thanksgiving crafts



they'd made in class and "trotted" around the school. As they passed the main office, they placed canned and boxed goods in crates. This year, CES collected 12 crates of food that were used for November and December holidays. Students also had the opportunity to color a turkey feather to complete a turkey on the main office bulletin board. Families sent in a monetary donation along with the feather, with all funds collected going to district families in need. The RCK student council hosted its annual Turkey Trot on Nov. 21. Over 150 students participated by coming to school early with nonperishable food items, which were donated to Mercy Haven right in time for the holidays.

Connetquot families decorated the annual Mitten Tree in the main lobby with mittens, gloves, hats and scarves, which were donated to the Church of St. Mary for distribution



to needy families.

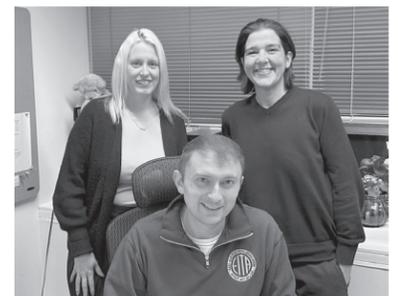
The CES and RCK PTAs hosted a laser light show on Dec. 13 to fill the shelves at Mercy Haven supportive housing services in Islip Terrace. Over 600 people attended, with special visits from Santa and the Islip Terrace Fire Department.

## ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

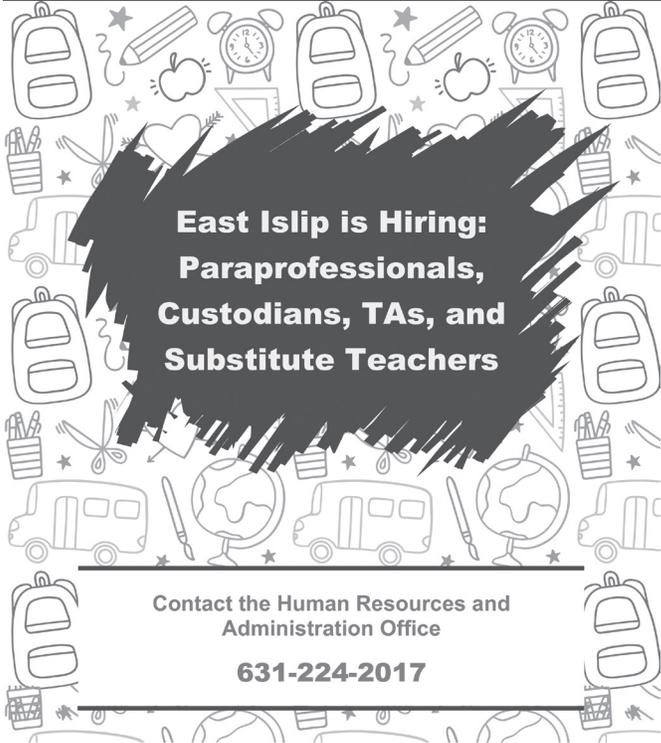


## EITA

The East Islip Teachers' Association sponsors a Family Assistance Fund each year during the holiday season. Active and retiree EITA members, in conjunction with district office administration and staff, donate monies to be distributed to local families in need to help bring some joy to their holidays. Thanks to the generosity of staff, retirees and administration, the EITA was able to donate over \$17,500 to nearly 90 local families in December.



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Substitute Teachers**

Contact the Human Resources and  
Administration Office

**631-224-2017**

Visit our website [www.eischools.org](http://www.eischools.org)  
for upcoming events

## Senior Sebastian Regis *Awarded Three Major Trophies*

East Islip High School senior Sebastian Regis won the 64th annual Hansen Award, presented by Newsday to the most outstanding player in Suffolk County, and is the first Suffolk lineman in 38 years to achieve this prize. Regis was also honored with a unanimous selection for the 13th annual Rob Burnett Award, for Suffolk's Defensive Player of the Year, as well as the Zellner Award, given to the best lineman in Suffolk County. Accompanied by coach Sal Ciampi Jr. and parents Milton and Melissa Regis, he was presented with the accolades at the Suffolk County Football Coaches Association dinner, held on Dec. 4 at the Hyatt in Hauppauge. Regis, an exceptional defensive tackle and offensive lineman, captained East Islip to the Long Island Class III championship in November, earning seven tackles and a sack in that game against South Side. His impressive high school football career totals include 101 tackles, 11 sacks, four forced fumbles and five blocked extra points. A two-sport athlete, Regis is also the defending New York State wrestling champion at 285 pounds.



## STAY CONNECTED!



To help community members keep informed of district happenings, upcoming events and more, we invite you to sign up for our East Islip School District Community Contact email blast and follow us on social media!

Scan the QR code to the left to join our community email blast. If you are a parent of a current student you are already enrolled in our district eblast system.

Be sure to hit the like, follow and subscribe button for each of our social media pages. They include the following:



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Visit our website at [www.eischools.org](http://www.eischools.org)

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*This newsletter is published by the Board of Education as a community service to inform the public of school news and business. If you have any questions, please feel free to call 631-224-2000 or fax 631-581-1617.*