

SMITHTOWN BULLETIN



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*Superintendent's
Message*



District Update



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Sports Zone



MAY 2026



SUPERINTENDENT *Message*

Dear Smithtown CSD Community,

I hope you all enjoyed the long Memorial Day weekend with your family and friends. It is always important that we all pause, reflect and honor America's military heroes who lost their lives in service to our country.

I would like to sincerely thank the community for its support of our school district budget for 2026-2027. Your support will enable us to maintain our impressive course offerings as well as all of the programs and supports that help our students to thrive. I would also like to congratulate Matt Gribbin, Brandon Solomon and Tom Minnigan on their election to the Board of Education. I look forward to working with them and the rest of the Board in the years to come.

Whether your children are in elementary, middle or high school, this is a very exciting time of year. Each of our schools have a number of celebratory events that bring our students joy and I hope to share many of them with you, our staff, and most importantly, our students.

We hope you enjoy this month's edition!

Sincerely,
Mark Secaur, Ed.D.



CURRICULUM CORNER

FROM CLASSROOM TO COUNCIL CHAMBER

Students from Mrs. Tener's High School East and Mrs. Geldamcher's High School West Advanced Civics class spent the day together at the Suffolk County Legislature. Students were able to get a first hand look at how our County Government works and were able to act as legislatures to gain a deeper understanding of the process. They were joined by Suffolk County Legislators Sal Formica and Leslie Kennedy who spoke to the students about their experience in local government and the impact it has on Suffolk County Residents.

The students were given a chance to speak in the role of legislator and question speakers advocating for or against the resolutions.



SUBWAY SERIES EXPERIENCE!

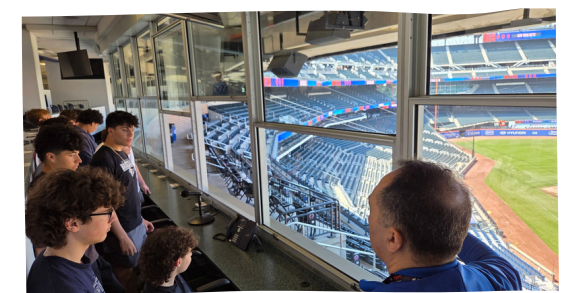
Talk about a home run! High School East and West CTE School of Business students recently were given the chance to visit Citi Field and Yankee Stadium, all in the name of sports management!

Students in Mr. Hennings and Mr. Costello's College Sports Management programs recently took part in the Second Annual "Subway Series Experience."

The trip started in Flushing, Queens with an in depth and behind-the-scenes tour of Citi Field, the home of the New York Mets. Students were also given marketing materials and information about Mets internships and job opportunities, as well as a voucher for a future Mets game at Citi Field.

Students then went back on the bus to follow the path of the 7 & 4 subway lines, up to the Bronx where they had the opportunity to participate in a networking and Q&A session with top Yankees Executives in the DigiCore Conference Center.

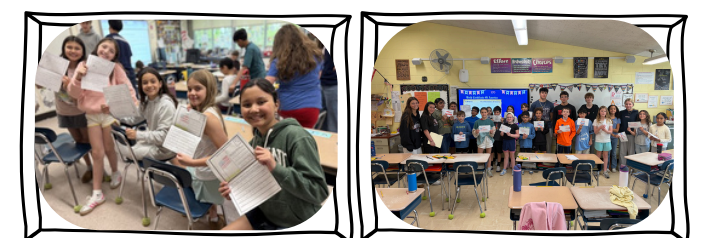
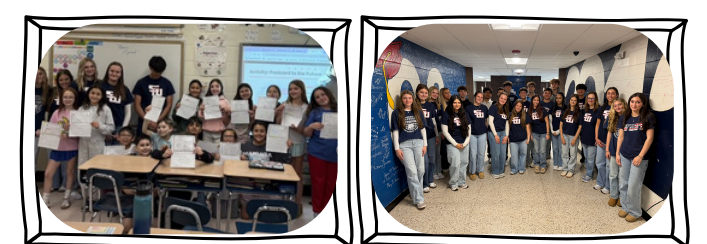
After the panel, students were treated to field level seats at that evening's game and a Yankees win over the Texas Rangers. Students also received concession vouchers and future NYY game ticket vouchers!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY, AMERICA!

High School Leadership students from HSE and HSW brought the excitement of America's upcoming 250th birthday directly to our elementary schools! Students visited elementary buildings as part of the 50-day countdown to Independence Day 2026, a milestone that marks one of the most significant celebrations in our nation's history.

The Leadership students designed and delivered an engaging lesson centered on the Declaration of Independence, inspiring our youngest learners to think deeply about America's founding ideals. Elementary students then put their creativity to work, designing birthday cards for the nation and writing letters to their future selves to be read on America's 300th birthday in 2076!



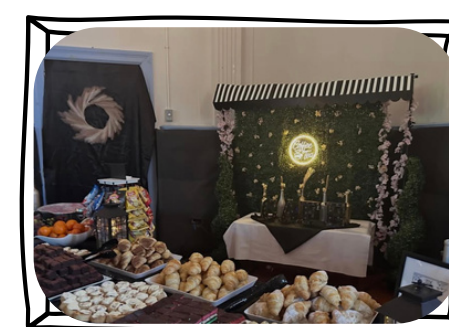
CURRICULUM CORNER

EXPRESSO YOURSELF AT THE POETRY CAFE!

St. James Elementary's Poetry Café was a wonderful celebration of creativity as our fifth graders proudly shared their original poems with family and friends! The evening was filled with heartfelt words, smiles, and plenty of community spirit.

A BIG thank you to Karen Morel from My Cookie Dealer for the generous and delicious sweet treats that made the night even sweeter!

Special thanks also to our fifth grade coordinators, Erika Lazzaruolo and Lauralee D'Angelo, along with the many parents who dedicated their time and effort to help make the event such a success as well as our amazing SJE families for your generous donations and continued support of our school events. We appreciate you all!



ENL SPRING FESTIVAL

The recent ENL Spring Festival was a vibrant celebration of culture, language, and community, bringing together ENL students and their families at Smithtown Elementary School.

Guests enjoyed hands-on crafts and games with their ENL teachers, along with delicious refreshments. A special highlight of the evening was a joyful spring sing-along led by Mr. Parsick of St. James Elementary.

It was a beautiful night honoring the diverse languages that enrich the Smithtown Central School District.



MAY THE FOURTH BE WITH YOU!

Mills Pond Media Specialist Meghan Dyckova brought the galaxy to life with engaging, hands-on activities for students of all ages. Dressed as C-3PO, she led 3rd and 4th graders in a creative STEM challenge, where students designed new rebel bases for Luke Skywalker and Princess Leia using Magna-Tiles, LEGOs, and more. First graders teamed up with high school helpers to create Yoda puppets, while kindergarten classes enjoyed a Star Wars-themed read-aloud, crafted their own mini "lightsabers" using straws and lights and participated in a lightsaber/jedi workout!

A fun and imaginative day of learning across the galaxy!



SCSD ACHIEVEMENTS

EXCELLENCE IN THE ARTS

A special congratulations to Marilena Castoro and Olivia Marchese, who have been inducted into the International Thespian Society.

Marilena and Olivia are students of the Nassau BOCES Long Island High School for the Arts (LIHSA) and these achievements reflect both artistic excellence and a strong commitment to their craft.

As members of these prestigious organizations, the inductees have demonstrated outstanding achievement in their Career & Technical Education programs, along with meaningful contributions to the LIHSA community. Their creativity, perseverance, and service set a powerful example and help shape the vibrant culture of the school.



TECHNICALLY TALENTED! 🛠️🏆

Join us in celebrating High School East's Lucas Warshaw on his official induction into the National Technical Honor Society!

Lucas's incredible dedication, work ethic, and skill in Career and Technical Education (CTE) embody the very heart of the Smithtown Promise! Lucas is always striving toward personal growth and achieving success.

We are proud to have him representing the Bulls!



CHEMISTRY FOR SUCCESS!

Congratulations to Smithtown East students Shaayan Alam and Blake Frankenberger, who were honored by the Long Island Subsection of the American Chemical Society for outstanding scholastic achievement in high school chemistry at a recent ceremony held at SUNY Old Westbury.

Both students have demonstrated exceptional dedication to the study of chemistry and are actively involved in a variety of science-related co-curricular activities, including the chemistry and physics clubs.

Shaayan Alam, pictured with AP Chemistry teacher Ms. Amanda LaComb, will attend Cornell University to study pre-med. Blake Frankenberger, pictured with AP Chemistry teacher Ms. Maria Zeitlin, will attend Boston College to study mathematics.



SCSD ACHIEVEMENTS

SUPERIOR SOUNDS AT SIX FLAGS 🎵

Congratulations to our talented musicians from High School East and High School West for their outstanding performances at the Music in the Parks Festival at Six Flags Great Adventure!

The High School East Treble Choir earned 1st Place with a Superior rating and was also awarded the prestigious Esprit De Corps Trophy for outstanding character, positivity, and camaraderie throughout the festival. Senior Joseph Siino was additionally recognized with a medal for conducting one of the choir's performances.

High School West's Jazz Choir, Jazz Ensemble, Concert Band, and Concert Orchestra all earned top honors and distinguished ratings. The Jazz Choir and Jazz Ensemble received Superior ratings, while the Concert Band and Concert Orchestra earned Excellent ratings. The Jazz Choir was also named Best Overall Choir of the festival with a near-perfect score! Special congratulations to senior Cordelia Comando, named Best Overall Vocalist, and junior Keira Strumpfler, who earned Best Overall Jazz Soloist for her outstanding tenor saxophone performance. 🎵🏆



TORCH AWARD RECIPIENTS!

The Torch Awards represent the very best of our profession," said Paul Strader, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Assessment, as he addressed the district's 2026 Torch Award recipients, Monday afternoon.

The Torch Award is presented to Smithtown teachers who have significantly contributed to the growth and professional development of their teacher colleagues.

Click [HERE](#) for a list of the deserving recipients!



ROTARY CLUB AWARDS

"The Rotarian award celebrates those who refuse to let adversity have the final word."

Twelve students from Smithtown High School East and Smithtown High School West were recognized by the Smithtown Rotary Club for their remarkable dedication, resilience, and perseverance. Each student was nominated by their high school guidance counselor for overcoming significant obstacles or adversity while continuing to excel in school.

High School East Principal Paul McNeil and High School West Principal William Holl commended the students and their families for their strength, determination, and hard work.

For a list of all this year's recipients, click [HERE](#).



COMMUNITY NEWS

ROLLING OUT THE RED CARPET

Smithtown Elementary and St. James Elementary both rolled out the red carpet for their incredible bus drivers with heartwarming appreciation celebrations!

At SEL, the Pay It Forward and SEL Cares clubs, led by Instructional Specialist Christine Pitrelli, partnered with Mrs. Bombolevicz's Safety Patrol to host a special breakfast filled with student cheers, poetry, handmade cards, and PTA-supported treat boxes, while the entire school wore yellow in gratitude.

St. James Elementary continued its cherished annual tradition, welcoming drivers for a PTA-sponsored breakfast where students shared thoughtful cards and colorful posters. Both events served as meaningful reminders of just how appreciated these everyday heroes are for safely transporting students and starting each school day with care.



HOMETOWN HEROES

Dogwood Elementary School has expanded its Police Appreciation events this year to honor even more of the everyday heroes who serve our community – including firefighters, military members, and healthcare workers.

“This year, we are excited to celebrate all of our Hometown Heroes, the First Responders in our community that we look to on a daily basis for safety and security,” said Principal Renee Carpenter.

The celebration kicked off with School Resource Officers joining in on Kindergarten Field Day fun! Leadership Club students also created patrol and snack bags for all of the Hometown Heroes, along with heartfelt cards of gratitude made by students throughout the school.

Dogwood Elementary will continue honoring its Hometown Heroes all week long as a way to thank those who dedicate their lives to serving and protecting others. ❤️



JOIN OUR TEAM!!!

There are several openings in the Smithtown Central School District. Those interested can submit a letter, resume, and two professional references to Assistant Superintendent for Personnel, Neil Katz at: employment@smithtown.k12.ny.us

WE'RE HIRING - JOIN OUR TEAM!

NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY WORK THE STUDENT CALENDAR
✓ SUMMERS, WEEKENDS, NIGHTS AND HOLIDAYS OFF!

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MONITORS:
shifts are 2:25-3 hours per day between 11:45 AM-2:15 PM
\$17.00 per hour

FOOD SERVICE WORKERS:
\$17.47 per hour

SPECIAL EDUCATION AIDES:
various shifts available for all levels including elementary, middle and high schools: \$20.75 per hour - maximum 3 hours per day

SCAN QR CODE TO APPLY

Send a resume and letter of interest to: employment@smithtown.k12.ny.us or call (631) 382-2170 for more information



COMMUNITY NEWS

IT'S ALMOST TIME...

Accompsett Elementary 5th grade students celebrated their upcoming move to middle school with a fun and memorable outdoor event. To mark the end of their elementary school journey, students gathered outside to design and personalize their own t-shirts while enjoying upbeat music and time with friends.

Saying goodbye to AEL is truly bittersweet, but this special celebration gave students the chance to create a meaningful keepsake and share laughs with their classmates.

It was a wonderful way to honor their time at Accompsett and send them off with lasting memories as they prepare for the next chapter.



THANK YOU, TEACHERS! ❤️📚

In honor of Teacher Appreciation Week, SCSD school PTA's and students celebrated the incredible educators who inspire, encourage, and support our students every single day. Across the district, students shared their gratitude by creating heartfelt handmade thank-you cards filled with kind words, drawings, and messages of appreciation.

Thank you to all of our teachers for the passion, patience, and dedication you bring to our schools each day.



TACKAN SALUTES LI'S FINEST ❤️

Nassau County Detective Sergeant Jason Vinberg was one of many of Long Island's police officers honored on May 11, during Tackan Elementary School's "Police Appreciation Day."

He visited the classrooms of his sons, Jonathan and James, to speak with students about the important duties and responsibilities of a police officer.

Throughout the day, officers, detectives, police K9s and other members of law enforcement visited classrooms to share their experiences and connect with students.



SPORTS ZONE

MORE THAN JUST A GAME

The Smithtown Central School District hosted its first-ever Unified Basketball game at Smithtown High School West, where more than 30 student-athletes faced off against Middle Country in a program designed to bring players of all abilities together.

“This is my fourth year here in the district as athletic director, and when I interviewed for the position I said we need to have unified sports here full-time,” said Jason Lambert, SCSD Director of Athletics.

Head coach Emily Fey, who also leads the district’s Unified Bowling team, said this moment has been a long time coming.

“We’ve been waiting such a long time for this,” Fey said. “We’re so happy and thankful to Smithtown. We have 32 players signed up and more are coming. The more the merrier for me.”

Head [HERE](#) to see the highlights!



HISTORY MAKERS!

Congratulations to our SCSD Flag Football team on winning their first ever playoff game in school history!!! Outstanding job to the coaches and players for getting the 18-12 victory over Ward Melville.

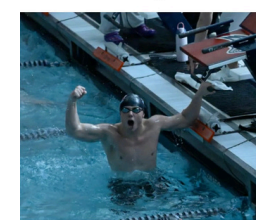


IN THE ZONE!

Congratulations to High School East students, Brooke Simonetti and James Huxtable and High School West students, Kalia Wheeler and Chris Sweeney for being named 2026 Suffolk Zone Leadership Award winners in Physical Education!

This prestigious honor recognizes outstanding high school seniors for excellence in leadership, academics, character, sportsmanship, and achievement in Physical Education.

Chris Sweeney



James Huxtable



Brooke Simonetti



Kalia Wheeler



THE TRADITION CONTINUES

For the past five years, the Smithtown High School East Track teams have spent the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend at Long Island National Cemetery, placing flags on the graves of our fallen heroes. The teams join members of the Long Island HOG Association, led by Coach Bayne’s father, George Krivosta.

On Memorial Day weekend, the team continued that meaningful tradition. It is a solemn and powerful reminder of the courage, sacrifice, and dedication of those who gave their lives.

