



# Jericho School News

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## *Jericho's Guidance Departments Reach Beyond Office Doors*

Guidance, defined as advice or information aimed at resolving a problem or difficulty, doesn't begin to describe all that happens in Jericho's Guidance Departments.

The three Jericho Middle School guidance counselors, Meredith Pollack-Richman, Kerri Schmitt, and Joan York are each assigned a grade and continue to work with that grade as the students progress through middle school. The middle school counselors have a unique position, as they are a key component in a successful transition from elementary to middle school and middle school to high school.

Jericho High School counselors, Brian Deaner, Candy Bodner, Deborah Lisa-Brown, Jason Rubinstein, Bobby Becker and Mary Jo Moriarty, although very involved in the college application process, provide so much more to the students. They often work in a wide-ranging capacity from mentor to club advisor, extending their reach beyond the guidance office doors.

Students first meet the counselors in eighth grade during "High School 101," which prepares the students for high

school. Along with current ninth graders, the counselors work with the students to discuss course selection and the transition into high school. All eighth through eleventh grade students meet individually with the counselors to discuss schedules for the following year.

In the fall, counselors, and support staff, help coordinate college visits to the High School. Over 100 representatives from colleges across the country visited the high school to meet with students not in a college-fair setting. Representatives made themselves available to speak to interested students individually. The military and service academies were included as well.

This year, the high school guidance counselors helped prepare and submit 3,600 college applications for approximately 315 graduating seniors.

To help the students with the college application and resume development process, the counselors help families utilize the program Naviance, which is a college and career planning tool for the students. Resume information is entered starting in

ninth grade to help students keep track of their many activities.

High School Assistant Principal Joan Rosenberg helps coordinate many guidance activities, including financial aid meetings, presentations at various events, including SEPTA meetings, PTSA meetings, and evening counseling sessions.

Another important function of the guidance office is working with international students as well as coordinating new student placement and testing. High School Psychologist Danielle Largotta-Smith, Psy.D., and High School Social Worker, Todd Benjamin, work with the counselors on a regular basis, as do Middle School psychologist, Dr. Jeffrey Barnes, and Middle School social worker, Joanne Verdino.

When asked to describe the guidance department, Curriculum Associate Lois Smith said, "grow, plan, stretch, cope, think, make good choices, share, guide, and listen."

For more information about the guidance department, and to view presentations, visit [hs.jerichoschools.org/resources/guidance](http://hs.jerichoschools.org/resources/guidance)

### *In this Issue:*

-Board of Education Adopts Budget

-Students Named Intel Semi-finalists

-*Seussical the Musical* A Success

-Robert Seaman Students Named Principal for a Day

-Athletes Attend Signing Day

-Diversity Day Showcases Jericho's Many Cultures and Traditions

-Middle School Makes Donation



*The High School guidance staff. Top row (L-R) counselors Deborah Lisa-Brown, Jason ▲ Rubinstein, Bobby Becker, Brian Deaner, Candy Bodner and Mary Jo Moriarty. Seated are High School Assistant Principal Joan Rosenberg (left) and Lois Smith (right).*

## Middle & High School Diversity Performances Showcase Talent



Middle Schooler Shruthi showcases a traditional dance. ▲



Jun performs in the Nanta Traditional Drums finale and Gangnam Style Dance! ▲



◀ The Middle School Chinese Ribbon Dance was a beautiful addition to the Diversity show.

## Robert Seaman Students Named Principal for a Day



As part of a fundraiser to assist the Long Beach School District with disaster relief after Super Storm Sandy, Robert Seaman students won a raffle to be principal for a day. Here they are pictured during a very important meeting with Superintendent Hank Grishman, and Robert Seaman Principal Adam Winnick.



## *Seussical the Musical a Smashing Success*



- ▲ *The Jericho High School Harlequin Players recently performed Suessical the Musical to a sold out crowd. The one-liners and amazing talent made it a show not to be missed. Congratulations to the cast and crew.*

## *Middle School Students Make Donation to Oceanside Schools*



*After Super Storm Sandy, the Jericho School District mobilized – helping Jericho residents, teachers and our neighbors. Jericho Middle School partnered with Oceanside Middle School to help them through the devastation. Representatives from Oceanside, including Principal Allison Glickman-Rogers, visited Jericho Middle School’s Diversity Day performance to accept letters from the students, as well as a monetary donation. She also thanked Jericho for the donation of calculators, which the students needed for upcoming tests. Principal Glickman-Rogers thanked Jericho Middle School Principal Donald Gately for his support and generosity.*



## ***Board of Ed Adopts 2013-2014 Budget That Meets Tax Cap Legislation***

The Board of Education unanimously adopted the proposed 2013-2014 school district budget at an open meeting on March 14, 2013. The \$117,878,708 budget represents a 2.98% budget increase and a tax levy increase not to exceed 3.13%.

### ***\*The Board did NOT exceed the New York State Property Tax Levy Threshold\****

Since January, the district hosted a series of public workshops to review the financial status of the school district and create a budget for the coming year. The Board of Education and district administration requested input from members of the school community at these workshops. "We have worked together to create a budget that provides the highest quality instructional program while being extremely mindful of the financial impact on our taxpayers and still remaining within the tax threshold," explains Jericho Superintendent Hank Grishman. Below is an outline of some significant items that impacted the budget development process.

### **BUDGET STRATEGIES:**

- Remain committed to being a premier school district
- Commitment to our District's mission and goals
- Keep a multi-year perspective on the budget
- Review all programs to determine effectiveness, feasibility and our commitment to their continuation
- Maintain our building reconditioning projects
- Continue our technology replacement plans
- Continue to pursue efficiencies in all areas of the district.

### **LOSS OF REVENUE:**

State Aid has been reduced by \$1.4 million since the peak in 2009-2010. The Governor's proposed reduction for 2013-2014 for Jericho is close to \$200,000.

### **EDUCATIONAL ENHANCEMENTS:**

#### **New High School Course Offerings:\***

- Advanced Latin Literature
- Advanced Research/Writing

*\* IMPLEMENTED WITH EXISTING STAFF  
AT NO ADDITIONAL COST TO TAXPAYERS.*

### **CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS:**

Districtwide ceiling lighting upgrades to promote energy efficiency.

### **CURRENT & FUTURE CHALLENGES:**

- State Aid: At what point does more aid shift from low need districts to higher needs districts?
- Federal Funding: With the national debt crisis, will there be reductions in Federal funding? Current discussions taking place regarding sequestration at the federal level. This could reduce certain federal funding 5% – 9%.
- When will increases in retirement systems contributions and health care insurance premiums plateau?
- Review all programs to determine effectiveness, feasibility and our commitment to their continuation
- Nassau County Tax Certiorari Challenge: On-going litigation to force school districts to pay for tax certiorari challenges the county currently pays. This would be a cost shift for all districts, but particularly for districts like Jericho that have a significant corporate tax base.

## ***On the Ballot: Proposition #2: Capital Reserve Recommendation***

During the May 21 budget vote, residents will have the opportunity to vote on a Capital Reserve Recommendation. Approving this proposition would allow the district to establish a capital reserve fund, and enable the district to set aside funds for future construction projects.

*Creating this capital reserve fund does not require raising additional taxes.* It requires voter authorization to fund a capital reserve and additional voter authorization to expend from a capital reserve. A capital reserve fund provides long-range funding and guidance for future capital improvement requirements.

### **Information on Proposition #2**

- Shall the Board of Education be authorized to establish a Capital Reserve Fund, known as the "Facilities Improvement Program - Jericho Public Schools."
- The maximum amount of the aforesaid Capital Reserve Fund shall be \$10 million not to exceed an annual allotment of \$5 million.
- The probable term is ten years.
- The funds are to be transferred from monies remaining in the general fund and/or from existing reserves as allowed by General Municipal and Education Law.

## High School Students Recognized In Intel Science Competition

Sonia Joshi, Sam Lam, Brendan Liu, Michael Shen and Raymond Wu, all students at Jericho High School, were recently named five of the 300 Semifinalists in the Intel Science Talent Search 2012, a program of Society for Science & the Public. The semifinalists of the Intel Science Talent Search were chosen from over 1,800 entrants nationwide. Each of the semifinalists, as well as their schools, receives \$1,000 for this honor.

The students worked on the following projects:

**Sonia Joshi** – Concomitant Protease Inhibitor Administration: Saquinavir and Ritonavir Reduce Septic Complications Minus Cognition

**Sam Lam** – Tai Chi Pilot Study: Assessing Quality of Life, Mood States, and Salivary Cortisol Levels in Chinese Americans after Breast Cancer Diagnosis

**Brendan Liu** – Polyvinylamine Grafted Electrospun Polyacrylonitrile Membranes for Cr(VI) Adsorption

**Michael Shen** – FTO and RPKRIP1L Regulate Proliferation in 3T3-L1 Adipocytes and OXPHOS Gene Expression in HepG2 Hepatocytes

**Raymond Wu** – A model of the action

potential in a cardiac myocyte and the effects of duration on ion currents

“I am very proud of this group of students. They worked so hard to prepare for this, and they were able to attain their goals with the help of Jericho’s Science Research Coordinator, Serena McCalla,” said Brian Cummings, Jericho’s Curriculum Associate for Science and Technology.

“It is an amazing feat to have five students from Jericho High School

*“Congratulations to our semifinalists and all of the students who submitted projects to the Intel Science Talent Search. We are extremely proud of the accomplishments of all of our students.”*

*-Hank Grishman  
Superintendent of Schools*

acknowledged as Intel STS semifinalists again this year,” said McCalla. “Most of the students have been in our research program for three consecutive years and have gained insight to systematically complete the scientific method, including conducting experiments and writing jour-

nal-worthy papers that culminated with the works submitted to Intel STS. They should be extremely proud of their accomplishments, and I am humbled by their dedication to this course and the science research process.”

“Jericho research students are outstanding scientists and epitomize the well rounded, resolute, assiduous student body of Jericho UFSD,” continued McCalla. Their work at regulated research institutions and in my course is astounding, and I’m honored to play the smallest of roles in their success today and optimistically in the future. Our research program, coupled with Intel STS, will continue to stimulate and encourage young adults to identify solutions for issues faced by our society today and in the near future. I congratulate the Intel STS semifinalists, their families, Jericho High School teachers and administration whose collaborative efforts have ensured such noteworthy accolades.”

As the nation’s oldest and most prestigious pre-college science competition, the Intel Science Talent Search brings together the best and brightest young scientific minds in the United States to compete for \$1.25 million in awards.



Pictured (L-R) are Raymond Wu, Sam Lam, Sonia Joshi, Michael Shen and Brendan Liu. ▲

**Jericho Union Free School District**

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[@JerichoUFSD](https://twitter.com/JerichoUFSD)*



March 2013 Jericho School News

***Dates to Remember***

***Alumni Hall of Fame Induction***

Thursday, April 11  
Jericho Public Library  
7 PM

***Board of Education Meeting***

Thursday, April 18th  
Middle School Library  
7:30 PM

***Budget Vote & Election***

Tuesday, May 21  
6 AM - 9 PM  
MS/HS Gymnasium

***Board of Education Meeting***

Thursday, May 23rd  
Middle School Library  
7:30 PM

**Important Document - Please Translate**

중요하니 번역요망  
重要文件請翻譯

**Documento Importante - Traduce Por Favor**

***Jericho High School Athletes Attend Signing Day Event***



*During a recent signing day, Jericho athletes committed to join the athletic program of the colleges they are attending in the fall.*

*Pictured Back row (L-R) are Trudi Ann Patrick, Alex Stearn, Jericho's Curriculum Associate for Health and Physical Education John Mankowich, Harrsion Rieber, and Kyle Becker. Bottom Row (L-R): Chandler Kirby, Garrett Johnson, Noah White, Eric Basile, and Lindsay Divack.*

*Not pictured are Jun Yoo, and Colleen McCormack.*