May 15, 2026

Dear POB School Community,

Our auditoriums have been filled with the sounds of voices and instruments letting us know we are in the home stretch of the 2025-26 school year. These concerts showcase the talent of our students, the dedication of our faculty and administrators, and the pride families bring to each performance and event. Also, across our schools, award ceremonies and induction events continue to highlight the strength of our academic programs and the opportunities available to all students.

We also continue to celebrate students who represented POB Schools in state and national competitions through athletics, DECA, Moot Court, the Debate Club, science research, and POBOTS.

Our spring newsletter, expected to arrive in homes the first week of June, will share many of the experiences that brought students together this semester, including opportunities for high school students to mentor and collaborate with elementary and middle school students.

Other indicators of success include the District's ability to attract exceptional educators and professionals. This spring alone, the district received more than 800 resumes for an elementary teaching position. We also continue to experience enrollment growth, with nearly 200 additional students joining our schools this year. Few Long Island districts are seeing sustained enrollment increases, and this growth reflects the confidence families place in our schools and community.

It is for all the above reasons that I stress the importance of participating in this year's school budget vote.

The Budget Vote and Election will take place on Tuesday, May 19, from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Jamaica Avenue School and the H.B. Mattlin Middle School Administrative Offices.

This proposed budget:

- Maintains all academic, extracurricular, and community programs that support all children.
- Keeps all classes within the BOE guidelines.
- Includes funding to replace the district’s aging turf field, along with parking lot and sidewalk repairs that address safety concerns across our campuses.
- Includes a Proposition II, which seeks voter approval to use Capital Reserve funds to replace cafeteria serving lines and HVAC systems in our elementary schools. This Proposition does not raise taxes and will address increased participation in the lunch program by replacing cafeteria equipment and serving infrastructure dating back to the 1960s.

A strong voter turnout also sends an important message to elected officials that this community remains committed to its schools and children. Participation in the budget vote helps ensure decision-makers understand that state budget and legislative decisions directly impact POB Schools.

For your convenience, the links below will bring you to important voter and budget information, as well as the district’s budget newsletter.

Please also visit our website for details about upcoming events across the district. This Saturday, Stratford Road

Elementary School will host Night of A Cappella, featuring performances by our high school groups at 3:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Finally, thank you to our PTA groups for helping inform the community about the budget and for the hours they continue to volunteer at year-end events and graduations. Their support continues to enhance the experience students and families have in POB Schools.

POB Budget and Voting Information
Am I Registered to Vote?
Where Do I Vote?

Dr. Mary O'Meara
Superintendent of Schools