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Spring/Summer 2023

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Dear Readers,

The 22nd Annual SCOPE Education Services School District Awards Dinner was held on May 22 at Villa Lombardi's in Holbrook. Once again, public school districts in Nassau and Suffolk counties selected individuals in five categories of Administrator Service, Community Service, School Board Service, Support Staff Service and Teacher Service to be honored for providing outstanding service to their respective school districts. Sixty-one school districts honored 160 individuals during the dinner attended by 843 guests.

Honorees were selected by their districts for having gone above and beyond, assisting in providing the children and communities they serve with outstanding programs for the students and/or communities in which they work and live. Each individual receiving an award was invited to the dinner with a guest free of charge, presented with a beautiful plaque and had a brief bio published in the program. I had the pleasure of presenting each honoree with the award while families, friends and colleagues cheered, applauded, snapped pictures and acknowledged the outstanding achievements of each award recipient.



Assisting with the presentations were Dr. Joseph Famularo, immediate past president of the SCOPE Board of Directors and Bellmore School District superintendent of schools; Mr. Lars Clemensen, president of the SCOPE Board of Directors and Hampton Bays School District superintendent of schools; Dr. Lorna Lewis, vice president of the SCOPE Board of Directors and Malverne School District superintendent of schools; Dr. Kenneth Bossert, treasurer of the SCOPE Board of Directors and Elwood School District superintendent of schools, and Mr. Michael O'Brien, associate director of SCOPE

A big thank-you to all our many award dinner sponsors, in particular our Platinum Sponsors, BBS Architects Landscape Architects Engineers, Guercio and Guercio LLP, Ingerman Smith LLP and RENU Energy Solutions. Without the support of these businesses and our many other sponsors this event would not be possible. You will find a list of all our sponsors in this edition of The Forum.

I was also honored to present Ms. Mary Jo O'Hagan and Mr. Peter Verdon with the National School Development Council's Cooperative Leadership Award. This award recognizes exemplary efforts to establish cooperative relationships with other educational agencies or study councils while creating educational programs for the nation's schools. Since 2015, Ms. O'Hagan and Mr. Verdon have served as co-chairs of the Long Island Education Coalition (LIEC), a diverse coalition of stakeholders who advocate for the proper funding and support of public education for Long Island's public schools. Their work and that of the LIEC has provided those in leadership positions with extremely valuable information and has had a positive impact on the funding of our public schools.

Ms. O'Hagan has been a member of the Baldwin School District Board of Education since 1994. She has also served as an officer of the Nassau-Suffolk School Boards Association and is a member of the New York State School Board Association legislative network and the Commissioner's advisory council.

Mr. Verdon has been the regional staff director of the New York State United Teachers Suffolk Regional office for the past 10 years and served as a NYSUT labor relations specialist for 13 years. He has played a significant role in the labor movement on Long Island as it has met numerous challenges which threatened the livelihoods of working families as well as the crucial institutions of public education.

Congratulations to all those honored and thank you for all you do to make Long Island's school districts the best in our nation. I hope you enjoy this edition of The Forum, which is dedicated to you and your many accomplishments. Many thanks to the SCOPE staff, particularly Ann Nuzzo and Christine Cosme, who spent countless hours planning this very successful event.

I wish each of you a warm, enjoyable and healthy summer.

Sincerely,
Attry Duff

George L. Duffy Executive Director/CEO

"SCOPE Education Services, a not-for-profit organization currently celebrating our 57th year, is permanently chartered by the New York State Board of Regents to provide services to public-school districts on Long Island and in New York State."

George L. Duffy, Executive Director



Mary Jo O'Hagan and Peter L. Verdon, recipients of the 2023 National School Development Council's Cooperative Leadership Award.



SCOPE 2023 School Board Service award recipients.



SCOPE 2023 Community Service award recipients.



SCOPE 2023 Support Staff Service award recipients.



# SCOPE 22ND ANNUAL SCHOOL DISTRICT AWARDS DINNER Honoring Those Who Shine Above the Rest



SCOPE 2023 Administrator Service award recipients.

annual School District Awards Dinner at Holbrook's Villa Lombardi's on May 22 as a celebration of 50-plus years serving children and their families and an opportunity to recognize outstanding individuals for their extraordinary contributions and dedication to their school districts in Nassau and Suffolk counties during the 2022-2023 school year.

In his welcoming remarks, SCOPE Executive Director and CEO George Duffy thanked the 61 school districts, 843 guests and 160 honorees whose services have greatly benefited Long Island students and for addressing the challenges students face each day.

"These [the honorees] are

the shining stars in their school districts," Mr. Duffy said. "They have risen above the rest."

In addition to acknowledging the honorees in the categories of Administrator Service,
Community Service, School
Board Service, Support Staff
Service and Teacher Service.
Mr. Duffy also presented Long
Island Education Coalition copresidents Mary Jo O'Hagan
and Peter L. Verdon with the
National School Development
Council's Cooperative
Leadership Award.

Mr. Duffy also acknowledged individually the platinum, gold, silver and bronze sponsors, and honorees in each of the award categories, as they were called on stage to receive their plaques.



SCOPE 2023 Teacher Service award recipients.





### SCOPE 22nd Annual Awards Dinner

During SCOPE's 22nd annual awards dinner 843 guests from 61 schools districts in Nassau and Suffolk countries honored 160 outstanding individuals for their dedication and service to their school districts.

#### 2023 Annual Awards Dinner Sponsors

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# Congratulations Are in Order Appointments and Announcements



#### **BAYPORT-BLUE POINT UFSD**

New Assistant Superintendent The Board of Education has appointed Robert Haas as the district's new assistant superintendent of curriculum and instruction, effective July 1. Mr. Haas has spent his entire career serving the district. He began his work as a classroom teacher in September 2001 and began working in administration six years later, including as chairperson for the social studies department (2007-2009), high school assistant principal (2009-2014) and principal of both James Wilson Young Middle School (2014-2019) and Bayport-Blue Point High School (2019-present). Mr. Haas earned a Bachelor of Arts in political science from Stony Brook University.



#### CARLE PLACE UFSD

#### Board of Education Appoints Next Superintendent of Schools

The Board of Education announced that Dr. Ted Cannone will serve as the district's next superintendent of schools, effective July 1. Dr. Cannone previously served in the Garden City School District as the assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction for the past eight years. Dr. Cannone holds a Bachelor of Arts in American literature and a minor in business from Queens College, a master's degree in linguistics/TESOL from Queens College, a doctorate in educational leadership from Hofstra University and an administration degree from the College of New Rochelle.

#### **CONNETQUOT CSD**

New Superintendent Appointed The Connetquot Central School District has appointed Joseph Centamore superintendent of schools, effective July 1. Dr. Centamore joins the Connetquot family after having served for the last four years as deputy superintendent of the South Huntington School District. Dr. Centamore holds a bachelor of arts in history with a minor in political science from Quinnipiac University, and a Master of Arts in teaching social studies, as well as a post-master's certificate in school administration, from Stony Brook University. He received his doctorate in educational administration, leadership and technology from Dowling College.





#### EASTPORT-SOUTH MANOR CSD New Director of Mathematics Appointed

The Eastport-South Manor School District has appointed Justin Grover director of mathematics, effective July 1. Mr. Grover served as assistant principal of Eastport-South Manor Jr.-Sr. High School since 2021 and as supervisor of math instruction for grades 7-12. Mr. Grover holds a Bachelor of Arts in mathematics from the University of Rhode Island, a Master of Arts in adolescent education from Dowling College and certification in educational leadership from Stony Brook University.

#### New Director of Social Studies Appointed

The Eastport-South Manor School District has appointed Stephen G. Posselt director of social studies, effective July 1. Mr. Posselt has served as coordinator for secondary special education in the Lindenhurst Union Free School District since 2014. Mr. Posselt holds a Bachelor of Arts in American studies from SUNY Old Westbury and a Master of Arts in elementary education from Dowling College. Additionally, he holds a Doctor of Education in literacy studies from Hofstra University.



#### HICKSVILLE UFSD

Board of Education Appoints New Superintendent

of Schools
The Board
of Education
announced the
appointment of
Dr. Theodore
(Ted) Fulton,
Ed.D., as
the next
superintendent
of schools,



effective July 1. Dr. Fulton joins Hicksville from the Bayport-Blue Point School District, where he has worked since 2017 as the assistant superintendent of curriculum and instruction. Additionally, he has served as immediate past president of the New York State Association of Supervision and Curriculum Development and active president of the Long Island Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development. Dr. Fulton possesses a doctorate in educational administration from Dowling College and master's degrees in both history and educational administration from LIU Post. Before attending LIU, he received a bachelor's degree from SUNY Cortland in history/secondary

social studies.

#### LOCUST VALLEY CSD

New Superintendent Appointed

The Board of Education is excited to announce the appointment of Dr. Kristen Turnow as the district's new superintendent of schools,



effective July 1. Dr. Turnow joins Locust Valley from the Springs School District where she served as the director of pupil personnel and chief information officer. Dr. Turnow brings more than 20 years of instructional, building and central administration experience to Locust Valley. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in business management from Rutgers University, a Master of Education degree in elementary education and certification to teach business and distributive education grades K-12 and special education grades 1-6 from Dowling College, a professional diploma in educational administration and a doctor of Education in educational administration, leadership and technology from Dowling College.

#### SOUTH COUNTRY CSD

New Director of Instructional Technology Appointed

The Board of Education has appointed Krista Albrecht the district's new director of instructional technology, effective July 1. She has served as the instructional technology specialist for the Elwood School District since 2013. Prior to this role, she served in the same capacity in the Wantagh Union Free School District. She holds both a Bachelor of Science and a Master of Science in elementary education from Queens College, a Master of Science in instructional technology from St. Joseph's College and a post-master's certificate in educational leadership from Stony Brook University.



## 

#### **BAYPORT-BLUE POINT UFSD**

#### Learning Outside the Classroom

Blue Point Elementary School students rotated throughout the day to participate in activities and lessons outside in the playground area during Outdoor Classroom Day. Students learned the art of tie-dye, read books on the school's reading patio, and performed STEAM activities and physical education lessons, shedding a new light on their learning.



#### **BELLMORE-MERRICK CHSD**

#### Kennedy Team REACHes People in Need

One REACH Challenge team from Kennedy High School earned first place in the International Technology and Engineering **Educators Association STEM** Competition. Using lesson plans and activities on empathy, usercentered design, prototyping and more, teachers lead their students in using their STEM skills to REACH a member of their community who has a challenge to overcome. The EasyREACH 360 team, Preston Bowman, Ella Cullin, Maxwell Frank, Dylan Friedman, Ellie Gelman, Ava Goldsmith, Chris Khul, Minami Rodger, Claire Schwartz and Cole Wasserman, worked with a 5-yearold boy with spinal muscular atrophy and won first place for their project, EasyREACH 36o.





#### COLD SPRING HARBOR CSD

#### When I Grow Up I Want To Be...

What better way to learn about the myriad career options available to students at Lloyd Harbor Elementary School when they grow up than to learn firsthand from professionals and local community residents. Classrooms were filled with artists, doctors, entrepreneurs, food detectives, lawyers, producers, realtors and former NFL player Gary Baldinger, each explaining their career choices and responsibilities.

#### **CONNETQUOT CSD**

#### Learning the Importance of Financial Literacy

Connetquot High School ninth grade students attended Personal Finance Day where they engaged with business department faculty and Ed Kotak and Karlyn Grasso of The Quintessential Experience to further their understanding of the importance of financial literacy, focusing on money management, budgeting and making wise financial decisions.





#### **DEER PARK UFSD**

#### Book Buddies Program Encourages Reading and Leadership

Deer Park High School's English students continued the district's Book Buddies program by promoting reading with fifth graders from John F. Kennedy Intermediate School, following up with the initial virtual meet-and-greet with a meeting at JFK to discuss characters they loved, literary concepts and social-emotional lessons raised in the books.



#### **EAST ISLIP UFSD**

#### Impressive Expanded STEAM Day

Students in grades 2 and 4 districtwide visited an impressive array of interactive displays at the annual STEAM Day, sponsored by the East Islip School Business Partnership. This year, the event expanded to a bigger venue in the East Islip High School gym, and an evening session was added for students, parents and community members to attend.

#### **EASTPORT-SOUTH MANOR CSD**Inaugural Civics Fair

Eastport-South Manor Jr.-Sr.
High School hosted the inaugural
Civics Fair for seventh grade
students, who were instructed to
identify a current civics issue and to
connect that issue to an amendment
to the Constitution. They also
worked to develop a solution
or action plan for the issue and
presented their research at the Civics
Fair





#### EAST ROCKAWAY UFSD

#### Student Honored by Jewish Community Relations Council

East Rockaway High School junior Everett Gamache has been recognized with the Students Building Bridges Award by the Jewish Community Relations Council of Long Island for his efforts to create a more civil society. Everett was recognized for spearheading a project to have osprey nesting platforms built and placed on the East Rockaway High School campus.

#### ELWOOD UFSD

#### High Schoolers Give Back With Rhona's Rainbows

Members of Elwood-John H. Glenn High School's World Language Honor Society worked on the Rhona's Rainbows community service project, making no-sew fleece blankets which were donated to chemotherapy centers in children's hospitals.



#### FREEPORT UFSD

#### Signs of Peace Spread Throughout Community

Members of the Board of Education, administrators, teachers,

students, staff, community members and elected officials or their representatives spread the message of love, hope and peace during the 14th annual Freeport Cares Peace March. Hundreds of individuals gathered in a sea of yellow to promote peace, wellness and nonviolence, walking throughout the Freeport community to spread peace.





#### GARDEN CITY UFSD

#### Band and Jazz Ensemble Sweep Music in the Parks

Garden City Middle School's eighth grade band and late-night jazz ensemble earned Best Overall and Superior ratings at the Music in the Parks festival held at Westfield State University in Massachusetts. Guitarist Ethan Wu won the Best Overall Jazz Soloist medal. Garden City earned two of only three coveted Superior ratings awarded. The eighth grade band earned the highest average score of 96.25, followed by the late-night jazz ensemble which earned a 95.5.



#### HALF HOLLOW HILLS CSD

#### Diversity Celebrated at 23rd Annual Unity Fair

The Half Hollow Hills educational community came together for the 23rd annual PTA Council Unity Fair, an inspiring event that celebrates the district's diverse community for both its commonalities and uniqueness. This communitywide and globally focused celebration embraced the district's rich culture of community through music, arts and crafts, storytelling, games, food and performances.

# ME INSIDE OUR SCHOOLS

#### HERRICKS UFSD

#### Playground Communication Board Installed

Center Street Elementary School hosted a ribbon cutting for a newly installed playground communication board featuring a QR code for nonverbal students. The development of the communication board was spearheaded by parent volunteer Dr. Sepideh Kobylivker.





#### MATTITUCK-CUTCHOGUE UFSD

#### Students Learn About K-9 Patrol

Fifth grade students at Cutchogue East Elementary School learned about the valuable work K-9 patrol dogs perform while on duty. Southold Town Police Department police officer Williams, with K-9 Solo, along with Southampton Village Police Department police officer Moore with K-9 Topper, explained how K-9 patrol dogs assist police officers. They were joined by Southold Town Police Department Sgt. Brewer, officers Chenche and Sanders, who are both Cutchogue East school resource officers, police officer Merlo and seasonal police officer Locke.



#### MINEOLA UFSD

#### Learners Honored With NCWIT Aspirations in Computing Award

Twelve Mineola High School students were honored with the Aspirations in Computing Award by the Greater New York City Affiliate of the National Center for Women & Information Technology. Three were selected as affiliate winners; six were recognized with the Affiliate Rising Star Award and three received Affiliate Honorable Mention. Two students were also recognized with National Honorable Mention awards. Award recipients are selected based on their aptitude and aspirations in technology and computing, as demonstrated by their computing experience, computingrelated activities, leadership experience, tenacity in the face of barriers to access and future plans.



#### **NASSAU BOCES**

#### Nassau BOCES Honors Outstanding Students

Nassau BOCES celebrated 18 of its most exceptional students with the prestigious George Farber Outstanding Student Award. The students were chosen based on a variety of remarkable attributes including passion, perseverance, enthusiasm, outstanding character, scholarship and a willingness to help others. The winners were presented with a plaque and \$100 from the Nassau BOCES Educational Foundation.



#### NORTHPORT-EAST NORTHPORT

#### Building an Outdoor Classroom and a Legacy

Senior Evan Johnson's legacy at Northport High School has been cemented thanks to his senior Eagle Scout project, an outdoor classroom on the school's campus. The impressive structure, built by Evan with guidance from his Troop 108 leader David Puttre and support from his fellow troopmates, creates a space for classes to learn outdoors during warm weather.



#### PATCHOGUE-MEDFORD UFSD

#### Students Earn Prestigious Recognition

Four Patchogue-Medford High School students were named National Cyber Scholarship Foundation Scholars. In recognition of their prestigious achievement, Luca Capuano, Michael Cedeno, Sean Lopez and Riley Smith have earned an invitation to participate in the Cyber Foundations Academy, a multi-week online program valued at more than \$3,000 and based on the nationally lauded SysAdmin, Audit, Network and Security (SANS) Foundations training course and certification.



#### RIVERHEAD CSD

#### District Hosts First Healthcare Career Fair

Riverhead High School, in partnership with Peconic Bay Medical Center (PBMC), hosted its first healthcare career fair. Over 200 students, as well as faculty and staff, excitedly engaged with representatives from PBMC to learn about clinical and non-clinical careers and how they can pursue the opportunities that interest them.



#### SACHEM CSD

#### Reading Opens the World

The Sachem Central School District Teachers' Association distributed 25,000 free books to the Sachem community during its Reading Opens the World Literacy and Book Fair. Hundreds of families and educators lined up outside of Sachem High School North to collect books for Sachem students of all ages. Teachers were invited to take up to 30 free books to restock their classroom libraries, while students chose five books to bring home. The books were received through a grant from the American Federation of Teachers, in conjunction with First Book and New York State United Teachers.

#### SHOREHAM-WADING RIVER CSD Student Artwork Selected for Public

#### Student Artwork Selected for Publi Exhibition

Shoreham-Wading River High School art teachers Jason Andria and Samantha Shepard took students on a field trip to The Heckscher Museum of Art as part of the Long Island's Best program for high school students. Junior JiSeung Moon created her work, inspired by artist Joe Constantino's "Old House Under Tree, 2022," and was selected as one of 91 students from 58 schools across Long Island to be part of Long Island's Best: Young Artists at The Heckscher Museum.





#### WEST BABYLON UFSD

#### Celebrating a Healthy Lifestyle

The district and community came together to celebrate the health and fitness of students and community members during the district's annual Wellness Expo and Fun Run at West Babylon Junior High School, organized by the district's Wellness Committee. PTAs set up activity stations for the students to enjoy, while local vendors and community-based organizations had tables around the outside of the track for participants to visit.



#### WYANDANCH USFD

#### Young Scholars Experience an Immersive Career Day

At Lafrancis Hardiman Elementary School, scholars immersed themselves in assuming the roles of professionals during the school's annual career day. Classrooms were transformed into real-world workplaces, including an animal hospital, a Supreme Court hearing session, branches of the military, a doctor's office and more. Basing a court trial on the book "The Little Red Hen," Ms. Damali Ashe's scholars assumed the roles of judge, jurors, court police officer, prosecutor and court clerk to bring to trial the Little Red Hen and three little chicks.



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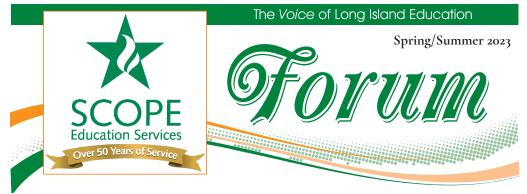
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The Forum can be accessed online at www.scopeonline.us. If you have information about your school district that you would like to share, please send it to Kathy Beatty at kbeatty@syntaxny.com.