



# SOUTH ORANGETOWN Central School District

## UPDATE

VOL. 1 • NO. 1



### MESSAGE from the Superintendent

Thanks to strong community support, South Orangetown students had an outstanding school year exploring their

talents and interests through an array of academic, athletic and extracurricular programming.

Our 2017 graduates will face new challenges and exciting opportunities as they take the next step in their lives. Most will continue their education at the college level or through career training. Others will venture into the workforce or enter the military. All will benefit from skills developed on their paths to graduation and from their commitment to community service.

This summer, SOCSO is busy preparing for the coming school year. Facilities and maintenance crews are repairing and maintaining our facilities. The business and operations personnel are replenishing supplies and ordering equipment. Our transportation department is drafting bus schedules. Our central office staff is working on tasks ranging from hiring new personnel to updating classroom technology. Our educators are training and preparing curriculum so that our district may provide the highest quality of instruction to students.

For students, summer is a time to relax and enjoy a change of pace—but also to reinforce what they've learned. I encourage all students to maintain their academic focus by reading about current events, writing in a journal, or taking an educational family field trip and to consider volunteering in our community.

See you in September!

**Robert R. Pritchard, Ed.D.**  
Superintendent of Schools

SOCSO **Update** is one more way to learn about what's happening in our schools!

#### Keep up with SOCSO

- On the Web: [www.socsd.org](http://www.socsd.org)
- On Facebook: [@southorangetowncsd](https://www.facebook.com/southorangetowncsd)
- Via Email: Sign up for community-wide communications at [www.socsd.org/for-community](http://www.socsd.org/for-community)

## CONGRATULATIONS, GRADS!



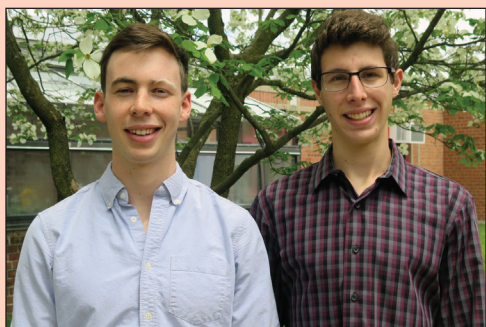
On June 22, Tappan Zee High School celebrated the graduation of 268 seniors at its 2017 commencement ceremony. **Superintendent Dr. Robert R. Pritchard** and **Principal Dr. Jennifer Amos** presented proud grads with their diplomas.

### Senior Awards Ceremony Honors Student Achievement

More than 100 scholarships and awards, a sampling listed below, were presented to members of the Class of 2017 during Tappan Zee High School's Seniors Awards Ceremony on June 5. Seniors were recognized for community service, as well as academic, artistic and athletic achievements.

- American Legion John M. Perry Post #1044 Award: **Grace Duffy & Dylan McLaughlin**
- Education Association of South Orangetown-Teachers Association Scholarship: **Victoria Mrozinski**
- Denise J. Jensen Community Scholarship: **Kieran Gibson**
- Dennis P. McHugh Memorial Scholarship Award: **Kevin Lynch**
- Gerard Nevins Memorial Award: **Christopher Cicalo**
- Liam T. Frawley Scholarship Award: **Jenna Bachert & Daniel Henry**
- Lindsay Garber Photography Award: **Rebecca Schmidt**
- Mickey Reeves Award: **Juliet Craig**
- OSIA Rockland Lodge #2176 Joseph Scaringe Award: **Thomas Chiapperino**
- Paul Doctor Memorial Scholarship: **Giselle Castro**
- PFC Andrew Goldstein Post #731 Jewish War Veterans of the USA: **Clara Doyle**
- Rocky Delo Blauvelt Lions Community Service Scholarship: **Drew Chang, Erin DiSanto & Victoria Mzorinski**
- School Counselors of Rockland Award: **Max Fernandez**
- St. Dominics Council #5343-Knights of Columbus Award: **Patrick Scollan**
- SEPTA Recognition Award: **Jack Morales**
- South Orangetown Ambulance Corps Senior Scholarship: **Ryan Shea**
- South Orangetown Rotary Club Joseph J. Hickey Memorial Award: **Austin Skywark**
- South Orangetown Music Boosters Association Award: **Diana Cha, Jane Choe, Paul Kiernan, Hayley Kousoulas, Stefano Malinverno & Camryn Marucci**
- Tappan Zee High School PTSA Scholarships & Awards: **Emily Berberich, April Chappell, Olivia Dellacava, Rivu Ghosh, Daniel Henry, Jessica Lewis, Anthony Loblanco, Alexandra Maloney, Thomas Shalvey & Marcella Smith**
- Tappan Zee/Piermont Rotary Club Doc "Hilly" Hilkowitz Memorial Humanitarian Award: **Jordan Gidaly**
- VFW Post 1615 Raymond DeMeola Award: **Laurel Kennedy**

## WHERE OUR GRADS ARE HEADED



Valedictorian **Sam Gould** (left) is headed to Harvard University this fall, where he plans to major in the physical sciences. Salutatorian **David Lustig** (right) will attend Northeastern University to study economics and mathematics.

Ninety-six percent of Tappan Zee High School 2017 graduates plan to continue their education at post-secondary institutions across the US and beyond. The majority of these students (56%) will attend public schools, including more than a dozen SUNYs.

In all, our newest grads are headed to 96 different campuses, including:

Albany College of Pharmacy  
 Barnard College ■ Binghamton University  
 Boston College ■ City College of New York  
 Clemson University ■ Cornell University  
 Dominican College  
 Fashion Institute of Technology  
 George Washington University  
 Indiana University at Bloomington  
 Lehigh University ■ Manhattan College  
 Manhattan School of Music  
 Michigan State University  
 New York University  
 Ohio State University ■ Pace University  
 Penn State ■ Purdue University  
 Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute  
 Rockland Community College  
 Roger Williams University  
 Rutgers University  
 Savannah College of Art and Design  
 St. Thomas Aquinas College  
 SUNY Albany ■ SUNY College at Cortland  
 Syracuse University ■ Tufts University  
 Universiteit van Amsterdam  
 University of Alabama ■ University at Buffalo  
 University of Arizona  
 University of California, Berkeley  
 University of Delaware  
 University of Richmond  
 University of Tampa  
 University of Tennessee, Knoxville  
 University of Wisconsin, Madison  
 Villanova University  
 West Virginia University

## Spring Athletes Score Success

Congratulations to our student athletes and coaches for an outstanding Spring 2017 sports season! Here are the highlights:

- All teams earned NYSPHSAA Scholar-Athlete honors; **Matt McCleary** (Boys Lacrosse) was named an Academic All-American
- Boys Varsity Track & Field's **Daeseob Lim** was the Section 1, Division 1 pole vault champ and placed 19th at States
- All-Section athletes: **Matt McGivney** and **TJ Davidson** (Baseball); **Matt McCleary** (Boys Lacrosse); **Carmella Liscio** and **Leanna Iobbi** (Girls Lacrosse); and, **Kaitlyn Borruso** and **Nicole Malpeli** (Softball). All-Section Honorable Mentions: **Tadhg O'Riordan** and **Tom Chiapperino** (Boys Lacrosse); **Jules Kane** (Girls Lacrosse); and **Hayley Kousoulas** and **Emily Trozzo** (Softball)
- **James Amandola** (Boys Lacrosse) was Section 1, Class B Coach of the Year and **Gene Kousoulas** (Softball) was League IIB Coach of the Year
- Girls Varsity Track & Field's **Tara Coyne** won 1st place (discus) at Counties
- Boys Varsity Track & Field finished in 2nd place at Counties
- League Champs: Boys Varsity Baseball, Boys Varsity Lacrosse, Girls Varsity Lacrosse, Varsity Softball, Girls Varsity Track & Field and Boys Varsity Tennis



Six Tappan Zee High School students were named Rockland County Public School Athletic League Athletes of the Season: **Brendan Hehir**, Boys Varsity Cross Country (Fall); **Hailey McCloskey**, Varsity Volleyball (Fall); **Carmella Liscio**, Girls Varsity Basketball (Winter); **Kevin Lynch**, Boys Varsity Basketball (Winter); **Laurel Kennedy**, Girls Varsity Lacrosse (Spring); and, **Matt McCleary**, Boys Varsity Lacrosse (Spring).

## Students Inducted Into National Technical Honor Society

Five Tappan Zee High School students were inducted into the National Technical Honor Society (NTHS) in a Rockland BOCES CTEC ceremony on June 1. Senior **Laurel Kennedy** was among the select group of students presented with the Commitment to Excellence Award for qualifying two years in a row. Six students, in addition to the inductees, were recognized for earning Principal's Honor Roll (PHR) status for the 2016-17 school year.

Congratulations to:

- **Ryan Hennessy**, Carpentry (NTHS & PHR)
- **Laurel Kennedy**, Health Science Fundamentals (NTHS & PHR, pictured)
- **Annaleise Kildow**, Digital Design & Marketing (NTHS & PHR)
- **Yansi Rodriguez**, Health Science Fundamentals (NTHS & PHR, pictured)
- **Riannan Stapleton**, Health Science Fundamentals (NTHS & PHR, pictured)
- **Jonathan Castagna**, Hospitality & Food Services (PHR, pictured)



- **Sasha Fiarman**, Digital Design & Marketing (PHR)
- **Joseph Hovagim**, Hospitality & Food Services (PHR, pictured)
- **Matthew Karlon**, Culinary Arts (PHR)
- **Kristina Melanson**, Health Science Fundamentals (PHR, pictured)
- **Julia Oquendo**, Cosmetology (PHR, pictured)
- **Sean Peterson**, Electrical Trades (PHR)





Student Council Vice President **Liam Ouderkirk** addressed peers, faculty and families during South Orangetown Middle School's June 22 Moving Up Ceremony. The SOMS Class of 2017 collectively volunteered 1,000+ hours and 99% of the class earned a high school credit for foreign language. In addition, 100+ students earned a high school credit for tech or art and those who took the Earth Science Regents exam earned an average score of 90%!



Sound check! Cottage Lane Elementary School music teacher **Lisa Kahn** led chorus members in a warm up before their performance at the Fifth Grade Moving Up Ceremony on June 21 at Tappan Zee High School.



On June 15, William O. Schaefer Elementary School second-graders (along with teachers, including **Celine Zatarga**) prepared for their transition to third grade with a visit to Cottage Lane Elementary School.

## LEADERSHIP NEWS

We're proud to announce the following updates to our district's administrative team:



**Keith Johnson** is Director of Athletics, Health and Physical Education, effective July 1.



**Sheila Beglin** is Assistant Principal at William O. Schaefer Elementary School, effective July 1.



**Robert Schliessman** is Assistant Principal at Cottage Lane Elementary School, effective July 1.



**Kurt Wickham** is Transportation Coordinator, effective April 21.

At its Annual Reorganization Meeting on July 6, the Board of Education selected its officers for the 2017-18 school year. **Rosemary Pitruzzella** was elected as president, **Dan Lamadrid** was elected as vice president and the following members were sworn in:

**Christine Lee** was elected to the Board of Education in May. Ms. Lee's term expires in June 2020.



**Leon "Lonnie" Jacobs** was re-elected to the Board of Education in May. Mr. Jacobs' term expires in June 2020.



Board of Education member bios are posted online at [www.socsd.org](http://www.socsd.org).

**The South Orangetown Central School District extends its appreciation to outgoing Board of Education member Guy DeVincenzo for his nine years of dedicated service.**

## Keep Skills Strong With Summer Reading



Librarians from South Orangetown's five public libraries, including Miss Claudia from the Palisades Free Library (above), visited William O. Schaefer Elementary School in June to launch this year's summer reading program, "Build A Better World."

"Reading can be one of the many fun activities children choose to fill their summer time. Research has shown it is also much more!" writes WOS Library Media Specialist **Patricia Eyer**. "Children who participate in public library summer reading programs make achievement leaps during the summer and maintain their reading achievements."

**Summer reading information is posted online at:**

- **WOS** — <http://blogs.socsd.org/wos/>
- **CLE** — <http://blogs.socsd.org/cle/>
- **SOMS** — <http://blogs.socsd.org/soms/>
- **TZHS\*** — <http://blogs.socsd.org/tzhs/for-students/>

*\*Also includes links to summer assignments for fall courses*

## Immunization Update for Grades 7 & 12



As of September 1, 2016, **all public and private school students entering grades 7 and 12 in New York State must be fully vaccinated against meningococcal disease in order to attend school.** The meningococcal vaccine, which is administered as a shot, protects against serious and sometimes deadly diseases, such as meningitis and sepsis.

### **BEFORE SCHOOL THIS SEPTEMBER:**

- **One dose of meningococcal vaccine is required before 7th grade.** If your child had the first dose as a sixth grader, then another dose is not required until 12th grade.
- **A total of two doses will be required before 12th grade.** Most students entering 12th grade got their first dose when they were younger and are now due for their second dose, or booster. This booster is needed because protection from the vaccine decreases over time.
- The only teens who will not need a second dose before 12th grade are those who got their first dose on or after their 16th birthday.
- A small number of students who received two doses before their 16th birthday may need a third dose on or after their 16th birthday in order to enter 12th grade.

**It's best to check with your doctor to see whether or not your child needs the vaccine.** Students who are not up-to-date will not be allowed to attend school until they are vaccinated.



# Have a GREAT summer!

**First Day of School: Tuesday, September 5**



**SOUTH ORANGETOWN**  
Central School District

**SOUTH ORANGETOWN  
CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
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**Robert R. Pritchard, Ed.D.** *Superintendent*

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*Rosemary Pitruzzella, President*  
*Dan Lamadrid, Vice President*  
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**Ken Malpeli**

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