

Good evening,

Tomorrow night we get to celebrate one of my favorite annual events, the Lower Hudson Council of School Superintendent's Scholarship Awards Dinner. The Lower Hudson Council, made up of 79 districts and BOCES in four counties, is hosting its annual dinner in Mahopac to honor our collective student bodies. Each district's valedictorian and salutatorian are invited to join their superintendent, high school principal, and board president. Our Valedictorian Anais Brown will be on her way to Vanderbilt to study computer science and Salutatorian Shotaro Oshikawa is bound for Johns Hopkins to study cognitive science. We are exceedingly proud of Anais, Shotaro, and their friends in the Rye Neck class of '25!

Spring is heavy on celebration days, but in addition to the recent Teacher Appreciation Week and Nurses Day, there are other such dates scattered throughout the year. Appreciation Days and Weeks are wonderful ways to recognize and celebrate the hard work, dedication, and positive impact of every member of our Rye Neck team. Many of our parents have recognized those who contribute to the education of Rye Neck's students, but I want to take at least one more opportunity to express heartfelt gratitude for the countless ways staff contribute and go above and beyond every day.

- Thank you to our district partners that coach our teams, guard our front doors, prepare school meals, and keep our technology running.
- Thank you to our custodians, cleaners, and grounds crew, who do such a good job keeping our environment safe and clean.
- Thank you to the clerical staff in our schools and the District Office who make sure we have what we need when we need it.
- Thank you to our teaching assistants, aides, and monitors for their outstanding interpersonal student care.
- Thank you to our teachers, counselors, psychologists, therapists, speech pathologists, social workers, and nurses for accomplishing our district mission, every day.
- And thank you to our administrators, for glueing it all together.

Their commitment does not go unnoticed, and I encourage anyone who hasn't had the opportunity to thank them for making a difference every day---because we only have 24 days of school left!