



LINDY SPOTLIGHT

LINDENHURST PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The Lindenhurst Union Free School District

MAY 2010

Your Vote Counts in Budget 2010

Get Out and **VOTE** on May 18

BUDGET OVERVIEW:

- Core academic, co/extracurricular program PRESERVED
- Full-day Kindergarten PRESERVED
- Project Orion PRESERVED
- All Athletics PRESERVED
- 42.8 teaching positions eliminated
- 3 noninstructional positions eliminated
- 1 administrative position (freeze on hiring)
- Programs reduced or eliminated include: Summer School, Project SAIL, AIM, all intramurals.



Superintendent Richard Nathan with media arts teacher Carmine Carnevale and high school students Crystal Janke, Jonathan Jazcar, and Jessica Smith, who produced this year's Budget Video.

Lindenhurst residents will head to the polls on Tuesday, May 18th to vote on the proposed 2010-2011 school budget. The goal of the Board of Education and administration was to minimize the tax impact on residents and present a budget that provides for the needs of the Lindenhurst students. This budget represents an expenditure increase of 0.49%, which equates to a tax levy increase of 3.87%.

The process of developing this year's budget has been most challenging due to the fact that aid levels from New York State are the lowest in years. The number of unfunded mandates, programs and services that the district must provide for its students, continues to climb. With the above

challenges in mind, the

THE BUDGET TO BUDGET EXPENDITURE INCREASE:

- Lindenhurst School District is 0.49%
- The Suffolk County average is 2.21%
- The Long Island average is 2.36%

Board and administration did everything in their power to contain expenditures and control costs for 2010-2011.



Lindenhurst Middle School Chorus, under the leadership of Kathleen Reilly, performed at the recent community forum.

REMEMBER TO VOTE:

MAY 18, 2010

Polls open from 6 a.m. – 9 p.m.

- Albany Avenue School
- William Rall School
- E.W. Bower School
- Daniel Street School
- Lindenhurst Middle School

LINDENHURST PUBLIC SCHOOLS
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Lindenhurst, New York 11757

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Hannah and Kevin Salwen Visit Lindenhurst High School to Discuss *The Power of Half*

As a part of the monthlong Lindy's Big Read effort with the Lindenhurst Public Library, authors Hannah and Kevin Salwen spoke with Lindenhurst High School students and faculty about their book, *The Power of Half*. The presentation talked about how the Salwen family sold their big house in Atlanta and moved into a smaller home. The family also donated half of their savings to different charities.

The authors discussed specifically how individuals can make a difference in their communities. "If you have a garage sale, you can donate half of your earnings to a local charity of your choice," explained Hannah, who has also volunteered her time serving at food banks and building homes for those less fortunate through Habitat for Humanity. Hannah is the teenage daughter of Kevin Salwen, a Brooklyn native. The two collaborated to author the book together.

"I thought it was great to have a speaker who is our age," commented junior Ryan Rosado. "Personally, I could relate to Hannah." After the presentation, Hannah and Kevin signed copies of their book in the school library.

The Lindenhurst School District invites all residents of Lindenhurst to participate in Lindy's Big Read, and encourages residents to read *The Power of Half*.



Kevin and Hannah Salwen during their presentation at Lindenhurst High School.



Hannah Salwen (left) signs a copy of *The Power of Half* for Lindenhurst High School junior Ryan Rosado (right).

SEPTA Awards Honor Dedicated Students

Congratulations to all of the district students who received special honors at the annual SEPTA awards night held recently in the Lindenhurst Middle School auditorium. SEPTA is the special education PTA unit for the district.

SEPTA President-elect Mary Ellen Rama and Assistant Superintendent for Special Education and Pupil Personnel Services David Cenerelli welcomed administrators, Board members, staff, parents and students. The Friends of SEPTA award was presented to David Schrader for his outstanding dedication and service to the Lindenhurst SEPTA.



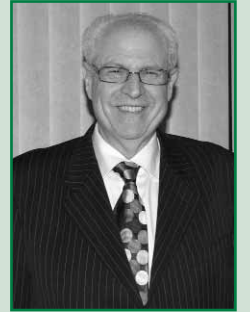
Some of the Lindenhurst Middle School award recipients display their certificates.



Mary Ellen Rama (right) congratulates David Schrader (left) on receiving the Friends of SEPTA award.

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE:

If you look closely at our district's logo, you will see a clock tower surrounded by the words, "Lindenhurst – the home of good schools since 1841." Good schools? That's not enough! I believe we are the home of great schools, of excellent schools! What makes a school district great? Certainly, a comprehensive academic program which, as our district's mission indicates, educates students "in the values, critical skills and essential knowledge necessary to be informed and responsible citizens, prepared to take the next steps in their education, careers and lives in our diverse society."



Besides academics, other components are necessary for a school district to be truly great. Athletics teaches our students team building and collaborative skills. An athletics program also helps instill discipline, time management, sportsmanship and leadership skills in our students. But perhaps most importantly, athletics helps give many students, who might otherwise become disaffected, a purpose and a direction. Programs need to be relevant to students at every end of the spectrum, from our less able students to our gifted and talented students. Many of our clubs and student activities are involved with service activities that teach our students what it means to give back. Whether it's hosting a Senior Citizens prom, recycling, or fundraising for a local charity, our students are learning altruism within our community, another attribute of a great school district.

In creating our 2010-11 budget proposal, the administration and the school board were faced with an untenable financial situation. A rollover budget, one in which "nothing new" is added, meant Lindenhurst would face an expenditure increase of \$7 million for 2010-11. In addition, Governor Paterson's executive budget cut \$3.5 million from Lindenhurst's state aid allotment as compared with 2009-10. That represented a \$10.5 million spread. If no expenses were cut or no reserves were used to offset a tax levy increase, this would have represented an over 13% increase in the tax levy! This was clearly unacceptable. Our challenge was to present a comprehensive budget that meets the educational needs of our children, meets state and federal mandates, and is fiscally responsible to the community.

On April 21, at an emotionally charged meeting, filled with parents advocating for their children, the Lindenhurst Board of Education adopted a budget for 2010-11 of \$137,091,637. This represents a budget-to-budget increase of less than 0.49% and, if no additional state aid is returned to the district, a tax levy increase of 3.87%. If additional state aid is received, our Board of Education may use it to lower the tax levy and/or restore some of the reserves.

Our full Middle School and High School athletics program, our instrumental music program, our gifted and talented program, our extracurricular and cocurricular clubs, and our full-day kindergarten program were all left intact. While some class sizes may be larger and some academic programs were restructured to make them more cost-effective, Lindenhurst's core academic program, Advanced Placement courses, special education services, and most high school and middle school electives and "encore" subjects remain untouched.

If the budget proposal is rejected by the voters and the district goes on contingency, many of these programs might be lost. These are programs that help make Lindenhurst great. For the average homeowner, the difference between a contingency budget and the current budget proposal is approximately \$9.50 a month.

Please vote on Tuesday, May 18. Every vote is important. Help to continue to make Lindenhurst the home of *great* schools!

Presidential Service Award

Congratulations to Lindenhurst High School senior Vincent Masciello, who has been honored for his exemplary volunteer service with a President's Volunteer Service Award. This award recognizes Americans who have volunteered significant amounts of their time to serve their communities and country. The award was presented through the Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program on behalf of President Obama.

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Lindy Spotlight is the school district's community newsletter, containing pertinent information on the activities and issues of the district, published 8-10 times annually, and mailed free of charge to all district residents. The district reserves the right to publish information pertaining to students regarding school activities, academic honors, sports programs, scholarships, etc.

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The Lindenhurst School District hereby advises students, parents, employees, and the general public that it offers employment and educational opportunities, including vocational educational opportunities, without regard to gender, race, color, national origin or disability. Inquiries regarding this nondiscrimination policy may be directed to: Title IX Coordinator Ms. C. Clifton (867-3075) and/or Section 504 Coordinator David J. Cenerelli (867-3100) at the Central Administration Building, 350 Daniel Street, Lindenhurst, New York 11757.

A Message from The Board of Education

Dear Lindenhurst Residents:

As we near the end of the budget process, the Board of Education is confident that the Board and Administration have put together a fiscally-sound budget.

This year, there were many difficult decisions that had to be made. Some teaching and non-teaching positions were removed, and some programs eliminated. Many programs were preserved as well, such as full-day kindergarten, the gifted and talented program, and athletics. I am confident that the Board of Education is providing a budget to the community that still makes Lindenhurst the home of GREAT schools.

I would like to thank Superintendent Richard Nathan for preparing and executing the various budget presentations to the community. I would also like to thank Assistant Superintendent for Business Jackie Scio for hours of hard work, dedication and determination in putting this year's budget together.

Please let your voices be heard and counted...go out and cast your vote on May 18th.

Cordially,
Edward J. Murphy, Jr.
Board of Education President



Winners of the Read Around the World Bookmark Contest.

24 STUDENTS WIN "Read Around the World" Bookmark Contest

Congratulations to the winners of the Read Around the World Bookmark Contest, which was underwritten by a grant from the Kiwanis Club of Lindenhurst. More than 800 entries were received and 24 winners were selected. The awards ceremony was held at the Lindenhurst Memorial Library in April.

Each month winning bookmarks are published by the library. "Congratulations to all the winners and their families," exclaimed Peter Ward, Director of the Lindenhurst Memorial Library. This year's winners are:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>January
Veronica Szygalowicz,
<i>West Gates Elementary School</i>
Hayden Morrisson,
<i>Harding Avenue Elementary School</i></p> | <p>July
Peter Leonardi,
<i>Lindenhurst Middle School</i>
Rebecka Verzeni-Placa,
<i>Alleghany Ave. Elementary School</i></p> |
| <p>February
Nicolette Aurisano,
<i>Harding Avenue Elementary School</i>
Madi Leto,
<i>Harding Avenue Elementary School</i></p> | <p>August
Stephen Augustine,
<i>Alleghany Ave. Elementary School</i>
Melanie Abbondola,
<i>Daniel St. Elementary School</i></p> |
| <p>March
Nicole Raneri,
<i>Lindenhurst High School</i>
Mario Glaze,
<i>Daniel St. Elementary School</i></p> | <p>September
Matthew Magsamen,
<i>Lindenhurst Middle School</i>
Alicia Reinke,
<i>Daniel St. Elementary School</i></p> |
| <p>April
Jaclyn Perna,
<i>Lindenhurst Middle School</i>
Jake Kessinger,
<i>EW Bower Elementary School</i></p> | <p>October
Adriana Pavon,
<i>Lindenhurst High School</i>
Oksara Fostakovska,
<i>Daniel St. Elementary School</i></p> |
| <p>May
Isabella Abbamonte,
<i>Alleghany Ave Elementary School</i>
Sarah Tonjes,
<i>West Gates Elementary School</i></p> | <p>November
Brianna Carlson,
<i>Lindenhurst High School</i>
Kiernan Mercer,
<i>Harding Avenue Elementary School</i></p> |
| <p>June
Jake Kenjesky,
<i>Daniel St. Elementary School</i>
Taylor Voorneveld,
<i>William Rall Elementary School</i></p> | <p>December
Sabrina Morelli,
<i>Lindenhurst Middle School</i>
Morgan Smith,
<i>Daniel St. Elementary School</i></p> |

All-Lindy Concert Showcases Talent

The annual All-Lindy concert was held in mid-March at the Lindenhurst High School Auditorium and showcased musical and vocal talent from throughout the district.

This spectacular evening of music included performances from the All-Lindy Jazz Band, Orchestra, Chorus, and Band. The Jazz Band is directed by John McLendon, the Orchestra by Paul Cronin, the Chorus by Fabian Reyes, and the Band by Al White.

"These students are a talented group of musicians," observed Coordinator of Music and Art Mary Ann Deninno. "They put much hard work and dedication into this successful performance."



Music teacher Fabian Reyes during warm-up exercises for the All-Lindy Concert.



All-Lindy Orchestra, with leader Paul Cronin.

Evening of Dance 2010 Enjoyed by Many at Lindy HS

The recent "Evening of Dance" held at Lindenhurst High School was filled with beautiful dancers and colorful costumes. Led by Lindenhurst Dance Ensemble Director Kristine Lyons, this dance program is one of the few on Long Island taught by an accredited dance teacher, and students who are enrolled put on an excellent, and quite diverse show. The colorful costumes provided the dancers with an opportunity to grace the stage with flair in fashion, as well as movement.

Student dancers enrolled in the program practice various dance genres, including ballet, tap, jazz and hip-hop on a daily basis. This year's performance included all of these genres, as well as additional tap and contemporary numbers. The dance program has been running at the high school for the past six years.

"The girls put their heart and souls into this performance," exclaimed Ms. Lyons. "More than 75 girls performed in 16 numbers."



Dance students practiced for months in preparation for their Evening of Dance performance.

Celebrating the Arts

The ninth annual Celebration of the Arts was held at Lindenhurst High School in April, showcasing the fine and performing arts from all nine of the district's schools. Families and friends were invited to view the talents of Lindenhurst students in the visual arts, theater, dance, instrumental and choral performance.

The art exhibits included sculptures, photography, self-portraits, drawings, computer graphics, and paintings. The music program featured band, orchestra, and chorus performances. Special presentations were also made by the Communications Media, Theatre Arts, and Dance ensembles.

"Thank you for your continued support of the fine and performing arts programs here in the Lindenhurst School District" remarked Coordinator of Fine and Performing Arts Mary Ann Deninno. "The arts continue to have a profound impact on the healthy development of young minds in Lindenhurst, both intellectually and socially."



A Lindenhurst family admires artistic dioramas at Celebration of the Arts.



Lindenhurst students view artwork at Celebration of the Arts.

Elementary Learning

Harding Guest Speaker Educates Students on Cyberbullying

Harding Avenue Elementary School students learned about traditional bullying and cyberbullying from guest speaker Elisabeth Dolan of Child Abuse Prevention Services (CAPS). CAPS is Long Island's leading nonprofit organization dedicated to preventing child abuse and neglect through education. It is also a comprehensive resource for bullying and peer harassment.

The fifth-grade workshop encouraged students to exercise safe, responsible behavior while on the Internet. "Anything on the Internet can be public. It is never acceptable to give out your personal contact information," explained Mrs. Dolan. "There are no erasers on the Internet." She advised students to think about everything they post on any social networking sites, such as Facebook.

Harding's third and fourth graders participated in a workshop that focused more on direct, face-to-face bullying. Mrs. Dolan showed two video examples of students being bullied: Steven, a middle school football player who gave away personal information on the computer, and Nikki, a high school student who made a mathematical mistake in class.



Elisabeth Dolan from Child Abuse Prevention Services (CAPS) speaks with George Cooke's fifth graders about cyberbullying.



Erica Bohrer's first graders, with math specialist Angela Marzocca, wore orange for "Go Orange for Animals" Day.

Daniel Street Students "Go Orange for Animals"

Daniel Street Elementary School's first-grade students participated in "Go Orange for Animals" Day, learning about the problem of animal abuse, neglect and bite prevention. The activity was a part of a unit on Humane Education, which emphasizes learning to care for animals in homes and communities. The unit focuses on fostering respect, kindness, and empathy for both humans and animals.

Besides collecting monetary donations, students also collected toys, blankets, food, and treats for the animals in the Town of Babylon Animal Shelter and The Little Shelter. "The students were proud to know that they, too, could make a difference and be a voice for animals," observed first-grade teacher and coordinator Erica Bohrer.

CHARLOTTE'S WEB PERFORMED AT WEST GATES

Karen Garguilo's second-grade class at West Gates Avenue Elementary School recently performed *Charlotte's Web* for their families and for several other classes. *Charlotte's Web* is an award-winning children's novel written by E.B. White about a friendship between a pig named Wilbur and a spider named Charlotte.

Students memorized lines and learned the importance of teamwork in order to put on a successful class play. "The students also enjoyed a cast party following the performance," noted Ms. Garguilo.



Karen Garguilo's second graders Marisa Avenoso, Forrest McMann, Nicholas Vezzi and Thomas Vine perform in Charlotte's Web.



Veronica Sygalowicz and Daniel Kabata as Charlotte and Wilbur.

Rall Students Meet Reading Challenge, Principal Meets Students' Challenge

Students at William Rall Elementary School enjoyed a memorable Parent as Reading Partners (PARP) program this year, which centered on the theme "Reading is Magical." As a part of the themed week, Principal Patricia Castine challenged the students to read every night for a minimum of 15 minutes. Rall students met this challenge and Principal Castine dressed up as Lady Gaga and performed the chicken dance as a reward for them.



William Rall Principal Patricia Castine dressed up as Lady Gaga and performed the chicken dance.



Principal Patricia Castine, dressed as Lady Gaga, with Rall students.

Across the District

Bower PARP Encourages Reading

E.W. Bower Elementary Students enjoyed this year's Parents as Reading Partners (PARP) program, which promotes literacy and encourages students to read in class and at home. The program included a week of guest readers.

Superintendent Richard Nathan read one of his favorites, *Math Attack*, to Mrs. Mulholland's fourth graders. Assistant Superintendent

Dr. Robert Tymann read *Hanni and Beth* to Mr. Shlit's third graders and Ms. Villardi's students.

Other guest readers included Board of Education trustee Patty Ames, Language Arts Coordinator Christine Nagle, Athletic Director Rich Roche, and Bower PTA President Ann Marie Rubenacker.

"An evening 'book swap' was also enjoyed by the students," remarked Library Media Specialist Mrs. Delorfano.



Superintendent Richard Nathan reads to Bower fourth graders for guest reader week during PARP.



Assistant Superintendent Robert Tymann reads to Bower third graders.

World Math Day Adds Up Big at Albany

Students at Albany Avenue Elementary School celebrated World Math Day, a free web event during which students answered arithmetic problems online and competed with other students their age from around the world.

The participating Albany Avenue students were a part of the world's largest annual educational event, as more than 1.5 million students globally from 226 countries registered to compete. Each math game lasted 60 seconds and students were encouraged to play as often as they desired.

World Math Day generated excitement about math. The third graders sharpened their addition and subtraction skills, as the fifth graders developed multiplication and division abilities. This year, students in the first and second grades also participated.

"The program also reinforced the students' geography knowledge," explained Computer lab specialist Donna Ivanoff. "One student even downloaded the website to her iPod Touch to practice."



Fifth-grade students in Robin Cahill's class at Albany Avenue Elementary School participated in World Math Day.



Guest Author Dr. Carolyn Rehm and a Bunny Visit Alleghany

Author, pediatrician and teacher Dr. Carolyn Rehm visited Alleghany Avenue Elementary students to discuss the writing process. Her nonfiction books include *The Flowerpot Bunnies*, *The Flowerpot Bunnies Return*, *The Flowerpot Bunny Mom* and *Rosetta*. The series tells the story of an unusual rabbit who builds her nests in flowerpots.

In addition to providing youngsters with insight into authorship, Dr. Rehm read one book, showed posters with photos, answered students' questions and

brought a live bunny for students to pet. "No fingers near his mouth or he might think you are a carrot," she chuckled.

The author lives on Long Island with her husband and children. Dr. Rehm's mother, Agnes Schanck, was the illustrator for her "Bunny" series. "I love working on books with my mother," she exclaimed. Parts of the proceeds from her books are donated to help children with special needs.



Author Carolyn Rehm reads *The Flowerpot Bunnies* to Alleghany Avenue kindergarteners.



Guest author Carolyn Rehm introduces her bunny rabbit to Alleghany kindergarteners.

Lindenhurst High School 2010 Top 20 Students

Congratulations to this year's Top 20 students from Lindenhurst High School's Class of 2010. These students have obtained the highest academic rankings among their peers. They are:

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Thomas J. Schrank | 8. Ashley Lynn Westfall | 15. Jonathan Robert Belanich |
| 2. Kevin Gerald Salvaggio | 9. Nora Boujida | 16. Stephen M. Perkins |
| 3. Michael R. Rossiello | 10. Dana Murano | 17. Mala Geeta Sachdev |
| 4. Scott J. Bertolino | 11. Meghan Ames | 18. Teresa Piciullo |
| 5. Joy Samini Pawirosetiko | 12. Randy Arboleda | 19. Maureen Susan LaMarca |
| 6. Michael Joseph Ficurilli | 13. Thomas Patrick Owens | 20. Carolyn Jeanne Ash |
| 7. Sonica Sundri | 14. Joseph Lovizio | |



Lindenhurst High School's Class of 2010 Top 20 students with Principal Daniel E. Giordano (left) and Director of Guidance Barbara Donnellan (right).

Haiti Fundraiser

Students at Lindenhurst High School recently donated to Caring is Sharing, an organization that supplied immediate help to the victims of the Haiti earthquake. The \$2,600 raised by the high school students will help to rebuild one of the schools that was destroyed in the earthquake.

Many thanks to the students involved with the French Club, National Honor Society, Sam Mox's Peer Leaders and the Souper Bowl of Caring for all their help in making this fundraiser successful.



(L-R) Lindenhurst High School Principal Daniel E. Giordano, NAHS Treasurer Caroline Lares, NAHS President Joy Pawirosetiko, Caring is Sharing President Jessie Byron, NAHS Advisor Cecelia Mattered, NAHS Vice President Sonica Sundri and French Club Advisor Erin Randazzo.

LINDY ROBOTICS TEAM

Wins Regional Engineering Inspiration Award

The Lindenhurst High School Robotics students won the Regional Engineering Inspiration Award at the 11th annual For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology (FIRST) Robotics competition, held at Hofstra University. This was the second-highest award of the competition. As a result, the team qualified for the FIRST national competition in Atlanta and performed well.

During the three-day regional competition, Lindy students designed, tested and constructed a 130-pound robot. Teams were judged on creativity, spirit, robustness of their robot, and their ability to work as a group. Robots competed in a game of soccer, which required them to score goals as humans do in real soccer. Forty-eight high schools from throughout Long Island competed. The competition was established in 1992 for high school students to gain greater hands-on insight into science and technology.

Lindenhurst High School senior Robert Drenckhahn was named one of only two winners of the Fred Breithut Scholarship Award during the Hofstra competition. Robert will attend Farmingdale State College on this scholarship to pursue a career in mechanical engineering. He also won a Certificate of Achievement from the School-Business Partnerships of Long Island, in recognition of his individual excellence and contribution during the FIRST Robotics competition.

"We were extremely pleased with the students' performance and accomplishments this year," declared Robotics advisors John Slokovitz and Jean Jacobs.



Members of the Lindenhurst High School Robotics Team at the recent FIRST competition.

CULINARY STUDENTS TEACH HEALTHY COOKING

Lindenhurst High School culinary students recently educated students from E.W. Bower Elementary School about healthy cooking. Together the students prepared and enjoyed vegetables and dip, cheese and crackers, and fruit and yogurt dip. As a treat, for dessert, the students loved making and eating s'mores together.



Lindenhurst High School culinary students and E.W. Bower Elementary students learn about healthy cooking.

"The high school culinary students loved the experience," exclaimed teacher Caroline Nalua. "It was one of those days that make teaching magical." Participating Lindenhurst High School students were Maddie Fiore, Samantha Panzarella, Dan Weingaertner, Jamie-Lynn Oberlin, Nick Decuitiis, Frank Carrieri and Brittany Winters.

The Recruit Soars at Lindenhurst High School

"The Recruit" is Lindenhurst High School's version of the popular television show "The Apprentice." Now in the sixth year of the restaurant portion of the program, two teams of students turned the faculty cafeteria into a themed restaurant and performed the tasks involved in restaurant management. Money raised from tips will be used for a scholarship fund awarded to senior business students enrolled in the program.

The two teams of students dressed up in accordance with this year's themes of Margaritaville and Blast from the Past. Menu items such as Retro-Chef Salad, Marilyn Monroe's Chicken Fingers and an Elvis Presley Pizza Burger were featured. One student dressed up as Elvis and entertained those dining for lunch by strumming on the guitar.

"The business students really learn all about managing a restaurant," explained teacher and program coordinator Jessica Rogovitz. "And everyone has a great time, as well."



Members of the Blast from the Past team enjoyed learning about restaurant management.

Boat Races Add Excitement to Engineering

Lindenhurst High School engineering students launched handmade cardboard boats and raced across the length of the pool in the school's fifth annual Boat Regatta. The concept of building and racing in the cardboard boat regatta teaches students the principles of buoyancy and floatation. Boats are constructed by teams of students in the "Principles of Engineering" class, taught by Lou Caso.

To prepare for the regatta, Mr. Caso divided 20 students into seven teams. Students were given a few weeks to build a boat from cardboard and duct tape that would be capable of racing two laps. The SS Extreme, steered by senior Matt Crichton, won, completing the final race in 51 seconds. "Our design was great, the team wouldn't change a thing," he exclaimed.

"Everyone had a wonderful time learning as they applied engineering concepts of buoyancy to their designs," said Mr. Caso. "It takes a lot of time to learn, but everyone had fun."



A group of students pose before the Lindenhurst High School regatta races.



The winning boat in the Lindenhurst High School regatta, the SS Extreme, steered by senior Matt Crichton.

Author Todd Strasser Visits Lindenhurst Middle School

Renowned author Todd Strasser visited Lindenhurst Middle School to speak with students about his career, where he gets his inspiration for writing, and the process involved. Mr. Strasser has authored more than 120 books for teenagers, including the best-selling *Help! I'm Trapped In ...* series and award-winning novels *The Wave*, *Give a Boy a Gun*, *The Accident*, *Can't Get There from Here*, *Boot Camp*, and *If I Grow Up*.

His newest series, *The Tardy Boys*, is written for younger students. Several of Mr. Strasser's books have been adapted for television and his novel *How I Created My Perfect Prom Date* became the featured movie release *Drive Me Crazy*. Students also participated in a poster contest, illustrating images from Mr. Strasser's popular books.

"Mr. Strasser was available to answer questions and autograph his books for the students," observed Library Media Specialist Elizabeth Wood.



Lindenhurst Middle School students learned about writing a book from author Todd Strasser.

CONGRATULATIONS to the Todd Strasser poster contest winners:

GRAND PRIZE:
Emily Warren
Natalia Wawro

FIRST PLACE:
Julisa Castaneda
Jessy Hannah

SECOND PLACE:
Kristina Kuil
Karolina Domagala
Kayla Geyer

THIRD PLACE:
Mariam Ragh
Luz Sepulveda

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE LINDENHURST MIDDLE SCHOOL POSTER CONTEST WINNERS FOR FOREIGN LANGUAGE WEEK



Lindenhurst Middle School's Foreign Language Week poster contest winners with Principal Frank Naccarato (left) and Foreign Language Coordinator Steven Sonkin (right).



8TH GRADERS:
Claudia Maj
Andrea Huswan
Amelia Pacarati

7TH GRADERS:
Monika Ciecka
Brianna Doran
Patrycja Bancewicz

6TH GRADERS:
Nick Negrón
Alais DiDonato
Natalia Golebiowski

Congratulations to the TECHNOLOGY WINNERS



Congratulations to the winning eighth-grade technology students in John Hmelovsky's class, who set this year's Lindenhurst Middle School record by constructing a bridge that held 975 pounds, 3,533 times its own weight. These students are Raymond Neumann, Kayla Provenzano and Jonathan Pun.

Champions Continue Lindy Pride

Congratulations to the Lindenhurst Middle School students who were honored for going "above and beyond" and for being "all-around outstanding people," as part of the March Breakfast for Champions at the Lindencrest Diner. "These students are polite, honest, and do their work," exclaimed Principal Frank Naccarato.

CHAMPIONS:

Ihor Balaban
Bryan Berrent
Vanessa Cardino
Thomas England
Kimberly Harrell
Sean Harrigan
Natalie Madlon
Cabel McCandless
Kyle McPadden
Jason Norelius
Kasey Ryan
Joe Sirabella
Thomas Wagner

Each month, selected students are honored for their achievements with a breakfast at the diner. Sponsored by Bak & Vogel, Diane's Dance Center, Inc., and the Rotary Club of Lindenhurst, students, parents, teachers and administrators enjoyed a full breakfast to recognize those students nominated by their teachers.

Guest speakers John Reynolds of Diane's Dance Center and Maryann Weckerle of Bak & Vogel spoke about the various Rotary Club activities and the club's goals.



March 2010 Breakfast for Champions with Lindenhurst Middle School Principal Frank Naccarato (left) and guest sponsors Maryann Weckerle and John Reynolds (right).

Lindenhurst Middle School Music Students Enlighten Developmentally Disabled Children

The Middle School Select Chorus, led by Kathleen Reilly and Candice Rice, along with the Jazz Band, conducted by Kelly Hayes, visited the AHRC School for developmentally disabled children in Brookville. The music groups performed for two different student audiences. After each performance, chorus and band members spent time with the AHRC students, talking and taking photos.

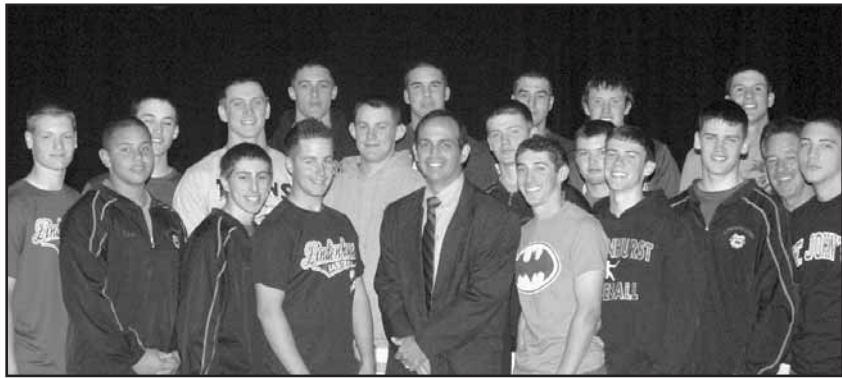
"The trip was a highly appreciated community service effort," observed Miss Reilly. "We are all so proud of the students' kindness, compassion and talent."



Lindenhurst Middle School students visit with students at the AHRC School in Brookville.

Yankee CFO Anthony Bruno Inducted into Lindy Hall of Fame

Former Lindenhurst High School graduate (class of 1984) and athlete Anthony Bruno returned to the school for his induction into the Lindy Hall of Fame and to speak with students about his success and the career path he chose. Mr. Bruno is currently employed as the Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer of Yankee Global Enterprises, also known as the famed New York Yankees baseball organization. Currently living with his family in Tampa, he was in New York for the Yankee's home opener and to receive his 2009 World Series Championship ring.



NY Yankees CFO and former Lindenhurst athlete Anthony Bruno with members of the Bulldog Baseball team and Baseball coach Mike Canobbio.

At Lindenhurst High School, Mr. Bruno was captain of the Varsity Baseball team, sports editor of the school newspaper, captain of the bowling team, class treasurer, and a member of the National Honor Society. After graduation, he played varsity baseball at Hofstra University. He graduated magna cum laude with a degree in Public Accounting and Psychology.

Mr. Bruno began working in the financial industry at a large accounting firm after college. He moved his way from junior to senior accountant and then became the controller at a regional drug company. He joined the Yankee organization in 2000, becoming Yankee owner George M. Steinbrenner's personal Chief Financial Officer. He has since moved around within the organization to the position he currently holds.

"Jobs are hard to come by with sports teams. Think big and always be prepared," Mr. Bruno advised Lindenhurst students. "I have been



(L-R) LindenHurst High School Assistant Principal Al Cirone, Football coach Nick Lombardo, Yankee CFO and Lindy graduate Anthony Bruno, and Baseball coach Mike Canobbio.

truly fortunate." Mr. Bruno is on the Board of Trustees for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society and presently serves as treasurer for the Suncoast Chapter. Recreationally, he has completed several half marathons and two full marathons, including the New York City Marathon.

"I aspired to play centerfield for the Yankees, but I am more than happy to be the chief financial officer," said Mr. Bruno. "It is truly a thrill to be back here at Lindenhurst High School."

Track Star Rhianna Conger to Attend Molloy College



Top Row: (L-R) Athletic Director Rich Roche, coach Steve Gosline and LindenHurst High School Principal Daniel E. Giordano. Bottom Row: (L-R) Annemarie Conger, Rhianna Conger and Rhianna's grandfather, Charles Kaehl.

LindenHurst High School track star Rhianna Conger recently signed a National Letter of Intent to attend Molloy College.

Rhianna was a member of the varsity winter and spring track teams for the past four years. She was also a four-time Most Valuable Player and qualified for the county and state championships every season she competed. Rhianna was ranked in the top 20 in Suffolk County, excelling in the 100-meter hurdles, 200-meter dash and the 4x200 relay.

"Not only is she a track star, but she is an amazing person as well," observed Coach Steve Gosline.

Soccer Stars Sign

LindenHurst High School soccer stars Rachel Blum and Kim D'Angelo have signed National Letters of Intent to attend Syracuse University and Charleston University, respectively, where they will continue their academic and athletic careers.

Rachel was Most Valuable Player and a two-time All-County player. In her four years as a starter, she scored 19 goals and made 14 assists. She will receive the John Kennedy Award in June.

Kim was also Most Valuable Player and received All-County honors this year and All-Conference honors in tenth grade. In her four years as a starter, she scored 20 goals and made 10 assists. She will receive the Kevin Kennedy Award in June.

"These young women are extraordinary people," exclaimed Coach Sara McGuire. "They both made huge contributions to the team."



Rachel Blum (left) and Kim D'Angelo (right) sign National Letters of Intent.

SCUBA LESSON GIVEN TO STUDENTS

Students enrolled in the Adelphi College physical education classes received a special lesson on basic scuba diving skills. Teacher Angelo Cioffeletti and scuba certified teacher Kevin Muscarello led the lesson in the Lindenhurst High School pool.

"We want to expose the 60 students in the advanced physical education program to unique water opportunities," explained Coordinator of Health and Physical Education Cheryl Clifton. "If they enjoy scuba in the pool, they can take additional lessons to become a certified scuba diver in the open water." Arrangements for continued interest are coordinated with local dive shops.



Physical Education teacher Kevin Muscarello shows students proper breathing techniques during a scuba lesson.

The LindenHurst Athletic Department is seeking qualified sports-minded members of the community to work as scorers and timers throughout the school year.

Please contact the Athletic Office at 867-3090 if you are interested.