



www.threevillagescd.org

The

Reporter

SUMMER 2018

The Official Newsletter of the Three Village School District

WARD MELVILLE GRADUATES Class of 2018

Proud family members, friends, and community residents blanketed the front lawn at Ward Melville High School to recognize and celebrate the Class of 2018 during this year's commencement exercises on June 24.

Following a processional from the building to the sounds of "Pomp and Circumstance," performed by the high school symphonic band, a number of speakers addressed the crowd.

Salutatorian Michael Lu's speech included reflections on the past, making note of the supports the students were provided with, as well as words of encouragement that each could achieve their goals, as long as they were willing to take risks and possess passion to learn.

Valedictorian Ethan Li noted the greatness of the class, and how their path only goes up from here. Michael will be attending the University of Pennsylvania in the fall and Ethan is bound for Princeton University.

As has become tradition, Student Government President Jillian Becker announced the class gift; a set of picnic tables for outside the field house.

Board of Education Vice President, Irene Gische, encouraged the students to always follow the dreams they have for themselves, to aim high and not let anything stand in their way. These sentiments were echoed by Principal Dr. Alan Baum, as he encouraged the students to embrace chance and to be involved, engaged forces of change in society.

One by one, the graduates were then called to the dais to receive their diplomas before taking part in the symbolic turning of the tassels under the direction of Class of 2018 representative Liv Halvorsen. Under thunderous applause from the audience, the caps were tossed ceremoniously into the summer sky, and the latest Ward Melville alumni joined their families in celebration.



Leading the Way

Ethan Li – Valedictorian, Princeton University

Ethan has maintained a challenging academic schedule throughout his career at Ward Melville, including nine Advanced Placement courses in the areas of science, computer science and mathematics alone. He is a National Advanced Placement Scholar, a national Merit Scholarship Finalist, a 2017 Scholar Chess Player and was named to the All-American Chess Team from 2016-2018.



He is the founder of the Ward Melville Chess Team, a member of the Science Bowl, Math Team and school newspaper. As a dedicated community member, he regularly gives back to the local area as a volunteer chess instructor and as the organizer of Mission: Toothbrush, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that organizes donation drives for various charities and soup kitchens.

Michael Lu – Salutatorian, University of Pennsylvania

Michael has boasted an impressive academic record throughout his academic career. He is highly involved in the district's Science Research Program and was named a Regeneron Science Talent Search Scholar based on his research on heart health. He was elected the vice president of the school's Chess Team, served as the defense attorney for the building's Mock Trial Team and was named a National Merit finalist. Michael has also been a dedicated volunteer at Mather Hospital.



Academy Graduates CELEBRATE

This year's cohort of Three Village Academy graduates celebrated their collective achievements during a commemorative ceremony at the North Country Administrative Center. Surrounded by proud family members, district staff and friends, the students were applauded for the strides they made that culminated in this event.

"I wish the 2018 graduates success as they go out in the world with a renewed confidence and strength," said Gus Hueber, Three Village Academy Principal. "For the more they know themselves, the more empowered they will be."

Congratulations to this year's graduates:

Grace Amster
Michael DeVeau
Isis Hart
Tyler Hawkins

Jordan Mahmood
Nicholas Marasa
Al Vidal
Santino Zito



Ninth-Graders Move Up

Ninth-grade classes at R.C. Murphy and P.J. Gelinis Junior High School marked a significant milestone this June and celebrated at their respective moving up ceremonies.

Having amassed countless accolades over the past three years in junior high school, the students were celebrated not only for their academic achievements, but for the success they attained beyond the traditional classroom. At Murphy, members of each academic department presented honored students with plaques and awards noting their exemplary achievements. Gelinis' ceremony also highlighted individual awards – including celebrating two staff members for their more than 80 collective years of service to the school district and one student who has maintained a perfect attendance record since kindergarten.

Musical interludes were peppered in throughout both ceremonies, highlighting the vocal talents of the soon to be 10th-graders, before members of the administration called the "graduates" to the dais to receive their moving up certificates and, at Gelinis, a yellow rose in honor of a former member of the grade.

Congrats Grads!



Arrowhead Elementary



Setauket Elementary



Minnesauke Elementary



Nassakeag Elementary



William Sidney Mount Elementary

BOARD OF EDUCATION

President: William F. Connors, Jr.

Vice President: Irene Gische

Trustees: Deanna Bavlnka, Inger Germano, Dr. Jeffrey Kerman,
Jonathan Kornreich, Angelique Ragolia

Superintendent of Schools: Cheryl Pedisich

****ECRWSS****

Residential Customer



With Thanks & Appreciation

With nearly 460 collective years of service to the district, its students and community, Three Village extends deep appreciation, as it bids a fond farewell to the following retirees:

TEACHERS

Phoebe Anderson – *Physical Education/Health*

Linda Barrett – *Health*

Susan Berman – *Special Education*

Paul Brendel – *Science*

Taryn Cinquemani – *Music*

Carol Donovan – *Social Studies*

Pamela Ray-Argandona – *Special Education*

Carol Vannes – *Business*

ADMINISTRATORS

Liz Brecht – *Foreign Languages*

Patricia Fore – *Assistant Director PPS*

Linda Messina – *Elementary Assistant Principal*

Gary Vorwald – *Science Chairperson*

Patricia Reinke – *Assistant Director of Child Nutrition*

NURSES

Joyce Lydon

TEACHING ASSISTANTS

Bobbi Valdez

Barbara Paladino

STAFF

Ralph Corso – *Security Guard*

Jean Bowen – *School Monitor*

Maureen Gresch – *Special Education Aide*

Denise Kocka – *Special Education Aide*

The district also commends the newly tenured staff listed below and thanks them for their unwavering dedication to the district.

Joann Alberici – *Teaching Assistant*

John Ferraro – *Teaching Assistant*

Kaitlin Donohue – *Teaching Assistant*

Kristine Sheffele – *Social Worker*

Craig Chapman – *Physical Education Teacher*

Nicole Foronjy – *Reading Teacher*

Catia Napolitano – *Reading Teacher*

Jason Chapman – *Music Teacher*

Jaimie Bilek – *Social Studies Teacher*

Stacey Russo – *ESL Teacher*

Tammy Catalfamo – *English Teacher*

Harry Savage – *Special Education Teacher*

Tanya Hurowitz – *Arrowhead Assistant Principal*

Merrilleen Heidrich – *Mount Assistant Principal*

Jonathon Rufa – *Murphy Assistant Principal*

Patricia Fore – *Assistant Director PPS*

Dawn Mason – *Executive Director PPS*



Ward Melville Athletes Commit to College

In a banner year, 64 Ward Melville High School students have committed to continue their athletic journey at some of the nation's premier colleges and universities this fall.

"This is a remarkable achievement, to have so many students selected to continue to compete at the college level," said Peter Melore, Executive Director for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Athletics. "What is even more impressive is the fact that 62 percent of the athletes selected to compete at this high level have maintained a 90 percent average or better."

For a full listing of the collegiate athletes, please visit the district's website.



SERVICE-BOUND GRADUATES

Anthony Alaimo, Army

John Caltabiano, Marines

Ryan Caltabiano, Marines

Liam Davenport, West Point

Steven Jellen, Army ROTC

Joshua Meyer, Navy