



# The *Knightline*

[www.glencove.k12.ny.us](http://www.glencove.k12.ny.us)

Winter 2012

## NEW STANDARDS GET TO THE CORE

Beginning in the 2012-13 school year, the New York State Education Department assessments for grades 3-8 will be based solely on a set of unified Common Core Learning Standards for English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics. New standards must be fully implemented for grades K-8 for the coming school year, and K-12 the following year.

One of the major requirements of the Common Core Learning Standards is literacy in the content areas. In reading, all students must be able to comprehend texts of steadily increasing complexity as they progress through school in preparation for college and beyond. This includes comprehending and evaluating the validity of the reasoning behind informational texts and validating different points of view across subject areas.

"It is about teaching for understanding, rather than teaching for recall," said Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Technology Dr. Shari Camhi, who describes the Common Core as a greater focus on inquiry-based learning, critical thinking and overall mastery of topics. "Fewer concepts are addressed, but they are more in-depth for what students need to know. The older philosophy was a mile wide and an inch deep. This is a half-mile wide and a mile deep."

Glen Cove teachers and administrators have been participating in collaborative workshops with other districts through BOCES, as well as during in-service professional development time, writing units, writing assessments, and mapping scope and sequence of the curriculum. New teacher training is also geared toward getting faculty on board with the new learning.

The most dramatic change in the Common Core Learning Standards for Mathematics will be at the K-2 level, keeping consistent with the philosophy of simplifying to the core concepts so that students are mastering them at a younger age. This stronger linkage of concepts is in alignment with the way students in other high-achieving countries learn math, with a greater focus on algebra and geometry via more hands-on learning.

"We adopted this methodology years ago and have been preparing for this the last several years," added Dr. Camhi, referring to the professional development, training on differentiated instruction, and use of teaching for understanding to ensure student mastery and achievement.



## TOP OF THE CLASS

The Glen Cove Board of Education, in conjunction with the Glen Cove High School Guidance Department, recently honored the Top 25 academic achievers of the Class of 2012.

Glen Cove High School Principal Dr. Joseph Hinton introduced the Top 25 students as they were awarded certificates of recognition and congratulations from Superintendent of Schools Dr. Joseph A. Laria and Board of Education President Richard Maccarone.

Alison Abrams was named Valedictorian for the Class of 2011 and Alexandra Gerin was named Salutatorian. Gorov Sodhi was named Honorarian as the third highest academic achiever. The following students complete the Top 25: Ariana Cavallone, Risa Nagel, Emily Natale, Christian Ring, Matthew Bellomo, Joyce Shou, Nicholas Manzione, Lorraine Ballero, Ylenia Elvy-Panton, Kellie Williams, Rina Hernandez, Jakub Micko, Robert MacDonald, Alison Baade, Derek Shearer, Lazar Mirkovic, Catherine Liang, Cristina Cappiello, Alyssa Ayala, Christine Adams, Erik Pajuelo, and Remi Farnan. Congratulations students for all your hard work!

## MAKING THE CASE

The Glen Cove High School Mock Trial Club is currently gearing up for the Nassau regional leg of the New York State Bar Association Mock Trial Tournament to be held in February. Led by advisor Chris Contorno and attorney coach Cindy Kouril, Glen Cove's team is



coming off last month's victory at the Wheatley Invitational, where they emerged in the final as champions against Roslyn High School, a team they have faced for four consecutive years. Glen Cove's squad matched the intellectual wits of a number of mock trial teams, also dispatching of Wheatley and Carle Place High Schools in cases based on constitutionality and property rights, en route to the title.

"These victories came after months of hard work on the part of students, who clearly showed their composure and tact during the trials," said Mr. Contorno, who expects the team to put on another impressive showing in the countywide competition. The team also defeated neighboring Solomon Schechter High School in a scrimmage held earlier this fall.

# A Message from the Superintendent

Dear Glen Cove School Colleagues, Parents and Residents:

As we begin the New Year of 2012, what should we see for the future of Glen Cove now and in the years ahead?

We should see a district with a fully coordinated system of education – a continuum of discovery and skill development for all children. A district in which teachers and administrators from pre-kindergarten to grade 12 work together, by design, to create integrated and complementary curricula. A district in which each level of education serves expressly to prepare each child for the next level. And a district – a quality district – in which children and their parents always know what is required to reach the next level and are confident that the educators will help them get there successfully, with confidence and dignity.

We should see a district that uses the social model of the family as the glue that binds us together. A district in which each member of the family shares each other's joy and carries each other's burdens – equitably and fairly. A district in which each member of the family has different needs and different abilities and each gains by contributing to common goals. A district of constructive compromise in which each member of the family gains by giving. A district in which the group and the individual interests complement each other to the benefit of all.

We should see a district that appreciates the value and worth of its staff. A district that steadfastly strives to respect and nurture the staff's professional dignity.

We should see a district that has certain, definitive responsibilities:

- An economic responsibility to allocate its limited resources toward the attainment of unlimited educational aims;
- A planning responsibility to anticipate needs and explore methods for future improvement;
- A leadership responsibility to guide and assist in developing a learning atmosphere which encourages creativity, individualism, inquiry and a healthy awareness and understanding of the world and of people.
- We should see a district that is not a board-centered district, not an administration-centered district, not a teacher-centered district, but a child-centered district.
- We should see a district that adapts different teaching methods to the varied learning styles of all children.
- We should see a district that establishes an atmosphere in which creative teaching and learning can flourish; a district that encourages attitudes of flexibility and not rigidity.
- We should see a district that promotes research and experimentation; a district that takes the best ideas from the research of others, but will assume that it is possible to discover fresh, useful ideas of its own.
- We should see a district that encourages fine administrators, teachers and support staff to strive continually for intellectual and professional growth.
- We should see a district that involves every staff member in the task of improving education; a district that provides TOP DOWN SUPPORT FOR BOTTOM UP REFORM.
- We should see a district whose major goals are: to provide the opportunity for all children to develop their talents to the extent of their abilities; to develop and sharpen in all children the basic transferable skills – the skills to perceive and solve problems, to understand, to communicate and to deal with people as individuals and in groups, and to organize and make use of information and resources; to motivate all children to discover the joys of learning and growing; to awaken and nurture each child's appreciation of beauty and culture; to encourage in all children an awareness of their own worth and individuality and to lead them from this to an appreciation, sympathy and understanding of all other individuals, races, religions and nationalities; to embrace diversity and to appreciate diversity as an asset to be nurtured and not an impediment to overcome; to widen the horizons of all children beyond their own home, community, state and nation, until these horizons are as wide as the universe; to quicken in every child a sense of responsibility and dedication to the progress of humankind; to teach all children to distinguish between what they know and what they only believe; and to teach them how to discover that which they do not know and to use the knowledge that is required; to empower all children to reject rejection rather than rejecting themselves; to make all children aware that formal schooling is only a first step toward an education.

With a unity of purpose and with our having a common north, what we see for Glen Cove's future can be transformed into a reality. With your help, involvement and commitment, we can maintain Glen Cove's Tradition of Quality and create a Future of Excellence. TOGETHER FOR CHILDREN... WE CAN!

Best wishes for a New Year of fulfillment, as our vision becomes a reality.

Sincerely,

Dr. Joseph A. Laria, Superintendent of Schools



## 13 MATHEMATICIANS HONORED

Thirteen students enrolled in honors math classes at Finley Middle School have been recognized as top scorers in the American Mathematics Competition (AMC), sponsored by the Mathematical Association of America.

District Math Chairperson Cassandra Shannon recently awarded certificates to the following students: James Adams, Grace Blinkoff, Herna Bonilla, Jace Charon, Gaetano Famiglietti, Anthony Ginez, Harrison Israel, Damian Jagustyn, Michelle Melfi, Justin Sobelman, Victoria Tripp, Kai Williams, and Duncan Yates. Duncan was a Gold Award winner, scoring in the top 5% nationwide.

The AMC consists of a series of advanced mathematical problems, including high school level problems as part of the middle school level competition. Although it is not a requirement at the middle school level, these Honors Math students all study algebra. They are congratulated here by (back row, L-R) teacher Sue Linden, Finley Principal Dr. Anael Alston, Assistant Principal Lawrence Carroll, Ms. Shannon, and teacher Randy Finjer.

# Budget Development Timetable

**Monday, January 23, 2012**

Board of Education begins discussions of potential budget cuts in executive session regarding personnel.

**Friday, January 27, 2012**

Administrators submit add/alternate recommendations beyond zero-based allocations for 2012-2013 with justifications and budget estimates.

**Monday, February 13, 2012**  
(regularly scheduled meeting)

Public Budget Presentation Workshop with Board of Education: General Support, Pupil Transportation, Community Services and Undistributed Expense.

**Monday, February 27, 2012**  
(regularly scheduled meeting)

Public Budget Presentation Workshop with Board of Education: Curriculum and Instruction.

**Thursday, March 1, 2012**

Submission of tax levy limit to NYS Comptroller, Commissioner of Education and Commissioner of Taxation (as per Property Tax Cap legislation).

**Monday, March 12, 2012**  
(regularly scheduled meeting)

Board of Education discusses budget revenues, appropriations and potential budget cuts in public.

**Monday, March 26, 2012**  
(regularly scheduled meeting)

Board of Education discusses budget revenues, appropriations and potential budget cuts in public.

**Monday, April 16, 2012**

Last day to submit voter propositions.

**Wednesday, April 18, 2012**

Board of Education discusses and adopts budget.

**Thursday, April 19, 2012**

Property Tax Report Card must be submitted to SED. (Submit to SED within 24 hours of the BOE's budget adoption but no later than 4/23.)

**Wednesday, April 25, 2012**

Last day for filing candidate petitions.

**Thursday, April 26, 2012**

District Clerk reviews petitions/drawing for ballot positions.

**Tuesday, May 1, 2012**

Proposed budget available to public with Property Tax Report Card attached.

**May 3-10, 2012**

Budget brochures mailed to residents.

**Tuesday, May 8, 2012**

Public Budget Hearing (Not less than 7 days and more than 14 days prior to budget vote.)

**Tuesday, May 8, 2012**

Absentee ballot application must be received by the District Clerk if ballot is to be mailed.

**Wednesday, May 9, 2012**

School Budget Notice mailed to residents – day after budget hearing but no later than 6 days prior to vote.

**Monday, May 14, 2012**

Absentee ballot application must be received by the District Clerk if the ballot is to be hand delivered.

**Tuesday, May 15, 2012**

ANNUAL MEETING – BUDGET VOTE AND ELECTION  
Budget and Property Tax Report Card available at polling sites.

# Literacy & Creativity



As schools, districtwide participate in the PTA-sponsored Parents as Reading Partners (PARP) initiative during the month of January, two students can be proud of the fact that their creative talents played an integral role in promoting this year's installment of the popular literacy celebration. Fifth graders Jasmine James of Landing School and Alontra Schuck of Connolly School each designed a logo that serves as the official designs for the program, following the theme "Travel Into a Book; Enjoy Your Adventure." Both students were awarded certificates from the district PARP committee. Jasmine is pictured with her certificate being congratulated by Landing Principal Dr. Michael Israel who is displaying a copy of her logo (above left) while Alontra is being congratulated by teacher Dora Ricciardi, holding her design, and Connolly Principal Rosemarie Sekelsky, who is displaying the congratulatory letter from PARP announcing her selection.



## 2012-2013 SCHOOL CALENDAR OF IMPORTANT DATES/VACATIONS

### August 2012:

8/30: Superintendent's Conference Day  
(Staff Only)

### September 2012:

9/3: Labor Day-Schools Closed  
9/4: First Day of Class for Students  
9/17-9/18: Rosh Hashanah  
- Schools Closed  
9/26: Yom Kippur - Schools Closed

### October 2012:

10/8: Columbus Day - Schools Closed

### November 2012:

11/6: Superintendent's Conference Day  
(Staff Only) - Schools Closed  
11/12: Veterans Day - Schools Closed  
11/22-11/23: Thanksgiving Recess -  
Schools Closed

### December 2012:

12/24-12/31: Holiday Recess -  
Schools Closed

### January 2013:

1/1: New Year's Day - Schools Closed  
1/21: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day  
- Schools Closed

### February 2013:

2/18-2/22: Mid-Winter Recess

### March 2013:

3/15: Superintendent's Conference Day  
(Staff Only) - Schools Closed  
3/26-3/29: Spring Recess -  
Schools Closed

### April 2013:

4/1: Last Day of Spring Recess\*

### May 2013:

5/27: Memorial Day - Schools Closed

### June 2013:

6/21: Last Day of School  
6/24: Possible Snow Makeup Day\*\*

\* School will be in session for students if 3 or more snow days are used.

\*\* School will be in session for students if 4 or more snow days are used.



## Emergency Closing of Schools and Delayed Openings

### EMERGENCY CLOSING OF SCHOOLS

When severe weather conditions or an emergency requires the closing of schools, information about school closings or delayed openings will be posted on the district website at [www.glencove.k12.ny.us](http://www.glencove.k12.ny.us) and will be telephoned through the Connect-Ed system at approximately 6:30 a.m. Announcements will also be made by the following:

#### Television Stations

News 12 Long Island Cablevision  
WABC-TV  
WCBS-TV  
Fox5-TV

#### Radio Stations

WALK (97.5 FM)  
WINS (1010 AM)  
WCBS (880 AM)

In addition, the Glen Cove Volunteer Fire Department will sound its siren at 6:30 a.m., 6:45 a.m. and again at 7:30 a.m. to alert residents of a school closing. During a weather or any other emergency, the district must keep its telephone lines open. Please do not call the school for closing information unless it is absolutely necessary.

### DELAYED OPENINGS

Parents will obtain information from television, radio stations and Connect-Ed calls. Bus schedules will be adjusted accordingly, depending on the delay. All morning programs and services are cancelled during delayed openings.

#### Programs

Pre-K a.m. Half Day  
Pre-K p.m. Half Day  
Grades K-5  
Grades 6-8  
Grades 9-12

#### One-Hour Delay

Cancelled  
Regular Time  
9:45 a.m.  
9:00 a.m.  
8:30 a.m.

#### Two-Hour Delay

Cancelled  
Regular Time  
10:45 a.m.  
10:00 a.m.  
9:30 a.m.

## TRANSPORTATION NOTICE

In compliance with New York State law, the Glen Cove School District provides transportation for Glen Cove children in grades K through 12 attending nonpublic schools up to 15 miles from their homes. Please note: The deadline for submitting an application for transportation to nonpublic schools is on or before April 2, 2012 for the 2012-2013 school year.

Applications are sent home to nonpublic schoolchildren and should be returned to the Glen Cove Office of Transportation Office: 150 Dosoris Lane, Glen Cove, NY 11542. Applications are also available at the office.

For further information about the district's transportation policy, contact Kelly Moran, District Transportation Clerk, at 801-7075.



## TAX CODE NOTICE

The Glen Cove School District Tax Code Number for New York State Tax Returns is 224. Please be certain to fill in the number in the appropriate space provided on your tax returns. School aid can be affected if the school district or code is incorrect or missing.

# Around Our Schools



Deasy Kids Follow the Stream

## NATURE'S POINT

As part of their studies on the environment, students from Deasy School visited the Garvies Point Museum and Preserve to take an informative nature walk and learn about the Long Island climate and how it affects tree and plant life. Youngsters also learned about geology and erosion while studying the East Coast's largest stream table.

## SEEING CLEAR THROUGH THE FOGGIEST OF IDEAS

Thanks to the support of a grant from Long Island University's Tilles Center for the Performing Arts, students at Gribbin School are taking advantage of artist-in-residence sessions and even incorporating the arts with literacy. One example of this took place in Irena Kamola's kindergarten classroom, when students used their regular word study to capitalize on the weather. One foggy day, students replicated the weather outside using their bodies, crafts, and song. For effect, they created foggy illustrations from wax paper, composed and sang a song about the fog using certain site words to emphasize their point, and even incorporated dance movements to "move



Fog Rolls in Overnight at Gribbin

slowly like the fog" overnight. They performed their song with illustrations held in front of their faces, peeling back the wax paper as the fog cleared.

## CONNOLLY GOES COLONIAL

Connolly Elementary School hosted a Colonial Day event, sponsored by the school PTA. The event, conducted by the Society for the Preservation of Long Island's Antiquities (SPLIA), provided future generations of Glen Cove citizens with a hands-on lesson in our past through quilting, tin-making and rope-threading activities.



Hands-on Learning at Connolly

## YOUNG AUTHOR HONORED

Fifth grader Ireanna Peralta at Connolly School is the winner of a Scholastic writing contest, sponsored by *Scholastic Storyworks* magazine. For the assignment, students in Frank Monteleone's class read a nonfiction article entitled "The Awesome Powers of Ethan Z" from a Scholastic magazine. The article was about a boy who finds inner power to ignore bullying and mean behavior from people due to his physical differences. Ireanna was one of only 10 winners nationwide and received a free copy of the book *Powerless* by Matthew Cody.

## LANDING ON THE BIG MAP

Landing School students recently explored North American geography in a big way! Students had the opportunity to explore National Geographic's Giant Traveling Map of the region, which measures 35' x 26'. The brightly-colored, vinyl surface of the map accurately illustrates North America's oceans, seas, rivers, mountains, countries and capitals and comes equipped



Taking Big Steps at Landing

with a trunk full of accessories, including interactive games such as "A Tale of 20 Cities" and "Cardinal Capture," geography adventures, atlases and books that teach students about the physical characteristics of the continent as well as its rich history and varied cultures.

## HELPING HEROES

Kudos to Finley Middle School students Evangelia and Spyro Markoulis. After meeting a severely wounded veteran at a relative's home on Staten Island, Evangelia and Spyro set out to raise funds for the organization Building Homes for Heroes. The two solicited donations from community members and raised \$500, which they presented to Building Homes for Heroes Chief Operating Officer Andrew McClure. Building Homes for Heroes is a non-profit organization committed to supporting those who have returned home from the wars in Iraq or Afghanistan with severe wounds and disabilities.

## COMMUNICATING SUCCESS

Chris Barry's Communication Arts Academy recently welcomed an old friend back to impart some professional wisdom onto students currently enrolled in the program. Samantha Renison, a GCTV graduate and member of the Glen Cove HS Class of 2004, who is now a media buyer for the Wieden+Kennedy advertising agency in New York City, shared some of her insight with students. Samantha spoke about the college and career paths she took to get to where she is today. Samantha also discussed the responsibilities of her current position and how the Communication Arts class inspired her to work hard and fulfill her dreams. Wieden+Kennedy is a full service agency that includes clients such as Nike, Delta, Heineken, and ABC Entertainment and ABC Family, the latter two for which Samantha is assigned.

## A New Take on Alice

The Glen Cove High School Masquers Society presented *Alice vs. Wonderland* in December to full audiences in the school auditorium. The play, a bizarre update of *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, blends the lyrical whimsy of the traditional tale with pop culture and high-octane physical theater. The result is a fresh, funny, and emotional remix of Lewis Carroll's classic coming-of-age tale. Six different student actresses play the parts of six different Alices. They are Sabrina Ali, Victoria Andreotti, Heaven Guanco, Christina Orioli, Stephanie Orioli, and Danielle Pilla. Matthew Rottino is the Masquers Society advisor and directed the play.



## Nassau Zone Recognizes Scholars

The New York State Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (AHPERD) recognizes Glen Cove High School students Ariana Cavallone and Robert MacDonald as its Nassau Zone winners



from the Class of 2012. The Zone Award recognizes a male and female student from each high school graduating class who best exemplify outstanding physical performance, scholastic ability and leadership qualities among their classmates. Physical education teachers Chris MacDonald and Kim Riso congratulate Robert and Ariana here.

## 2011-2012 BOARD OF EDUCATION & ADMINISTRATION

Richard Maccarone, *President*  
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