



# Lindy SPOTLIGHT

October 2012

www.lindenhurstschools.org

LINDENHURST PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## 2012-2013 SCHOOL YEAR UNDERWAY

The Lindenhurst School District has embarked on a new, challenging academic year for which there is a continued emphasis on the academic achievement of all Lindenhurst students.

Community members will notice several changes for the 2012-2013 school year. First, the district welcomed two new administrators: Dr. Shari Camhi, assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction, and Jill Carroll, special education chairperson at Lindenhurst Middle School (for more information on Dr. Camhi and Ms. Carroll, please see page 3). "We look forward to the contributions of these educators and to the continued growth of our school district," said Superintendent of Schools Richard Nathan.

Capital improvement projects completed during the summer include a new serving line at the high school, along with behind-the-scenes hot and cold wells for the kitchen, hand and pot sinks and pass through refrigerators. These improvements were funded by the School Lunch Fund, which mandates the district to use money collected throughout the school year, rather than lose money from federal grants. The district is also meeting new federal mandates for school meals to ensure that they are healthy, well-balanced and provide students with the necessary nutrition. While the high school lunch prices have seen a slight increase to \$2.25, all other lunch and breakfast prices remain unchanged.

Building improvements were also completed at Lindenhurst Middle School over the summer. The auditorium ceiling was refinished and repainted, the speaker system was updated, and masonry repairs in the auditorium and south wing were completed. Additionally, new exit doors at the south wing were added. In curriculum news, all eighth-graders will be taking the Algebra regents in June.

Changes at the elementary level include a new math program called "GO Math," part of the New York State Common Core Learning Standards. The program has been expanded for grades 3-5.



This year the Lindenhurst School District faces more challenges as it implements new Annual Professional Performance Review standards and a new Code of Conduct. The district's updated code, which now reflects New York State's new anti-bullying law, can be found on the district website at [www.lindenhurstschools.org](http://www.lindenhurstschools.org) under "Code of Conduct." As a result of the above, the district scheduled two additional superintendent's conference days, one already held on Oct. 2, 2012 and the other on March 14, 2013. Another Conference Day, previously scheduled, will be held on Nov. 6, 2012. There will be no regular classes for students on these dates.

Finally, the district is working on becoming more "green." Report cards and progress reports at the secondary level will be available online on the Parent Portal. Paper versions will be available upon special request of a parent/guardian. The future of the Lindenhurst School District is bright. The community's continued support will go a long way to ensuring continued progress.



## TRAINING TEACHERS

A special Superintendent's Conference Day, held on Oct. 2, was dedicated to teacher training. By law, every district throughout New York State must have an Annual Professional Performance Review plan for classroom teachers and principals. The Lindenhurst School District has chosen the Danielson's Framework for Teaching (2011 Revised Edition).

For more information, see "APPR Plan in Place" on page 3.



Middle School Principal Frank Naccarato discusses the new system with teachers.



Fifth-grade teachers discuss report cards.

LINDENHURST PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
350 Daniel Street  
Lindenhurst, New York 11757

Nonprofit Organization  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Permit No. 55  
Lindenhurst, NY 11757

\*\*\*ECRWSS\*\*\*  
Carrier Route Presort  
Postal Customer

# Conference Day *Well Received*



Teachers received Years of Service awards during Superintendent's Conference Day.

Superintendent's Conference Day, held on Sept. 4, was the first of four districtwide meetings for all Lindenhurst School District faculty. Superintendent Richard Nathan opened the meeting by welcoming everyone. Lindenhurst Association of School Administrators President Frank Naccarato and Teachers' Association of Lindenhurst President Rose Russo followed with welcoming remarks.

Superintendent Nathan recognized the instructional personnel with Years of Service awards. Congratulations to Thomas Dolise and Mary Marion for 30 years; John Hmelovsky, Ralph Ruggiero and Angelo Zurica for 25 years; and Frank DeVenuto, Noreen Greeman, Michelle Keogh, Jeannine LaMartina, Milliza Longo-Lewis, Darlene Metz, Geraldine Minucci, Debra Pastore and Michele Rollman for 20 years of service to the district.

During conference day, teachers also participated in a special training session for NexGen, the district's new administrative computer system. Faculty now has access to the updated system, which will be used for reporting, registration, scheduling, attendance, the teacher gradebook and the Parent Portal.

Other superintendent's conference days will be held on Nov. 6, 2012 and March 14, 2013.

## What is Special Education PTA (SEPTA)?

Have you ever heard the term "special needs" and wonder if your child falls into that category? If your child has an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or receives related services such as occupational therapy, physical therapy or resource room, then your child has special needs. Special Education PTA (SEPTA) is designed to help parents advocate for their special needs child.

The group is a forum for parents, teachers and administrators to exchange information on various programs, funding and the ever-changing state and federal laws, and to support each other on the problems and challenges that come with educating our children.

Membership is not restricted to parents/teachers/students enrolled in special education programs or receiving special services. Like all PTAs, it is open to any interested parent, teacher, student, administrator or community member who cares about special education issues and advocacy. The goals are to support, strengthen and promote a greater awareness of special education and to help the special needs child live up to his or her potential.

Lindenhurst's SEPTA conducts lectures and workshops on many issues. Upcoming meetings are Oct. 22, 7:30 p.m., at Harding Avenue Elementary School and Nov. 26, 7:30 p.m. at the McKenna Administration Building. For additional information, visit [www.septa.lindenhurstschools.site.eboard.com](http://www.septa.lindenhurstschools.site.eboard.com).



## SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE:

Welcome back to the 2012-2013 academic year! As I begin my 17th year in Lindenhurst, I am convinced that it takes an exceptional staff, informed parents and involved community members to create the best possible arena for learning. I would like to acknowledge our instructional and administrative staff and a variety of support staff, at both the school and district levels, who work tirelessly every day to ensure that all students, in addition to acquiring content knowledge, ideally learn to think deeply, support their thinking, apply problem-solving skills and actively participate in their own learning.

We have made some changes in our administrative staffing. Dr. Shari Camhi is our new assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction. Dr. Camhi comes to us with a great deal of experience and expertise. She served as assistant superintendent in Glen Cove for the past seven years. In addition, Jill Carroll is our new middle school special education chair.

For 2012-2013, we were faced with a tax cap of 2% or CPI (whichever is less). Since some expense increases were excluded from the cap, Lindenhurst's actual allowable tax cap for 2012-2013 was 3.55%. However, the final increase in the district's tax levy was 2.45%, with an increase in expenditures of only 1.07%. In order to accommodate this increase, we cut 15.6 instructional positions and three non-instructional positions, we have replaced the Alternative Learning Center with an after-school program, and we are replacing the Orion Program in grades 4, 5 and 6 with after-school gifted and talented "clubs."

For this school year, the district must have in place an Annual Professional Performance Review for classroom teachers and building principals. Each teacher and principal will be evaluated based upon a "composite effectiveness score," which is defined as the total effectiveness score out of 100 points assigned to a teacher or principal. For teachers, 40% of the score is based upon measures of student performance, while the remainder is based upon formative evaluations and other performance criteria. Ultimately, instructional and administrative staff will be rated as "highly effective," "effective," "developing" or "ineffective" based on their effectiveness scores.

The new Dignity for All Students Act has generated some major additions to our Code of Conduct, including an expansion of the definition of harassment and the inclusion of bullying and cyberbullying. In addition, we must address behavior that occurs off school property and creates or would foreseeably create a risk of substantial disruption within the school environment, where it is foreseeable that the conduct, threats, intimidation or abuse might reach school property.

In addition, at the secondary level, we are making an attempt to "go green" and reduce the number of printed progress reports and report cards by encouraging parents to use the Parent Portal in lieu of printing a hard copy. Hard copies will not be printed unless specifically requested by the parent.

As we begin our new school year, please take time to renew, rekindle and create memories. I look forward to meeting you at district events.

**Lindenhurst Union Free School District**  
350 Daniel Street, Lindenhurst, NY 11757  
Tel: (631) 867-3023, Fax: (631) 867-3008  
e-mail: [chauser@lindenhurstschools.org](mailto:chauser@lindenhurstschools.org)

*Lindy Spotlight* is the school district's community newsletter, containing pertinent information on the activities and issues of the district, published six 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.

### BOARD OF EDUCATION

Donna Hochman, President  
Edward J. Murphy Jr., Vice President

#### TRUSTEES

Patricia A. Ames  
Mary Ellen Cunningham  
Raymond Doran  
Edward Langone  
Valerie McKenna  
Robert R. Vitiello

### CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION

Richard Nathan  
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Dr. Shari L. Camhi  
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT FOR CURRICULUM  
AND INSTRUCTION

Jacqueline A. Scrio  
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT FOR BUSINESS

Louis J. Aiello  
ASSISTANT TO THE SUPERINTENDENT FOR SPECIAL  
EDUCATION AND PUPIL PERSONNEL SERVICES

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 and Section 504 Coordinator Louis J. Aiello at (631) 867-3100 at the Central Administration Building, 350 Daniel Street, Lindenhurst, NY 11757.

# Welcome New Administrators



Dr. Shari L. Camhi has been appointed the assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction for the Lindenhurst School District.

Dr. Camhi joins Lindenhurst from the Glen Cove City School District, where she served as the assistant superintendent for curriculum, instruction and technology. While there, Dr. Camhi focused on reinventing a district of excellence consistent with 21st century learning and teaching. Dr. Camhi brings her expertise to Lindenhurst and will emphasize five pillars to define the educational program, including Teaching for Understanding, Understanding by Design, Differentiated Instruction, Inquiry and Social Emotional Learning.

Dr. Camhi began her career as a special education teacher in the New York City public schools. She also worked as a special education teacher and computer coordinator at John Dewey High School in Brooklyn as well as the district chairperson of computer instruction and technology in the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District. Additionally, she held the role of assistant superintendent for secondary education, technology and strategic planning with the Mineola School District.

Dr. Camhi received her Doctorate of Education in organization and leadership from Teacher's College at Columbia University and a professional diploma in school administration and supervision from Long Island University. She earned her Master of Science in special education from Adelphi University and her Bachelor of Science in special education and psychology from Brooklyn College.

Dr. Camhi has spoken at conferences around the United States, published numerous articles and received several awards. She is excited about the opportunities available in the Lindenhurst School District. "My experience has provided me with perspectives and abilities that make me uniquely qualified for the responsibilities of the assistant superintendent," she said. "I intend to utilize my strengths to help the Lindenhurst schools prepare students for the future."



Jill M. Carroll has been appointed the Lindenhurst Middle School special education chairperson for the Lindenhurst School District.

Ms. Carroll previously served as the supervisor of special education for the Wantagh School District, a role in which she monitored all special education operations throughout the district. Previously, she was a director and senior administrator at the Henry Viscardi School in Albertson, N.Y., as well as principal of Medford Avenue Elementary School in the Patchogue-Medford School District.

Ms. Carroll holds two Master of Science degrees, one in educational administration from the College of New Rochelle and the other in special education from Queens College. She received her Bachelor of Arts in early childhood/elementary education from Queens College, as well.

"I can offer the district a blend of professional experience and clinical expertise that will allow me to meet the diverse needs of Lindenhurst students," said Ms. Carroll. "I will work hard to develop the skills needed to prepare students for the future."



*Lindenhurst High School business department teachers train on the new system.*

## APPR Plan in Place

The Lindenhurst School District has chosen the Charlotte Danielson Framework for Teaching model as the tool it will use for its teacher evaluation process. "Lindenhurst administrators and instructional staff will be evaluated using a new model this year," explained Dr. Shari Camhi, assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction. "It is a research-based method of learning and teaching, and we felt the Danielson framework would be best for Lindenhurst." Thousands of schools nationwide currently use this model.

By law, every district throughout New York State must have an Annual Professional Performance Review plan for classroom teachers and principals. The evaluation is based upon a "composite effectiveness score," which is defined as the total effectiveness score out of 100 points assigned to a teacher or principal.

The Danielson model was developed by educational consultant Charlotte Danielson. It has proven to be a popular option for new evaluation systems. The model is divided into four domains, or areas of evaluation, with 22 components. The four domains consist of planning and preparation, classroom environment, instruction and professional responsibilities. Each of these areas contains specific components; for example, the instruction domain includes communicating with students, using questioning and discussion techniques, engaging students, using assessment and demonstrating flexibility and responsiveness.

Lindenhurst administrators were recently trained on this framework. Hands-on learning techniques and teaching styles were utilized, such as dividing into groups, individual writing, movement around the classroom and the effect of background music. As part of the training, administrators viewed a video of a teacher giving a lesson on maps. They rated the teacher and discussed results among each other by using specific evidence shown in the video.



# DASA Across the District

## What is the Dignity for All Students Act?



The Dignity for All Students Act, also known as DASA, states, "All children have the right to attend school in a safe, welcoming and caring environment." The new state education law gives instruction in civility, citizenship, character education, tolerance, respect for others and dignity. It combats bias-based bullying, harassment and discrimination in public schools, and includes awareness and sensitivity in the relations of people, including individuals of different races, weights, national origins, ethnicities, religions or religious practices, mental or physical abilities, sexes, sexual orientations and gender identities or expressions.

DASA has generated major additions to the Lindenhurst School District's code of conduct, including an expansion of the definition of harassment and the inclusion of bullying and cyberbullying. In addition, the district must address behavior occurring off school property that creates or would foreseeably create a risk of substantial disruption within the school environment, where it is foreseeable that the conduct, threats, intimidation or abuse might reach school property.



**Albany Avenue** kindergarten students have completed the Caring Kids lessons, which help them identify their feelings, practice putting themselves in the shoes of another (the development of empathy), learn to respect differences, identify bullying behaviors and learn how to effectively respond to bullying. The first- and second-grade classes will be receiving the McGruff Program-four weeks of lessons on safety and bullying taught by a Suffolk County sheriff and culminating with a visit from McGruff the Crime Dog. The third- and fourth-graders will meet with volunteers from Child Abuse Prevention Services (CAPS), who will present "Steer Clear of Bullies," a two-part series on developing and practicing the skills necessary to protect themselves. The fifth-grade students will participate in workshops about getting along with peers and cliques. In addition, Mix It Up Day will be celebrated in the cafeteria, encouraging the students to sit/speak with new peers. Push-in lessons throughout the year will continue to address issues that affect everyone, such as tolerance and respect, and all teachers will continue to make their classrooms safe and inclusive learning environments for all.

**Alleghany Avenue's** harassment and bully prevention program started the year strong with faculty training on the law, which went into effect in July. Additionally, the district's aides received special training. This is crucial, as the aides work with students during non-classroom times, often when bullying takes place. As for direct intervention, Alleghany utilizes a Social Emotional Development and Learning (SEDL) program called "Emotional Literacy" (EL), originally developed by Mark Brackett of Yale University. This research-based classroom curriculum teaches students how to manage their emotions, an important skill in bully and harassment prevention. One of the tools used from the EL program is the Mood Meter. The Mood Meter helps students understand, express and manage their emotions. The teachers even have their own Mood Meter. A schoolwide assembly called "The Power of One" has been scheduled and is supported by the PTA. All classrooms will receive presentations by the school social worker, Child Abuse Prevention Services "CAPS" on "Steer Clear of Bullies," Friendship Matters and Caring Kids, as well as Suffolk County's McGruff Safety Program. Alleghany's "upstanders" are ready for a bully-free school year!





**Daniel Street and William Rall** students are implementing a number of new programs. First, the schools will continue with already established second- through fifth-grade bully prevention presentations.

PowerPoint presentations and movies are used to help educate students about bullying and what everyone can do to make schools safer. New for this year are additional presentations by Child Abuse Prevention Services "CAPS" to reinforce the message about bullying for fourth grade. Fifth-grade students will learn about cyberbullying. In addition, first-grade students will receive a four-week program from the Suffolk County Sheriff's Department called "The McGruff Safety Program," teaching young children about bullying behavior and how to stay safe. Finally, the school has developed a program called "Anti-Bullying Ambassadors." Role model students from fifth grade will be trained to speak to all classes throughout the school about different facts of bullying each week. All students will be reminded throughout the school year about what bullying is and what each student is asked to do if he or she witnesses bullying behavior. These comprehensive programs are designed as preventative measures to stop bullying behaviors.



Since the implementation of the Dignity Act, **West Gates Avenue and Harding Avenue** schools are expanding upon the social emotional learning programs that are already in place. Social emotional learning and development go hand-in-hand with the Dignity Act in that they nurture the student's ability to develop a higher level of tolerance and empathy as well as diversity. The goal is for students to develop greater self-awareness, better relational skills and improved decision-making skills, all of which will lead to greater social awareness. Developing these skills in our children will ensure that bullying and harassment will be minimized. In addition to classroom lessons taught by the teachers, the social workers will be visiting the classes on a monthly basis to discuss the character education themes, which include integrity, compassion and respect. These sessions will incorporate relevant literature to illustrate the concepts.

The schools will host a nationally recognized bully prevention assembly called "The Power of One." This program illustrates the different types of bullying as well as roles in a bullying situation, highlighting the important role of a bystander. The program encourages students to be "upstanders," standing up for those they observe being harassed. Another program, called "Friendship Matters," is for fifth-grade girls. This program addresses relational bullying among girls and takes a strength-based approach that emphasizes improving friendships and developing greater tolerance for differences.



*All children have the right to attend school in a safe, welcoming and caring environment.*

## College Fair Highlights Opportunities

Lindenhurst High School's guidance department sponsored a college fair to educate students on academic opportunities after high school. More than 100 colleges, universities and trade schools were present to provide students with further insight into their options after graduation. Many students attended to gather more information on prospective schools and speak with representatives.

"It is wonderful that many colleges send representatives to speak with the Lindenhurst students," said Barbara Donnellan, the district's coordinator of guidance. "We believe the students get a lot of information from these college fairs."



Guidance counselor John Rossillo shows students information at the college fair.

## Clubs and Activity Fair Encourages Involvement

Lindenhurst High School's annual Club and Activity Fair, held on Oct. 4, provided students in all grades with the opportunity to learn about the extracurricular clubs that are available to them at the high school. The fair encourages involvement, as colleges look closely at the extracurricular activities of their applicants.

"The clubs and activities at the high school are popular," said fair coordinator and Assistant Principal Linda Flannely. "Students should pick an activity that reflects their interests and get involved." Clubs must have a minimum of 18 meetings per school year and meet for 50 minutes per session.



Lindenhurst High School students participated in the annual Clubs and Activity Fair.

## Leader Attends Forum on Medicine

Lindenhurst High School senior Caroline Rakus-Wojciechowski attended the National Young Leaders Forum on Medicine in Boston, Mass. At the forum, she was able to further explore her lifelong ambition of becoming a neurosurgeon. The Lindenhurst senior joined high school students from around the globe who have also demonstrated academic excellence and an interest in a career in medicine.

Caroline was introduced to a variety of concepts in public health, medical ethics, research and general practice and enjoyed site visits to medical facilities and clinics. She participated in a simulation using problem-based learning, an educational method in which the program participants are presented with a fictional patient's case history and then have to diagnose and develop a treatment plan for that patient.

By shadowing key personnel, she enjoyed the opportunity to gain a behind-the-scenes perspective on a medical career while visiting Harvard Medical School and Boston MedFlight. In addition to visiting clinical facilities, she interacted with leaders within the medical field. "I engaged personally with these physicians, surgeons, researchers, scientists and medical educators, as well as witnessed a live total knee replacement surgery," said Caroline. "I hope to start a program to give humanitarian aid to developing countries."



Lindenhurst High School senior Caroline Rakus-Wojciechowski enjoyed the opportunity for hands-on experience in the medical field.

## Seniors Awarded for Driver Education



Principal Daniel E. Giordano with Driver Education Award recipients Alyssa Deprosop and Falon Kirby.

Lindenhurst High School seniors Alyssa Deprosop and Falon Kirby were awarded AAA's Driver Education Award as the outstanding students in their school's driver education course. The students were selected based on their driving skills, knowledge of the rules of the road, and a mature attitude and approach to driving.

Alyssa and Falon were each presented with a personalized plaque and a gift certificate for a defensive driving class. "They were truly deserving of this award," said teacher Frank Devenuto.

## Camp for Future

Congratulations to the nine Lindenhurst students who participated in the Colgate Science and Sports Camp this past summer. The camp was an intense two-week program funded by the Howard Hughes Medical Institute with the goal of getting motivated students excited about and engaged in science, scientific research and the possibility of pursuing science as a field of study and a career.

Throughout the two-week program, students work in science laboratories conducting experiments with Colgate professors and research students. This year's participants performed in vitro fertilization of sea urchins, synthesized and analyzed colorful organic molecules, learned about frogs' calf muscles and programmed computer image graphics. Participants also enjoyed playing volleyball, basketball, soccer and ultimate frisbee, coached by Division I college athletes.

Congratulations to the following Lindenhurst students who participated: Tahamina Akter, Salman Butt, Melissa Castiglione, Brittany Duryea, Gabriella Leto, Jenna Lynch, Kristina Petroglia, Joseph Reggi and Tierney Ruppell. "It was an incredible experience!" remarked Lindenhurst science coordinator and program founder Janna Ostroff.



## Students Donate to ASPCA

Lindenhurst Middle School's Peer Tutor Club raised \$400 for the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals by selling candy. The Peer Tutor Club consists of seventh- and eighth-graders who tutor sixth-grade students needing extra help in mathematics.

The ASPCA was the first humane society established in North America, and today is one of the largest in the world. The monies donated will help rescue animals, assist in the passing of humane laws and share resources with animal shelters.



*Eighth-grade members of Lindenhurst Middle School's Peer Tutor Club (L-R) Samantha Monahan, Ziad Zambry, Liam Shanley and Gregory MacGown.*

## Orientation Welcomes Sixth-Graders



*Parents and students listen to Lindenhurst Middle School Principal Frank Naccarato give a presentation about the school during the annual sixth-grade orientation.*

Incoming sixth-grade students were introduced to the wonderful world of Lindenhurst Middle School at the sixth-grade orientation held the week before school opened. As part of the orientation, students and parents were able to walk around the school, listen to a presentation from Principal Frank Naccarato and enjoying a breakfast, which was served by members of the school's National Junior Honor Society.

The program began with advice from Mr. Naccarato to students and parents. "Get involved in activities," he encouraged as he discussed some of the middle school rules. He described the events of a typical day at school, as well as the various clubs offered to students.

Students were then given tours, schedules and a bagel breakfast in the cafeteria. They were able to purchase new green Master Locks, T-shirts and shorts. Guidance counselors were also available to discuss schedules.

## Lindenhurst High School Welcomes the Class of 2016

Incoming freshmen received warm greetings at Lindenhurst High School's ninth-grade orientation. The Class of 2016 listened to Principals Daniel Giordano and Frank Picozzi speak about what to expect at the high school and reviewed their schedules. Student Council members and Peer Leaders were on hand to assist and give tours, advice and moral support to incoming students.



*New freshmen at Lindenhurst High School attended the school's ninth-grade orientation, during which they and their parents had a chance to become more acquainted with what to expect.*

## Steak Fry RAISES MONEY for Scholarships



*Students, administrators and Kiwanis organizers raised money for student scholarships at the annual Steak Fry.*

Thousands of dollars for Lindenhurst High School students were raised by the 54th annual Larry Troiano Memorial Steak Fry, sponsored by the Lindenhurst Kiwanis Club. This year, six deserving seniors were awarded \$12,000 in scholarship money. Lindenhurst Kiwanis has raised more than \$387,000 through the years and awarded 236 recipients. These scholarships are instrumental in securing a quality education for some students. The event was held at Fireman's Park, where participants enjoyed food, music and raffles. High School Key Club members assisted in making the event a success.

"The success of this event gives the scholarship committee the ability to award substantial scholarship monies to successful candidates of the Lindenhurst High School graduating class," said Jo Ann Boettcher, event chairperson. "We would also like to recognize Outback Steakhouse for their generous food donations."



The middle school marching band at the homecoming parade.



Homecoming King Daniel Alzaraki and Queen Jessica Jensen.

## Homecoming Displays Lindy Pride

Lindy Pride was found all over the community as the school district celebrated its 2012 homecoming festivities. The events began on Oct. 5 with the middle school pep rally. Student-athletes from all teams showed off their green and white as the bulldog mascot encouraged the crowd to cheer and stomp. Students conducted an amazing human wave throughout the bleachers, displaying their school spirit.



Lindenhurst High School's winning senior float.

The homecoming fun continued into the evening as the high school pep rally brought together all sports teams, the marching band, dance teams and the cheer squad to display their Lindy Pride, coordinated by the student council and athletic departments. Homecoming Queen Jessica Jensen and King Daniel Alzaraki were announced to loud cheers.

The homecoming parade was held the following day. The floats started at Fireman's Park, made their way down Wellwood Avenue, and ended at Lindenhurst Middle School. This year's colorful floats were designed around the theme of children's books. The senior class won the competition with their interactive "Cat in the Hat" float.

The Lindenhurst High School varsity football team took the field for the homecoming game against Ward Melville. Despite a strong first half, the Bulldogs lost 27-21.



The boys cross-country team show their spirit at the pep rally.



The varsity football team at the beginning of the homecoming game.



Football players at the homecoming game.



Lindenhurst students walk for childhood cancer research.

## STUDENTS WALK FOR CHILDHOOD CANCER RESEARCH

The Christina Renna Foundation held its 2012 walk-a-thon and blood drive on Sunday, Sept. 23, at the Lindenhurst Middle School athletic field. Athletes from Lindenhurst Middle School and Lindenhurst High School enjoyed a cool, sunny morning walking around the track to raise money to benefit children's cancer research. In addition to the blood drive, there was also a bone marrow drive to help a local Lindenhurst resident.

Christina Renna was a Lindenhurst High School athlete who passed away from cancer a few years ago. Her father Philip Renna, former president of the Lindenhurst School District's Board of Education, said, "We would like to thank everyone in the school district and the Lindenhurst community for supporting the foundation." Christina's vision was "a prayer, a wish and a dream of a cancer-free world."

The Foundation is dedicated to supporting childhood cancer research and furthering awareness and education through the support of cancer groups and outreach programs for the direct support of those in need. For further information, please visit [www.crf4acure.org](http://www.crf4acure.org).



Athletes at the Renna walk-a-thon.

## Swim Team Digs Pink

The Lindenhurst High School varsity swim team held a special breast cancer awareness "Dig Pink" swim meet on Oct. 4. Team members wore pink swim caps and parents sold "pink treats" to raise money for breast cancer awareness. The treats included homemade cupcakes, cookies, lemonade and chocolate. They also sold magnets, pens, bracelets, pins, mints and stickers. "This team is special," said coach Diane Pollard. "They raised \$150 that day and will donate the money to the American Cancer Society."



Lindenhurst High School's varsity swim team members wore pink swim caps in support of breast cancer awareness.