



BELLMORE-MERRICK

Central High School District

High Expectations

High Achievement

The Pillars of Success

Academics, Athletics, the Arts and Altruism

POINTS OF PRIDE

May 2016

Academics

- **Kennedy** junior **Amanda Borell** won the final round of an Italian singing competition, titled Oltreoceano Festival USA, which was held at Molloy College. In addition to winning a \$1,000 prize, Amanda won a trip to Italy and will perform in Sicily.
- **Calhoun's Irene Kowalski** and **Jonathan Lloyd** represented their school's DECA chapter at the international competition in Nashville during the spring break. Irene placed second in her category.
- The following students attained Gold status for their performance on the 2016 National Examinations in French, Spanish and Italian. **Calhoun:** Jessica Lin and Allison Trabold; **Kennedy:** Sidra Naheed, Amanda Schleider and Rebecca Stekol; **Mephram:** Joel Aguirre, David Collins, Jeffrey Langer and Monica Melgar; **Grand Avenue:** Salvatore Bernardini, Caitlyn Cannon and Matthew Waters; **Merrick Avenue:** Anastasia Slobodov.
- **Rachel Mashal** of **Kennedy** placed third in the 2016 Intel ISEF Addiction Science Awards. Her project, "Development of a Caffeine Addiction Paradigm to Examine How Dietary Restriction and Level of TOR Signaling Modulate the Effects of Drugs," found that dietary changes protected adult fruit flies from the negative effects of caffeine.
- **Nicole Rezak** of **Kennedy** has been named one of the winners of the Victor Baptiste Essay Contest, which is sponsored by the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese.
- **Kennedy's Josh Levine** was named to Newsday's Students to Watch list for the month of April.
- **Mephram's Sara Shamenek** and **Marissa Thomas** were invited to attend Hofstra University's Presidential Leadership Symposium, facilitated by former presidential candidate Howard Dean and political analyst Ed Rollins.
- **Kennedy** teacher **Allen Ma** was recognized as Teacher of the Year at the spring awards dinner of the Nassau County Mathematics Teachers Association.
- **Calhoun's National Science League Team** placed second in the nation in earth science.

Athletics

- The **Calhoun boys golf team** finished the season undefeated and were named conference champions.
- **Grace Moore** of **Calhoun's track team** hit the state standard for the 1,500-meter and is now ranked No. 1 in Nassau County for the 800-meter and 1,500-meter.
- **The Calhoun girls track team** finished the season as Division 2A champions.
- **The Calhoun boys track team** won their division title.

- **Calhoun girls lacrosse** finished the season 14-1 and were named conference champions.
- **The Calhoun boys baseball team** finished the regular spring season as conference champions.
- **Mepham tennis** players **Pavel Gromov, John Grover** and **Matt Renton** qualified for the Nassau County Championship Tournament.
- **Kennedy's girls softball team** won the conference championships.
- **Mepham badminton** players **Sydney Antener, Anna Kamelhar, Brianna Murphy** and **Kristina Schwab** qualified for the Nassau County Championship Tournament.
- **Kennedy lacrosse** player **Nico Racalbuto** graduates as the school's all-time leader in goals scored in a career (130), goals scored in a season (56) and points scored in a career (196).
- **The Kennedy boys baseball team** competed in the Nassau County Class A Championship.

Arts

- **Calhoun's On Tour Program** staged "The Tempest" in mid-May. The Friday night performance featured members of Express Yourself, as well.
- **Grand Avenue and Merrick Avenue middle schools** celebrated their Spring Arts Expos on May 12, which highlighted artwork and orchestral, band and choral achievements.
- **Mepham's Skull and Bones Drama Club** hosted their Senior Farewell on May 13.
- **The Mepham/Calhoun chamber orchestra** performed together in the NYSSMA Major Organization Festival and received the Gold Award with Distinction, the highest accolade available.

Altruism

- **Cory Epstein** of **Kennedy** organized the Ties for Ties event, part of the district's "One Voice, One Message" initiative. He was very recently notified that his necktie chain did surpass past records, and he now holds the Guinness World Record for the longest necktie chain.
- **The Grand Avenue Drama Club** hosted a car wash fundraiser on May 22.
- **Coach Cracco** and the **Mepham football team** gave back to the community by completing various beautification projects at Newbridge Park.
- **Mepham** hosted a **blood drive** on May 11, during which 87 pints of blood were donated.
- The districtwide overnight **Relay for Life**, held at Calhoun, raised close to \$90,000. Zumba, track walking, a luminaria ceremony, music, games, food and activities helped to raise funds for this event. Calhoun Principal Nicole Hollings was a key organizer of the event.
- The **Mepham Habitat for Humanity** club is working on their annual build.