

2025-26 HIGHLIGHTS

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NASSAU BOCES BOARD ACCOMPLISHMENTS



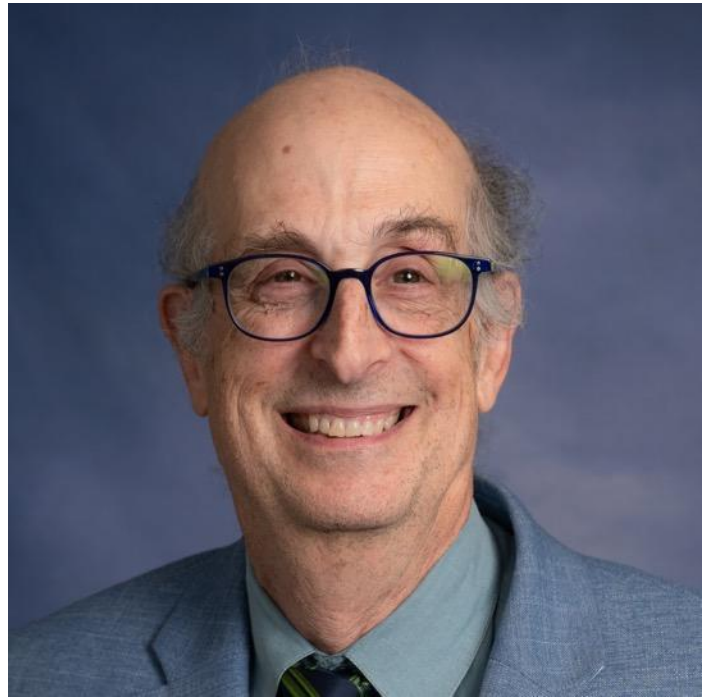
Susan Bergtraum

New York State School Boards Association President's Award



Fran Langsner

Dedicated School Board Service Award
Nassau-Suffolk School Boards Association



Larry Greenstein

President
Nassau-Suffolk School Boards Association

NASSAU BOCES EDUCATION PARTNERS


Maisyn Cardinale


Angelina Castro-Boutin


Olivia Lawrence


Christian Maguire


Lidia Velasquez


Gina DaRocha


Dr Gabriella Franza


Dr Marc Isseks



The Manhasset School Community Association


Matt McElwee


Rachel Morin



Iris Wolfson Food Pantry


Dr Susan Poser



Ramona's Gift to Music Foundation


Elizabeth Roemer


Patrick J Ryder


Meryl Waxman Ben-Levy


Michael Weinick

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STAFF RECOGNITION



Susan McNulty

2025 Power Women of Long Island Award
Schneps Media



Angela Marshall

New York State Public Relations
Association Presenter
Leading from Where You Are



Theresa Schaefer-Bell

PTA Honorary Life Membership Award

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STAFF RECOGNITION



Mary Murphy

Long Island SCOPE Teacher Service Award



Jennifer Feigenbaum

Champion of Hope Award
ELIA School

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SCOPE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES AWARD



Sonia Joseph

Administrator Service Award

Vincent LaRusso

Administrator Service Award

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CONGRATULATIONS, RETIREES!

Administration

- Colleen Lipponer
- James Widmer

Curriculum, Instruction and Technology

- Frances Cimaglia-Dawes
- Ethel Cwibeker
- David Lasker
- Steven Paladino
- David Pascucci
- Diane Putnam
- Chris Reinertsen
- Barbara Sabia
- MaryAnn Sidoti

Facilities Services

- David Andrade
- John Calabrese
- Kenneth Cristman
- Timothy O'Donnell Jr.

Financial and Information Systems

- John Mackenzie

Human Resources

- Susan Cohen
- Thomas McGrath
- Giselle Rivera

Regional Schools and Instructional Programs

- Grace Aldrich
- Maria Merz
- Eileen Moskowitz

Special Education

- Susan Allen
- Maria Bellucci
- Eileen Boden
- Daisy Bushman
- Samantha Czubakowski
- Sharon Day
- Tara Dill
- Potoula Dimitrakakis
- Patricia Dutton
- Catherine Faithfull-Scalise
- Shari Haber
- Rosanne Irizarry
- Debra Mc Elwee
- Donna McKibbin
- Melissa Pacchiana
- Janice Pascarella
- Yojani Santos
- Patricia Scherer
- Kara Sieklucki
- Nancy Stern
- Antoinette Szap
- Diane Vetrone
- Linda Whelan
- Theresa White
- Christine Williams
- Patrice Zachary-Mullin
- Arlene Zegel

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WE REMEMBER



Rita Bock



Irma Oliva



Denise Surgot

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PHOTOGRAPHY EXCELLENCE AWARDS

New York State Public Relations Association





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NASSAU BOCES EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

The Nassau BOCES Educational Foundation awarded 23 grants, totaling more than $76,855, to Nassau BOCES educators in support of various educational initiatives.



COMMISSIONER VISIT

NYSED Commissioner Dr. Betty A. Rosa and Regent Felicia Thomas Williams (10th judicial district) toured Barry Tech and had in-depth conversations with students and staff.



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LONG ISLAND TECHNOLOGY AND EDUCATION SUMMIT

More than 50 speakers from school districts across Long Island shared their best practices and innovative uses of technology in the classroom.



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PODOLSKI AWARDS

Port Jefferson UFSD teacher Robert Farenga received the Fred Podolski Most Innovative Use of Technology Award and Jennifer Freedman, Lindenhurst UFSD received the Fred Podolski Visionary Award at the Annual Long Island Technology and Education Summit.



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PIONEERING THE FUTURE OF TRANSPORTATION

Our Transportation Service secured a grant to purchase our first electric bus.

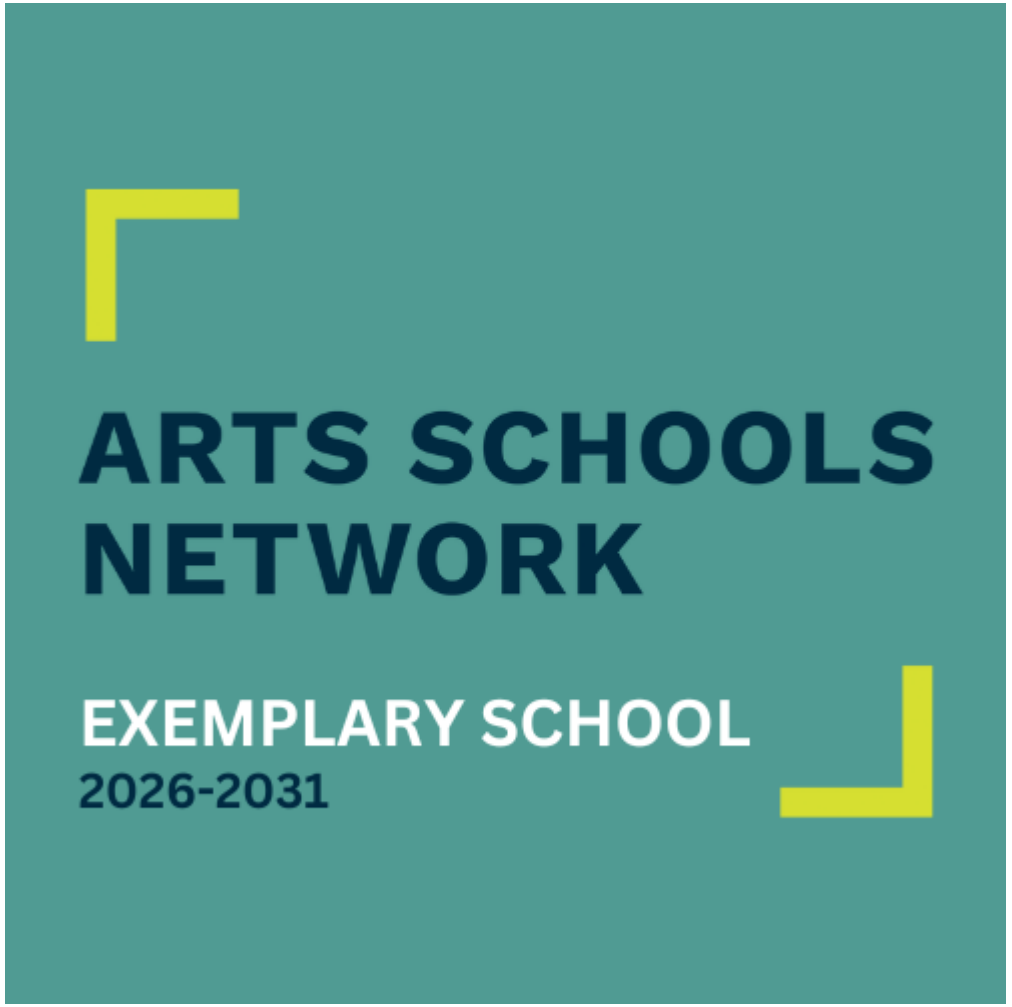


Grant provided by the Environmental Protection Agency.

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CONGRATULATIONS

Long Island High School for the Arts has received Arts Schools Network 2026-2031 Exemplary School designation.



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STATE-OF-THE-ART AUDITORIUM

Jerusalem Avenue Elementary School's new auditorium will be used for educational programming, performances, graduations and moving-up ceremonies.



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EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

Three hundred thirteen employees achieved an important milestone in their careers with the agency.



TENURE/PERMANENT STATUS

One hundred fifty-eight employees earned tenure or permanent status at the agency.



HUMAN RESOURCES

At our annual Recruitment Fair, we welcomed 235 applicants exploring career opportunities within 10 participating school districts.



DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER SERIES

Three hundred and thirty educators from 45 school districts, BOCES, charter schools and educational organizations had the opportunity to collaborate with 5 nationally-recognized literacy experts.

Next year, the series will be expanded to include additional content areas and professional learning topics.



LONG ISLAND WOMEN IN TECH

This inaugural Nassau RIC and NYSCATE event celebrated the vital contributions women make at the intersection of technology and education.



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REGIONAL SHOWCASE

This inaugural professional development event brought together educators and leaders from Pre-K through post-secondary schools to share impactful, class-based practices.



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WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Dr. Peter Dalton participated in a Workforce Development meeting with the U.S. Small Business Association.



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LEAD LONG ISLAND CONFERENCE

Agency education leaders attended the Spring 2026 LEAD (Lead, Educate, Advocate, Develop) Long Island Conference where they focused on strengthening and honing their leadership skills.



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LONG ISLAND REGIONAL STUDENT FORUM

One hundred sixty students representing 50 school districts and five Career and Technical Education (CTE) high schools shared their perspectives about their high school experiences directly with school leaders.



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COMPASSION IN ACTION

This agencywide initiative provides clothing, non-perishable food items and essential extras to Nassau BOCES families.



COMPASSION IN ACTION

The Iris Wolfson High School Food Pantry provides tangible life skills to students while helping families in need.



GEORGE FARBER OUTSTANDING STUDENT AWARD WINNERS



Alan Diaz
Rosemary Kennedy Center (District Based)
Valley Stream CHSD



Alex Rubio Palacios
Carman Road School
Glen Cove City SD



Braeden Gorman
GC Tech
Bethpage UFSD



Cristian Vasquez Cruz
Adult Career & Technical Education
Westbury



Donville Phillips
Rosemary Kennedy Center (Center Based)
Lawrence UFSD



Evan Danko
Jerusalem Elementary Avenue
Hicksville UFSD



Giulianna DiSalvo
Long Island High School for the Arts
Bellmore-Merrick CHSD



Joel Baez-Ortiz
Willet Avenue School
Hempstead UFSD



Jordan Stewart
Iris Wolfson High School
Baldwin UFSD



Joseph Jolly
Career Preparatory High School
Hempstead UFSD



Jun Zhou
Adult Learning Center
Farmingdale



Kaiheem McCall
Center for Community Adjustment
Westbury UFSD



Kashaun Robinson
Robert Williams School
Roslyn UFSD



Lesther Cardona Iraheta
Seaman Neck Middle School
Uniondale UFSD



Nicholas DeBono
Barry Tech
Oceanside UFSD



Rocky Partusch
Children's Readiness Center
East Meadow UFSD



Tatiana Zepeda Banos
Twilight Alternative High School Program
Uniondale UFSD

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SKILLSUSA

- 39 Regional SkillsUSA winners
- 14 New York State SkillsUSA winners



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SKILLSUSA

First place winner Isabella Bonano, a GC Tech Medical Assisting student from Levittown UFSD, advances to the National Competition in June in Atlanta, GA.



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LONG ISLAND ARTS ALLIANCE

2025 Scholar-Artist Awards



Lily Wasoski

Merit Award
Huntington UFSD
LIHSA Musical Theatre



Lina Murale

Scholar-Artist
Bellmore-Merrick CHSD
LIHSA Dance

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STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS



Diana Fogel

LIHSA Musical Theatre
Northport-East Northport UFSD
Nominee, Roger Rees 2026 Outstanding Performer Award

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS



Kerwen Deller

Barry Tech In-District Uniondale UFSD
Received NYS Barbering Technician License

Dashawn Bent

Barry Tech In-District Uniondale UFSD
Received NYS Barbering Technician License

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Thirty-four students completed the Adult Education Entry-Level Career Training Program.



EARLY COLLEGE ACCESS PROGRAM

Our new Early College Access Program expands dual enrollment opportunities and makes college credits more accessible, affordable and attainable for all high school students.



STUDENTS EARN COLLEGE CREDITS

Thirty-eight course registrations at Farmingdale University for students from:

- Center for Community Adjustment
- Career Preparatory High School
- Iris Wolfson High School

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FIRST 100 DAYS

Preschool at Barry Tech students celebrated being 100 days smarter by dressing up as 100-year-olds.



DUAL LEARNER

Joseph Jolly has earned 23 college credits while a student at Career Preparatory High School through a partnership with the agency and Nassau Community College.



AUTISM AWARENESS

Barry Tech CTE students cheered on Preschool at Barry Tech students during their annual Autism Awareness parade.







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MEANINGFUL PARTNERSHIP

Preschool at Barry Tech and Barry Tech Early Childhood program students collaborate to create meaningful connections and enriched learning opportunities.





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MARCH READING MADNESS

Jerusalem Avenue Elementary School students participated in a month-long reading initiative that culminated in a school-wide basketball free throw contest featuring literature-themed costumes.

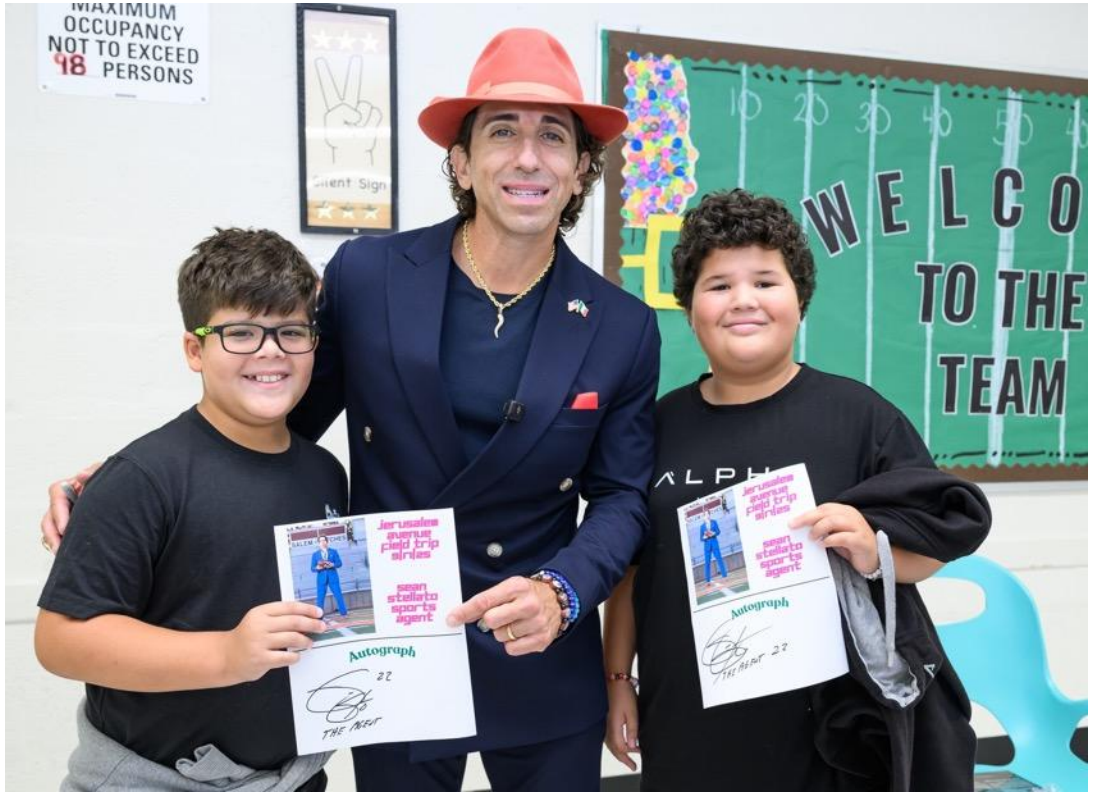


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TIGER CLUB

A Jerusalem Avenue Elementary School staff-organized club bringing inventive special events, including:

- Visiting authors
- Spin Art activities
- Home Depot partnership
- BMX Anti-Bully Assembly
- The Circus



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BOCES WEEK

Carman Road School students received certificates and a school gift card for sharing what they like about school with legislators.



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SENSORY ROOM

Children's Readiness Center's new therapeutic environment, Chillville, provides a thoughtful space for emotional regulation, sensory exploration and functional skill development.



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INSIDE OUT

Willet Avenue School's Inside-Out inspired Musical Showcase explored the role of emotions in our lives.



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CRAYON INITIATIVE

Seaman Neck Middle School students collected more than 1,000 used crayons to be recycled and transformed into new, accessible crayons for children's hospitals across the United States.



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INSPIRING COMPETITION

Seaman Neck Middle School and Carman Road School students participated enthusiastically in the Special Olympics Spring Games.





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ROBOTICS CLUB

Robert Williams' Robotics Club provided students with a structured and engaging environment to explore engineering and technology.



Grant provided by the Nassau BOCES Educational Foundation.

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KIDS IN SEATS

Center for Community Adjustment students demonstrating consistent attendance, academic achievement and positive social behavior earned tickets to Broadway shows, professional sporting events and more.



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VIRTUAL BUSINESS

Iris Wolfson High School students achieved gold for their virtual business, *Bin-Go!*, demonstrating the transformative power of project-based learning aligned with real-world business practices.



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HORTICULTURE STARS

Rosemary Kennedy School students won 24 awards at the Long Island Fair. They will be formally recognized this spring by the Agricultural Society, the head of the Long Island Farm Bureau and NYS Senator Steven Rhoads.



ROSEMARY KENNEDY SCHOOL SEED DONATION

Rosemary Kennedy School's Seed Library has been collecting and sending seed packets to libraries across the United States as part of the celebration of our country's 250th anniversary.



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NEWS12 VISITS ROSEMARY KENNEDY SCHOOL

Emmy Award winning meteorologist Alex Calamia reported on Rosemary Kennedy School's Horticulture Program.



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SPREADING HOLIDAY CHEER

Center for Community Adjustment students caroling at the Center Island Rehabilitation.



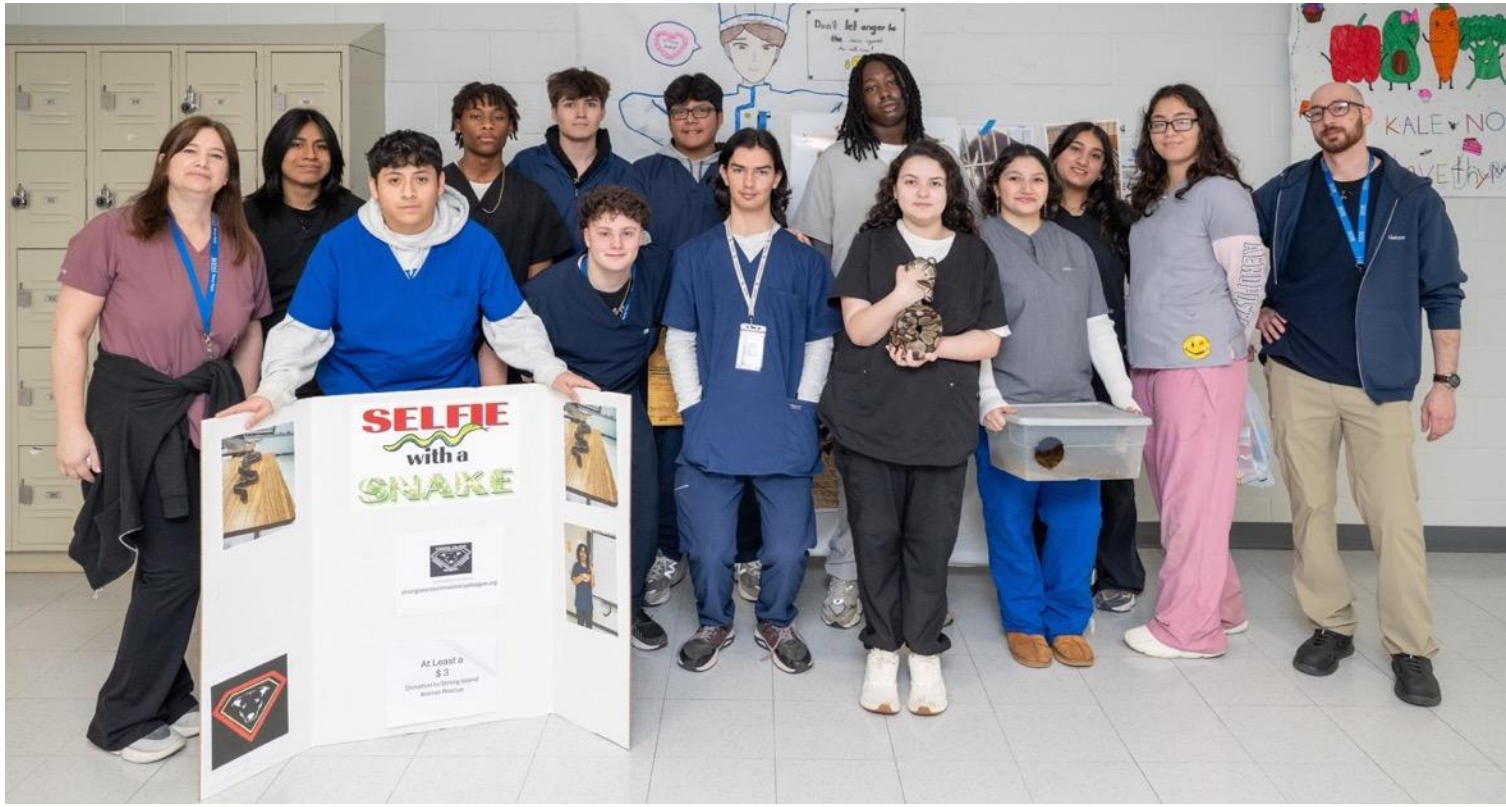


Long Island High School for the Arts students caroling at Old Westbury Gardens.

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SERVICE LEARNING FAIR

Barry Tech celebrated a year of community service activities, including fundraisers, blood drives, donation drives and raffles to benefit organizations across Long Island.



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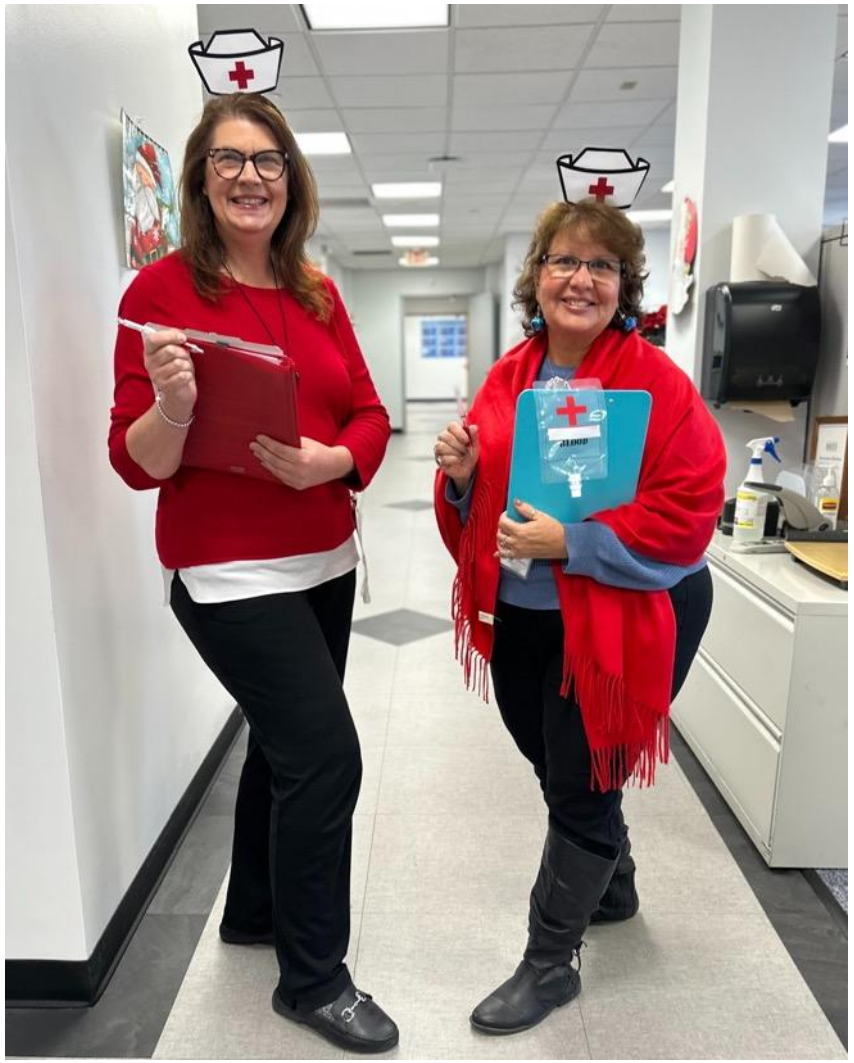
TURKEY TROT

Barry Tech students collected non-perishable food items through the generosity of our more than 1,600 Barry Tech family members.



AGENCY BLOOD DRIVE

Agency staff from the George Farber Administrative Center and Robert E. Lupinskie Center for Curriculum, Instruction and Technology donated 48 pints of blood to help patients across our region.



SCHOOL BLOOD DRIVES

Barry Tech, In-District Hicksville and GC Tech students each held successful blood drives. In-district Hicksville collected 114 pints of blood, the second-largest single-day high school blood drive in Nassau County.







A WISH FOR A PRINCESS

Barry Tech, GC Tech and Long Island High School for the Arts students used their skills to create a special Disney princess-themed “Wish Reveal” for a Marty Lyons Foundation wish recipient.









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WELL-WISHES CAMPAIGN

Barry Tech and In-District students teamed up with the Marty Lyons Foundation and Adventureland's Helping Hands Foundation to raise $1,776 for three wish recipients.



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RONALD McDONALD HOUSE PARTNERSHIP

Barry Tech students made 42 cookie platters and handmade Valentines for the families staying in the Ronald McDonald House.





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GC TECHSPO

This industry expo provided GC Tech and Barry Tech beauty program students with hands-on demonstrations, new product samples, and conversations with industry experts, vendors and potential employers.



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GC TECH TECHSGIVING

A student-centered showcase that celebrates the skills students have developed while promoting learning and inspiration across programs.



FOOD DRIVE

GC Tech's SkillsUSA Committee collected and donated 1,066 items for St. Bernard's Food Drive.



FOOD DRIVE

Career Preparatory High School students enrolled in the Nassau BOCES Early College Program at Nassau Community College helped prepare 210 Thanksgiving gift bags for families with food insecurities.



INFLATABLE RACE

The staff at Iris Wolfson High School raised over $500 for student activities by holding a Halloween Inflatable Race.



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MR. G VISITS LONG ISLAND HIGH SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS

Mr. G, from WPIX 11 News reported on a Master Class taught by Casting Director Michael Cassara.



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BETA TESTING DAY

Long Island High School for the Arts students put their game design skills to the test for parents, friends and the media.



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BROADWAY SUPPORTS LIHSA

This annual fundraiser celebrated the 50th anniversary of the iconic Broadway musical "A Chorus Line" with a special production.



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BIG FISH

Long Island High School for the Arts students brought the musical Big Fish to the stage.



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ARTS EXPLORATION SKILLS PROGRAM

This new Long Island High School for the Arts two-year course for students in grades 9-12 with all levels of ability explores careers and creativity in film, theatre, production, managerial arts and visual arts.



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BOCES