



SOUTH ORANGETOWN Central School District

UPDATE

VOL. 3 • NO. 1



MESSAGE from the Superintendent

Dear Community Members,

The end of the school year has crept up on us: Time flies when you are having fun and this school

year has been a flurry of activity and excitement! With summer recess underway, I would like to express my gratitude to our supportive families, our amazingly talented students, and our hard-working staff and community volunteers who have dedicated themselves to serving South Orangetown.

Tappan Zee High School's Class of 2019 has made us proud and we are confident that our newest alumni are well-prepared for the next step in their life journeys. Most of our graduates will continue their education at the college level or through career training; others plan to enlist in the military or enter the workforce. Although their paths may differ, all have important contributions to make and roles to play as they transition into adulthood. I can't wait to see where their futures take them.

In the meantime, we're busily preparing for the 2019-2020 school year. Capital improvements are in progress in every building, teachers are engaged in professional development and curriculum work, and we're welcoming new administrators, faculty and staff to fill vacancies created through retirements. Stay tuned to our district Facebook page (@southoranjtowncsd) for updates this summer.

We know that families spend time getting ready for a new school year by ensuring that their children return refreshed and "ready to learn" in September. I encourage every student to build upon the academic progress they have made by reading about current events, writing in a journal, tackling an independent project of personal interest, or taking an educational family field trip. Please visit our school homepages for links to summer reading and summer assignments (for high school students).

Here's wishing everyone a safe and enjoyable summer. I look forward to seeing you on Wednesday, September 4!

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

Congratulations, Class of 2019!



Bright smiles on the procession line as Tappan Zee High School's Class of 2019 made its entrance at the June 26 Commencement Ceremony.

TZHS Graduates 279 at 116th Commencement

Tappan Zee High School celebrated the graduation of its senior class on June 26, with the 2019 Commencement Ceremony on the Joseph J. Hickey Memorial Field. TZHS was recently named a New York State Education Department 2018-19 Recognition School for high academic achievement, student growth, graduation rate and progress.

The TZHS Concert Band, under the direction of **William Hughes**, and the TZHS Senior Singers, conducted by **Dr. Russell Wagoner**, performed during the ceremony. "We look forward to seeing and hearing how you follow your dreams," Principal **Dr. Jennifer Amos** told the 279 graduates.

Student addresses delivered by Class President **Christine Lynch**, Salutatorian **Cassandra Bartels** and Valedictorian **Palak Oza** reflected on memories, lessons learned and the road ahead. "The world can be a dark place," said Palak. "We are the light that will shine through the dark and define the future. Let's go light up the world."

After accepting the presentation of the class, Superintendent **Dr. Robert Pritchard** expressed pride and offered encouragement: "Never stop believing in yourselves or in the endless possibilities that lie before you...and never, ever forget that you are Dutchmen."



Thanks to generous support from across our school district community, **100+ scholarships and awards** were presented to members of the Class of 2019 during the Senior Awards Ceremony on June 10! The soon-to-be grads were recognized for academic, artistic, and athletic achievements and community service.

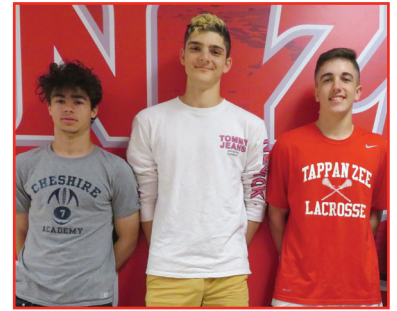
We ACHIEVE!

- **Kevin Huang** was awarded a National Merit Scholarship. Kevin, **Palak Oza** and **Yena Shin** were named NMS Finalists in March.
- **Hannah Ahn** won a 2019 Scholastic Art & Writing National Gold Key Award. She also received Scholastic regional awards, along with **Eujin Lee**, **Skye Yang** and **Kevin Liang**.
- **SO BOTZ** advanced to the *FIRST* World Championship Detroit for the second consecutive year after winning the SBPLI #1 *FIRST* Robotics Competition Regional Tournament.
- **Daysi Vasconez Castro**, **Jude Paulemon** & **Jackie Mazariego-Lemus** became the first TZHS grads to earn the NYS Seal of Biliteracy.
- **Lawrence Choi**, **Henry Huang**, **Kevin Huang**, **Palak Oza** and **Logan Tabor** qualified for the NYS Math League Championships.
- **TZHS DECA** was the top fundraiser for the fifth consecutive year at the NYS DECA Career Conference. Finalists: **Aidan Donohue**; **Justin Lee** and **Jacob Greenberg**; **Alex Gottlieb**; and, **Aswathi Nair** and **Kavitha Sriskanda**.
- **Brian Curtis** placed 3rd in the NYS History Day Competition Web Category. Eighth-grader **Matt Tobin** advanced to States after placing 2nd at Regionals.
- CLE fifth-graders **Domenick M.** and **Matthew P.** placed 3rd in the Greater New York Stock Market Game.
- **Tatiana Guzman** placed 3rd with her Rockland BOCES Culinary Arts team in the 2019 ProStart Invitational.
- **TZHS Blood Team** held its NY Yankees High School Blood Donor Championship Team title.
- All-American: **Allie Maloney** (Lacrosse).
- All-State: **Ashley Chaluian** (Basketball), **Ozian DeLoatch** (Basketball), **Dan Linehan** (Basketball) and **Allie Maloney** (Lacrosse). HM: **Kaleigh Beirne** (Basketball).
- Section 1 Champs: **Girls Basketball**, **Girls Indoor Track & Field**; **Girls Spring Track & Field**; **Tori Fears** (1000); **Hillary Abankwa** (300); **Hillary Abankwa**, **Katelyn Lange**, **Tori Fears** and **Gabby Shea** (4x400); **Alexandra Thomas**, **Tori Fears**, **Maddy Roth** and **Julia Fears** (4x800); and, **Pat Castellano** (800).
- All-Section: **Ashley Chaluian** (Basketball), **Ozian DeLoatch** (Basketball), **Aidan Egazarian** (Lacrosse), **Dan Linehan** (Basketball), **Kellie Linehan** (Lacrosse), **Allie Maloney** (Lacrosse), **Fiona Mullen** (Basketball) and **Brianna Santilli** (Softball). HM: **Leah Dillon** (Softball), **Jack Dinnegan** (Lacrosse), **Grace Monihan** (Lacrosse), **Elizabeth Tompkins** (Lacrosse), and **Michelle Trozzo** (Softball).
- **Journal News** Rockland Scholar-Athletes: **Tori Fears**, **Paul Lee**, **Pat Castellano** and **Alexandra Thomas**.
- **Girls Varsity Basketball** Coach **Riley Chevrier** was named Rockland Coach of the Year and Track & Field Coach **Pat Driscoll** received the Dick Teetsel Award.

Class of 2019: Where They're Headed



Salutatorian **Cassandra Bartels**, *Barnard College*, Earth & Environmental Sciences; and, Valedictorian **Palak Oza**, *Sophie Davis Biomedical Education Program/CUNY School of Medicine*, BS/MD Joint Degree Program



Aidan Egazarian, *Union College*, Economics & Computer Science; **Angus Goldman**, *SUNY Purchase*, Education; and, **Jack Dinnegan**, *SUNY Oneonta*



Daysi Vasconez Castro, *Rockland Community College*, Biology; **Jude Paulemon**, *Rochester Institute of Technology*, Bioinformatics; and, **Jackie Mazariego-Lemus**, *Dominican College*, Nursing



Natasha D'Amico-Rainbeau, *SUNY New Paltz*, Theater Design & Art History



Michael Streppone, *United States Marine Corps*



Robert Sokol, *Rockland Community College*, Ford ASSET Program



Haylee Johanson, *Rockland BOCES*, Adult Cosmetology Program



Jude Paulemon (noted above); **Alex Gottlieb**, *Bentley University*, Finance; **Kevin Huang**, *Harvard University*, Biomedical Engineering; **Lawrence Choi**, *Stevens Institute of Technology*, Mechanical Engineering; **Eric Yuan**, *School of Visual Arts*, Graphic Design; **Logan Tabor**, *University of Waterloo*, Mathematics; **Hrutvik Bhavsar**, *City College of New York*, Biomedical Science; **Thomas Barrett**, *SUNY Polytechnic Institute*, Nanoscale Engineering; **Joanna George**, *Rochester Institute of Technology*, Human-Centered Computing; and, **Sam Pomann**, *Clark University*, Psychology



EIGHTH GRADE MOVING UP CEREMONY: South Orangetown Middle School Principal **Dr. Chad Corey** congratulates Class President **Liam Boyle**, who delivered the student address at the June 26 Moving Up Ceremony. Ninety-five percent of the incoming freshman class will enter TZHS with a high school credit for World Language; 61% have already earned credit for Earth Science and 36% earned credit for Algebra Honors.



FIFTH GRADE MOVING UP CEREMONY: Fifth-graders marked their transition from elementary to middle school students at the June 25 Cottage Lane Elementary School ceremony. **Pamela Cooper**, **Alissa Garbrous** and **Chris Haggarty's** class pictured above.



SECOND-GRADERS READY FOR TAKEOFF! William O. Schaefer Elementary School second-graders toured CLE on June 20, where they had a chance to check out 3D printing projects in Gr. 3 Teacher **Colleen Traynor's** class and discover all the exciting things and friendly people awaiting their arrival in September!

Leadership UPDATE



BOARD OF EDUCATION

At its July 2 Reorganization Meeting, the Board of Education swore in new member **Cara Stepanian, Ph.D.** (left) and elected officers for the 2019-20 school year. **Dan Lamadrid** was elected President and **Leon Jacobs** was elected Vice President.

SOCSD thanks outgoing Board of Education member **Rosemary Pitruzzella** for her 15 years of dedicated service.

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

SOCSD proudly welcomes these talented professionals to its leadership team:



JOSEPH LLOYD, PH.D.
Director of Staff Relations



JACK RALLO
Director of Facilities



JOHN GULINO
Director of Safety, Security & Compliance



RUDY ARIETTA
Principal, TZHS



WILLIAM PILLA
Director of Physical Education, Health & Athletics

SOCSD Celebrates Service



DISTRICT-WIDE CELEBRATION: On June 6, SOCSD and the South Orangetown PTAs hosted their second annual Districtwide Celebration to honor the district's 25 retirees, staff milestones, PTA volunteers and, new this year, district volunteers and mentors. Above, TZHS retirees **Mark Bergling**, **Lois Parker-Hennion**, **Patricia Castelli**, **Laura Ferrante**, **Richard Weissberg**, **Barbara LaBrake** and **Dr. Jennifer Amos** who, after nine years as Principal, has taken an administrative position at another school. Congratulations and best wishes to all!

2019-20 School Physical Requirements

New York State law requires a health examination for all students entering the school district for the first time AND when entering pre-kindergarten or kindergarten, 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th, 9th and 11th grades.

- The examination must be completed by a NY/NJ state licensed physician, physician assistant or nurse practitioner and on the approved NYSED Student Health Examination Form or one from your physician.
- A dental certificate which indicates your child has been seen by a dentist or dental hygienist is requested at the same time.
- A copy of the NYSED Student Health Examination Form must be provided to the school within 30 days from when your child first starts school and when your child starts kindergarten, 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th, 9th and 11th grades. If a copy is not given to the school within 30 days, the school will contact you.
- If your child has an appointment for an exam during the school year that is after the first 30 days of school, please notify the School Nurse's Office of the exam date.
- Links to the NYSED Student Health Examination Form and dental certificate are posted on the For Parents page at www.socsd.org/for-parents, under Forms.

On June 13, 2019, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo signed legislation removing non-medical exemptions from school vaccination requirements for children. As a result:

There is no longer a religious exemption to the requirement that children be vaccinated against measles and other diseases to attend either:

- public, private or parochial school (for students in pre-kindergarten through 12th grade) or
- child day care settings.

Communication between private and school health staff is important for safe and effective care at school. **Please be sure to sign consent forms allowing your provider to speak with school health staff** at the time of your child's examination.

Parents are encouraged to keep copies of completed exam forms before sending them to the School Nurse's Office.

Dates to REMEMBER

- **MONDAY, JULY 29** | High School Fall Sports Registration Begins
Registration opens for fall high school sports online at socsd.powermediallc.org.
- **THURSDAY, AUGUST 1** | WOS Bus Designee Form Due
A WOS Bus Designee Form must be completed and submitted to the Transportation Office by August 1 for students in grades K-2 to be released to designees at their bus stop starting on the first day of school. The form is posted at www.socsd.org/transportation.
- **MONDAY, AUGUST 5** | Modified Fall Sports Registration Begins
Registration opens for fall modified sports online at socsd.powermediallc.org.

- **MONDAY, AUGUST 19** | High School Sports Begin
- **TUESDAY, AUGUST 20** | Sports Physicals
Sports physicals for athletes entering grades 7-12 will be administered in the TZHS Nurse's Office, 9:00-11:00am only.
- **THURSDAY, AUGUST 22** | WOS Kindergarten Bus Orientation
- **MONDAY, AUGUST 26** | SOMS Locker Day, High School Sports Registration Ends & Modified Sports Begin
- **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 2** | Modified Sports Registration Ends
- **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4** | First Day of School



SOUTH ORANGETOWN
Central School District

SOUTH ORANGETOWN
CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
160 Van Wyck Road, Blauvelt, NY 10913-1299
(845) 680-1000 • www.socsd.org

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

BOARD OF EDUCATION
Dan Lamadrid, *President*
Leon Jacobs, *Vice President*
Thomas Henry
Christine Lee
Cara Stepanian, Ph.D.

Editor: Jen Citrolo
This newsletter was produced in cooperation
with Rockland BOCES Communications Service.

POSTAL PATRON

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
Paid
Monsey,
New York 10952
Permit No. 1375

Connect with SOCSD
on social media!

