



SMITHTOWN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

DIGEST

SCHOOL & COMMUNITY

ACHIEVEMENT SPOTLIGHT: *Honoring Hard Work & Excellence*



Smithtown High School East senior Jolene Cao was named a finalist in the Regeneron competition, the nation's most prestigious science competition. Jolene was one of six Long Island high school seniors named a finalist.



The eighth grade social studies elective students at Accomsett Middle School won a \$2,500 grant for the Smithtown Food Pantry through the national leadership organization Lead4Change. The students collected over 1,200 items in the food drive that were donated to the Smithtown Food Pantry, created a lesson plan for Accomsett Elementary students on hunger and food insecurity and read children's books to the young students to inspire giving.



Congratulations to Mt. Pleasant Elementary fifth grade student Matthew Clare for winning the fifth grade Moving Up T-shirt contest! Matthew's design was voted the winner by his class.

With a strong commitment to excellence, the Smithtown Central School District once again has achieved high performance in and out of the classroom while fostering a culture of inclusivity and support. Beyond academics, the district's extracurricular programs in sports, arts and leadership have flourished, providing students with well-rounded opportunities to excel. The collaborative efforts of dedicated educators continue to drive the district toward greater success, ensuring every student can succeed and reach their full potential.

"The Smithtown Central School District is very proud of our commitment to providing our students with an excellent education which will prepare them well for the future of their choosing," Superintendent of Schools Dr. Mark Secaur said. "This is accomplished by consistently

providing our students with authentic, experiential learning opportunities that allow them to acquire knowledge, demonstrate skills and interact with one another in a positive manner. This is made possible due to the continued support of the Smithtown community, and for that, we are most grateful. Within this edition of the Digest, you will see many examples of our work and we hope you will share the pride we have in our students and the educators who serve them."

From reaching the finals of the prestigious Regeneron science competition to creating an epic art gallery for family and friends, SCSD students have been shining this school year. Join us in celebrating the many achievements of our school district, and make sure to follow the Smithtown Central School District on our website and social media!

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MAT MARVELS

Nesaquake eighth grader Anthony DiBenedetto (on right) and seventh grader Lucas Moscoso each were a perfect 5-0 this season on the wrestling mats!



BOOSTERTHON FIT DANCE

Kudos to the St. James Elementary PTA and St. James Elementary community for raising nearly \$35,000 and celebrating with a boosterthon fit dance! Money raised will go towards cultural arts, PTA events and a new garden for the courtyard.



ON TARGET

Tackan Elementary School continues to recognize students who embody qualities such as determination, kindness, empathy, courage, honesty and humility with On Target award certificates.



SMITHTOWN ELEMENTARY ART SHOW A MASTERPIECE

Under the direction of Smithtown Elementary art teacher Mrs. Erica Lewis-Kerim, the Smithtown Elementary cafeteria and hallways were turned into a winter wonderland with a Valentine's twist. Snowflakes, nutcrackers, snowmen and even Valentine owls decorated the walls.



HOOPS FOR HEART

Fourth and fifth graders at Mills Pond Elementary participated in Hoops for Hearts, raising over \$800 for the American Heart Association.



LES MIZ

With a cast, crew and orchestra of over 70, High School West students worked tirelessly for months to bring one of the most iconic musicals in Broadway's history, "Les Miserables," to life.



SCMEA STARS

The Suffolk County Music Educators' Association selected advanced musicians from across Suffolk County to participate in a weekend of music. Congratulations to Dogwood students Milah Barone (voice) and Sofia Anumolu (violin) on being accepted.



FURRY FRIENDS

Dogs, cats, bunnies and other furry friends at the Smithtown Animal Shelter have some cozy new blankets to sleep in, thanks to students at Great Hollow Middle School who worked together in the Makerspace during their lunch periods to make blankets to donate.



WINTER OLYMPICS AT AES

Waving their flags high, students from Accomsett Elementary School competed in events such as the hurdle race, basketball race and Hula-Hoop challenge in the school's annual Winter Olympics.

****ECRWSS****
SMITHTOWN POSTAL CARRIER

Bringing Home The Hardware

- For the second time in three seasons, the Smithtown/Hauppauge girls swim and dive team won a state title, bringing home the gold in the 200 medley relay and 200 freestyle relay.
- The combined High School East and West boys cross-country team won its eighth consecutive league championship.
- The High School West boys soccer team won its league title with an undefeated season.
- Great Hollow Middle School eighth grader Andrew Collins ran the fastest mile of all eighth graders in New York state! Andrew ran a 4:43 mile at the PUMA New York International Showcase 2025 in Staten Island. Andrew is ranked No. 1 in New York and No. 2 nationally.



Staff SPOTLIGHT!

- High School West and Accomsett Middle School language teacher Monique Barricelli has been honored as Teacher of the Month by the Long Island Chapter of the American Association of Teachers of Italian.
- Mills Pond elementary math teacher Raemala Shaughnessy has written her first children's book, "M-Ahh-Th! It Won't Leave Me Alone."
- Maria Zeitlin, Smithtown High School East science research coordinator, has received the Nichols Foundation Chemistry Teacher Award from the New York Section of the American Chemical Society.
- Smithtown Central School District Director of Athletics Jason Lambert has been named a recipient of the NYSAAA Liam Frawley CMAA Emerging Athletic Administrator Award, given to a recent hire who has shown contributions to the community and exhibits an ongoing commitment to athletics and continuing education.
- Cathy Quinn, secretary to the superintendent; Ron Parmegiani, Nesaquake Middle School teacher; and Kevin Colon, administrator for guidance and related services, were all recognized as SCOPE Education Service Award recipients.

SIGN UP FOR DISTRICT EMAIL NOTIFICATIONS

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