

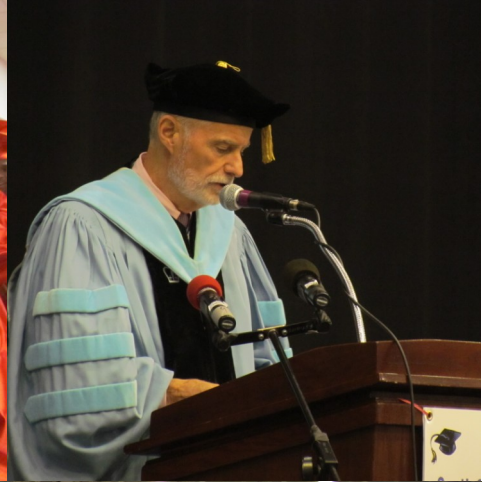
# YOUR SCHOOLS

## *Graduation Edition*

NEWSLETTER OF THE ROCKVILLE CENTRE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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## COVERT

Fifth graders at Covert Elementary School participated in a very special Moving-Up Ceremony on June 30th when parents, teachers and staff all gathered to wish them well in the Middle School.

The ceremony began with fifth grade Student Council members passing the color guard flags to their fourth grade successors, which was followed up by the acknowledgement of student awards. During the graduation students performed the song "dynamite" and shared their favorite Covert memories. The program concluded with a heart-warming video yearbook. When the ceremony ended, students danced out to the song "movin' on up" from the classic television show, *The Jefferson's*.



## HEWITT

When one door closes another one opens! Hewitt's graduating fifth graders were given their formal send-off on the afternoon of Thursday, June 21<sup>st</sup>, at South Side Middle School. The traditional Moving-Up ceremony had just the right amount of pomp and circumstance. With cameras clicking away, family and friends proudly watched as seventy-seven *Hurricanes* were awarded their diplomas by Principal Elizabeth Pryke, Academic Facilitator, Trici Broderick, and fifth grade teachers, Jim Duffy, Kathi Glass, Gregg Linker, and Joe Paluseo. Highlights of the afternoon included the presentation of special awards, a choral performance, led by music teacher, Melissa De La Vega, and a slideshow presentation, "Hewitt Through the Years...", created by fifth grade parent, Mrs. Christine Hatter. Of special significance, for the first time in Hewitt history, a representative from the New York State Attorney General's office was on hand to present the prestigious *Triple C Award*. Teacher Joe Paluseo summed up the afternoon when he commented, "These outstanding students will be missed, but they each left beautiful footprints on Hewitt's soil."



## RIVERSIDE

At the Riverside Fifth Grade Moving-Up ceremony, the fifth grade students were honored with awards for their many achievements throughout their years at Riverside. The ceremony culminated with the presentation of Moving-Up certificates to mark their transition from fifth grade to sixth grade in September.



## WATSON

Watson School fifth graders participated in a Moving-Up ceremony on Thursday, June 21, 2012. During the ceremony the students performed several songs in tribute to their years at Watson. Memories were recounted by all students and a Through the Years Power Point presentation was viewed by the children and their guests.

As with every Moving-Up ceremony in the past, Principal Joan Waldman dedicated a book to Watson School Class of 2012 to the school library. This year's dedication was a book called *Wherever You Are* by Nancy Tillman. The message of the book is that love is the greatest gift we have to give. It's the one thing you can carry with you each and every day.

Mrs. Waldman told the graduates, "Dream Big! Dreams help you to do great things in your life. They will help you make the impossible things possible, to set direction in your life and to make changes for the better. To dream big makes you continue to strive for excellence in everything you do. You have seen and experienced excellence time and time again during the past six years so I hope that the desire is embedded deeply within your hearts."



Above: Principal Joan Waldman speaks to students about Dreaming Big.

Above: after the ceremony was finished students danced out to "Shout" by the Isley Brothers

Above: SSHS Valedictorian, and former Watson student Emily Passorelli, gives a speech about memories to the 2012 graduates.

## WILSON

On June 20th, Wilson Elementary School Fifth Graders got the celebrity treatment during their movie themed graduation ceremony. Stars with students names on them lined the isles of the auditorium and beautiful gold and black centerpieces adorned the stage.

During the ceremony students were called one by one to walk across the stage and receive their certificates. After each child's name was called students gathered to perform "We are the World" and "One Moment in Time." Before the evening came to an end students had the treat of watching a video compilation of all their years at Wilson, made by STELLAR teacher Viri Pettersen.



## MIDDLE SCHOOL

At the South Side Middle School Final Assembly on June 22, 284 students were celebrated by friends, family and faculty as they prepared to enter the High School. To open the ceremony Connor Bryne gave a speech greeting all the guests, followed by the 2013 SSHS SGA President, Michaela Beck who gave an Address to the Graduates that gave them a little insight and welcomed them into the High School.

The final student speech was a Farewell Address given to students by classmate Hannah Ditchik. Students then were called onto the stage to accept their certificates, concluding the ceremony.



## HIGH SCHOOL



On June 22nd South Side High School Seniors gathered at Hofstra University to bid the Rockville Centre School District a fond farewell. Clad in red caps and gowns eager students entered the stadium to “Pomp and Circumstance” performed by the SSHS Wind Ensemble, conducted by Mr. Gene Kaplan.

After hearing speeches from Salutatorian, Carly Roman, Valedictorian, Emily Passarelli, and Board of Education President, Liz Dion, South Side High School Principal, Dr. Carol Burris presented the class of 2012. After the presentation of Diplomas students were presented a video showcasing events from throughout the year as a gift from the Alumni Association. Finally, to close the ceremony, Class President Taylor Schwarting gave a speech congratulating the Class of 2012 and conferring their degrees.





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The District has implemented a new communication process for emergency notifications. School closings and other urgent messages will be sent through ConnectEd, a telephone and email communication system. Contact information on file for students and staff will be utilized for these notifications. Other community members who wish to receive District-wide messages should send an email with their name, phone number and/or email address to [connected@rvcschools.org](mailto:connected@rvcschools.org) or send a letter to the Business Office in the Administration Building at 128 Shepherd Street, Rockville Centre, NY 11570 requesting to be added to this messaging list. Parents who would like to change their contact information should contact the main office of their child's school.



To visit the Board of Education Blog, use your smartphone's **QR code** reader on the symbol above or visit: [www.blog.rvcschools.org/boe/](http://www.blog.rvcschools.org/boe/)



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