

Inside ISLIP SCHOOLS

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COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE



Class of 2018 Grads Look Forward Toward the Future

The members of the Class of 2018 celebrated their graduation on June 21, as well as their experiences in Islip that have helped them get to this pivotal point in their lives.

After a processional, along with "Pomp and Circumstance," which was performed by the Islip High School Wind Ensemble and Concert Band, Morgiana McDevitt performed an amazing rendition of "The Star-Spangled Banner." After Principal Michael Mosca welcomed students, staff and visitors to the festivities, valedictorian Julia Horman spoke to her classmates. She congratulated them on the wonderful story they've written but said that they were all ready to move forward.

"It's time to turn the page and move forward with our successes," Horman said. "Thank you for this adventure, and I can't wait to hear about the new ones all of you create!"

After some inspirational words from Board of Education President Brian Clock and Principal Michael Mosca, salutatorian Madeline Marconi gave advice to her classmates while quoting from "The Great Gatsby," but also paid tribute to her teachers and family.

"To be standing here on this stage today is only one of the many fruits of our efforts throughout these past four years," Marconi said. "However, I believe that my classmates will concur with me in saying that we could not have traversed this far without the immense support of our families, as well as the hard work and dedication of our teachers."

This year's graduation was bittersweet for Susan Schnebel, as this was her final graduation as superintendent. She was honored with a surprise honorary diploma for her contributions and dedication to the district.

"Class of 2018, develop your own compass and trust it," Schnebel said. "Take risks, dare to fail and put civility, kindness and character first."



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Spotlight on the CLASS OF 2018

Total Advanced Regents Diplomas: 66.25%

Total Regents Diplomas: 95.06%

Total Diplomas: 96.73%

Four-Year Colleges: 55.10%

Two-Year Colleges/Cert Programs: 34.28%

Students Entering the Workforce: 8.16%

Students Entering the Military: 1.22%





COLLEGES 2018 HS GRADS ARE ATTENDING



Adelphi University
Binghamton University
Boston College
Coastal Carolina University
College of Charleston
College of the Canyons
Curry College
Drexel University
Dutchess Community College
Farmingdale State College
Fashion Institute of Technology
Florida Southern College
Fordham University
Franklin Pierce University
Full Sail University
Fulton-Montgomery Community College
Georgia Institute of Technology
Georgia Southern University
High Point University
Hofstra University
Iona College

Johnson & Wales University (Providence)
Lincoln Technical Institute
Lincoln University
Long Island University, Post
Lyme Academy College of Fine Arts
Marist College
Marymount Manhattan College
Mercy College – All Campuses
Molloy College
Mount Saint Mary College
Nassau Community College
New York Institute of Technology
Northeastern University
Pace University, New York City
Pace University, Westchester Campus
Palm Beach Atlantic University
Pennsylvania State University
Post University
Purdue University
Rutgers University-New Brunswick
Sacred Heart University

School of Visual Arts
Siena College
St. John's University – Queens Campus
St. Joseph's College – Long Island Campus
Stevens Institute of Technology
Stony Brook University
Suffolk County Community College
SUNY College at Brockport
SUNY College at Cortland
SUNY College at Geneseo
SUNY College at Old Westbury
SUNY College at Oneonta
SUNY College at Potsdam
SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry
SUNY Maritime College
SUNY Morrisville State College
SUNY New Paltz
SUNY Oswego
SUNY Plattsburgh

Syracuse University
The University of Tampa
Tufts University
United States Military Academy – Army
United States Naval Academy
University at Albany
University at Buffalo
University of Delaware
University of Maryland, College Park
University of Miami
University of Rhode Island
University of South Carolina
University of South Florida, Tampa
Villanova University
Virginia Tech
Yale University

The high school's graduating Class of 2018 continued the tradition of the past three years by paying a memorable visit to Wing, walking the halls and talking with the younger students.



Dr. Ellen Semel NAMED NEXT SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

The Islip School District Board of Education appointed Dr. Ellen Semel as the next superintendent of schools at its April 18 meeting, effective July 1, 2018. Dr. Semel started in Islip as the Executive Director of Curriculum & Instruction, K-5 in 2006. In 2008, she was named Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction. Dr. Semel has more than 35 years of experience in education and an extensive background in curriculum development.

“After a comprehensive and intensive search, as well as interviews with multiple candidates, the school board agreed that the most qualified candidate for the position was one of our own administrative team members,” said Board of Education President Brian Clock. “She emerged as a student-centered instructional leader who

embraces our supportive community and is committed to educating the whole child in ways that empower and challenge our students.”

Dr. Semel has been with Islip for 12 years. During her tenure, she supervised the mapping of curricula in all areas and implemented a quality leadership curriculum. Under her direction, she introduced Reading and Writing Workshop to K-8 students, PSAT to all high school students and introduced interactive whiteboards for instruction, coupled with 15 hours of professional development for all teachers. At the high school level, Dr. Semel launched a cosmetology career program, provided computer-driven SAT prep and coordinated Academy programs.

Dr. Semel, an Amityville resident, holds a

Ph.D. in literacy from Hofstra University and a Master of Science degree in administration from LIU Post.

“I am delighted to be chosen as the next superintendent for the Islip School District,” said Dr. Semel. “For the last 12 years, I have worked closely with a wonderful administration team and dedicated staff who enrich the lives of students daily. I am looking forward to forming partnerships with our students, staff and community and continuing our commitment to excellence as your superintendent.”



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