

# School Link



SCHOOL BUDGET ISSUE 2018-2019

## SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

May 2018

Dear Community Members,

Welcome readers to the annual budget newsletter. Our goal for this issue is to provide a comprehensive overview of our proposed budget and to highlight some special events. Each year, we engage in the process of balancing the needs of our students, and the need to be fiscally responsible to our taxpayers.

Proposition II on the ballot this year is a request for funding a capital improvement project. In this proposal we are seeking to upgrade the heating and ventilation systems at FDR, HMS and NPE. The existing systems have been identified as "end of life" status in our Building Condition Survey. Replacing these systems is critical and necessary. Failure to replace these systems may result in our inability to heat and ventilate our school buildings. As with any structure that is between 50 – 70 years old, repairs and/or replacements are inevitable.

Additionally, Proposition II includes updating the science labs at FDR & HMS. All secondary science labs predate man landing on the moon! New science labs will ensure that students receive quality science instruction in appropriate and fully functioning lab environment. Please see additional information inside this newsletter.

Thank you for entrusting the care and education of the 3,600 children we serve and thank you for all you do to support our community. Let's keep that Hyde Park Pride going and growing!

Please exercise your right to vote on May 15, 2018.

Sincerely,

*Greer Ruchcik, Ed.D.*

Superintendent of Schools



*Our science labs predate man landing on the moon!*

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Community Members,

Please take a moment to read this year's budget newsletter. We believe it will help you make an informed decision on how you vote.



One of the primary board goals is to maintain programs. This budget accomplishes that goal but it was not easy. Tax Cap restrictions and double digit rising retirement and health costs have caused us to make difficult choices. We believe this budget balances the financial ability of our taxpayers with the academic needs of our students.

Additionally, a Capital Project for new science labs for FDR and HMS as well as other important upgrades is on the ballot. Using funds from our Capital Reserve, State Aid, and prudent use of our debt service, we are able to accomplish this with minimum cost to the taxpayer.

I encourage all of you to exercise your right to vote. Together we can do great things!

Douglas H. Hieter  
HPCSD BOE President

**3.66%** Budget to Budget Increase

**2.53%** Tax Levy Increase (within Tax Cap)

# Save the Date VOTE!

May 15, 2018 • Haviland Middle School • 6 am - 9 pm

# Proposition II Renovations and Improvements Referendum

## F.D. Roosevelt High School

- Renovation of the “PODS” for 21st century science and classroom instruction.
- The science labs will be grouped together within the PODS and updated to meet current code and size standards, as well as provide improvements to technology access, lighting, and air quality.
- Building-wide mechanical upgrades which include the conversion of heating and ventilation systems from steam to hydronic.
- Improved sightlines and additional egress to provide increased safety in PODS.



## Haviland Middle School

- Renovations to science labs for 21st century science instruction and update to provide improvements to the lighting and technology access.
- Full completion of heating and ventilation upgrades and conversion of the remaining steam building systems to hydronic.

## North Park Elementary School

- Heating and ventilation upgrades to respond to the history of high humidity levels in this building, including provisions for a dehumidification mode on the HVAC systems.
- Heating and ventilation upgrades will include a new cooling plant, replacement of unit ventilators in classrooms, library, music, kitchen, and offices, as well as gymnasium/cafetorium air handlers.

**VOTE MAY 15, 2018**

## District STEAM Fair



The 2018 District Science and STEAM Fair featured many interesting displays including robots, ice bubbles, and an electric pickle.

Students were excited to use a hydraulic arm powered by water-filled syringes to move marshmallows. The interactive station was one of several set up by 18 Marist College students under the direction of HMS science teacher Christine Murphy. The undergraduates, who are studying to become teachers, were enrolled in classes focused on STEM skills.

“The Hyde Park Central School District was thrilled to strengthen its relationship with Marist College through the STEAM Fair,” said Kim Knisell, Director of Math and Science. “The undergraduate students

in Marist STEM classes helped to make the District event a success. They developed stations that would engage our students in collaboration, creativity, and critical thinking to meet an engineering design challenge.”

### Science Fair Results:

#### Grade 5

- 1st Place: Kendall Carpenter (RRS)
- 2nd Place: Thomas Iorio (NPE)
- 3rd Place: Avery Creary-Harris (NES) and Tavoris Rozier (VAS)
- Honorable Mention: Aedan Kaake, Samuel Cifone

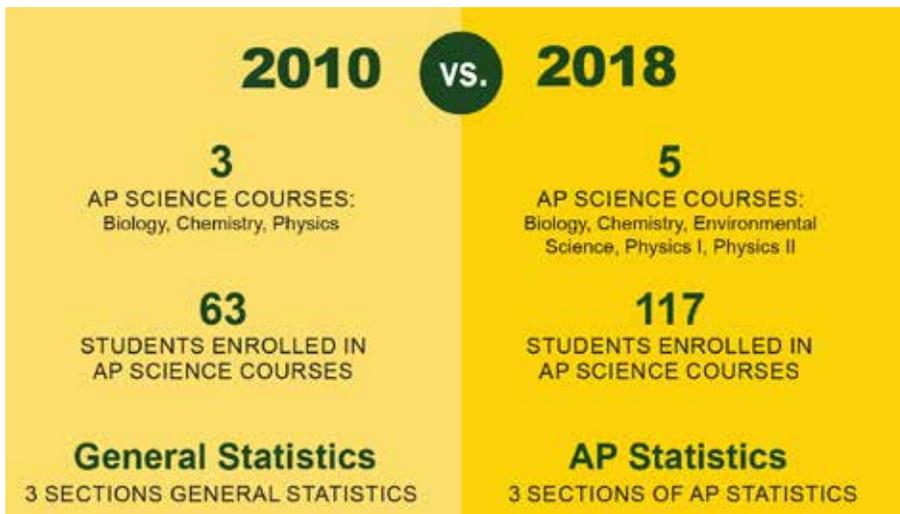
#### HMS Middle School

- 1st Place: Sarah Kannenberg and Isaiah Bell
- 2nd Place: Derek Kannenberg and Jacob Kannenberg
- 3rd Place: Emily Culley
- Honorable Mention: Mackenzie Coffey, Jackson Rexhouse, Philip Lamberton



# Why Science Labs, Why Now?

The renovation of middle school and high school science labs have been a goal of the Facilities Steering Committee for well over ten years. Some of the F.D. Roosevelt High School labs are part of the original construction of the high school in 1965 and have not been updated in 52 years. Haviland Middle School labs have not been updated since its dedication in 1940. As enrollment and interest in science courses continue to increase, the existing space must be renovated to meet new science, engineering, and technology demands.



## Existing Science Labs



## Science and Art Team Up in Classrooms for STEAM Success

Recently, elementary students selected from a range of projects in art class that included gravity paintings, structural towers, chromatography, balloon cars, pulleys, bridges, marble runs, geodes, boats, and musical instruments. They worked in teams to build their projects and then tested and adjusted them to fix any problems.

“It’s so good for them to learn how science goes into things,” said art teacher Tomi Nonenmacher. “Figuring things out, thinking, and using math skills is not only important for college, but for many lucrative careers like those in the automotive technology. Students need to know how to put things together so they stay together. It is also important not to just dive into something without sketching things out and planning. Students really learn from that experience.”

Lizbet Angel-Ojeda, 11, a 5th grader at Violet Avenue Elementary, and her team strategized how to build a boat out of a variety of supplies. After each adjustment, they tested if their prototype would float in a tub of water. “It’s actually more fun than doing simpler things because you are putting other things with science,” she said. “I picked the boat because I thought it would be fun to experiment to see if it would float or not.”



## Artists Take Home the Gold and Silver

An impressive number of talented FDR High School students won 2018 Scholastic Art Awards, some for multiple submissions. Congratulations to:

### Gold Key Winners:

Michelle Arevalo, Genevieve Faucher, Tadhg O’Halloran (2), Eden Palmer (2), Justine Sczeczanski, Thien-y “Melanie” Vo (2)

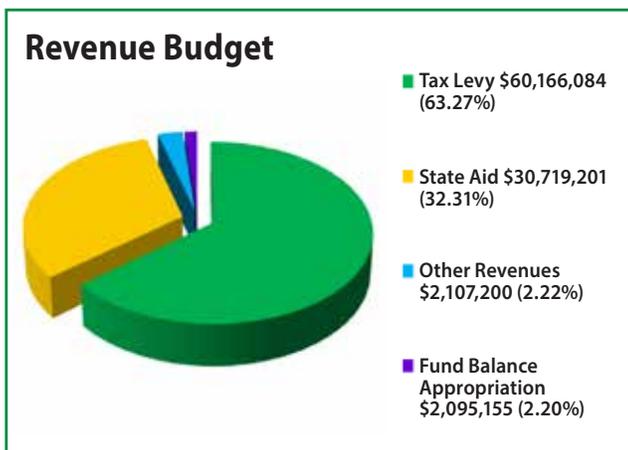
### Silver Key Winners:

Emily Baker, Thomas Calamari (2), Naisha Chowdhury (2), Diamond Eubanks, Stephen Luniewski (5), Tadhg O’Halloran (3), Emily Outwater (2), Eden Palmer, and Alanna Tobias

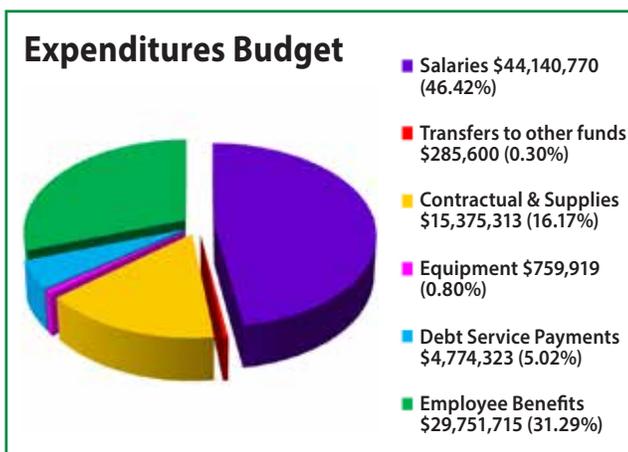
Email your budget questions to:  
[Budget@hpcsd.org](mailto:Budget@hpcsd.org)

## Proposition 1: 2018-19 General Fund Budget - \$95,087,640

### Where does the money come from?



### Where does the money go?



## The Budget in Brief

2017-2018  
 Approved  
 Budget

2018-2019  
 Proposed  
 Budget

ADMINISTRATIVE		
Board of Education	\$ 68,909	\$ 90,516
Central Administration	359,657	352,353
Finance	785,599	787,032
Staff Services	430,526	456,552
Central Services	252,212	283,142
Special Items	775,240	763,259
Instructional Administration	3,182,613	3,217,710
Employee Benefits	2,644,890	2,729,072
<b>Total Administrative</b>	<b>\$ 8,499,646</b>	<b>\$ 8,679,636</b>
PROGRAM		
Staff Services	\$ 25,000	\$ 22,000
Special Items	213,933	161,636
In-Service Training	537,759	485,141
Teaching- Regular School	22,207,088	21,905,258
Special Education	11,623,886	12,941,103
Occupational Education	2,275,970	2,334,694
Teaching- Special Schools	27,182	18,000
Instructional Media	2,299,629	2,631,090
Pupil Services	3,387,243	3,471,992
Pupil Transportation	5,547,907	5,655,901
Civic Activities	37,000	37,000
Employee Benefits	21,904,432	23,510,127
Interfund Transfers	300,000	285,000
<b>Total Program</b>	<b>\$70,387,029</b>	<b>\$ 73,458,942</b>
CAPITAL		
Operations & Maintenance	\$ 4,884,523	\$ 4,621,623
Special Items	40,000	40,000
Employee Benefits	3,239,955	3,512,516
Interfund Transfers	100,000	600
Debt Service	4,581,864	4,774,323
<b>Total Capital</b>	<b>\$ 12,846,342</b>	<b>\$ 12,949,062</b>
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>\$ 91,733,017</b>	<b>\$ 95,087,640</b>

## Transportation Employees Honored for 30 Years of Service

In February, four members of the Transportation Department were recognized for 30 years of dedicated service.

Congratulations to Maciej Skrok, senior automotive mechanic, and bus drivers Martha Selage, Joyce Gilmore, and Sharon Crispell on reaching that impressive milestone in serving the students of Hyde Park. Also pictured: Linda Steinberg, business manager, Dr. Greer Rychcik, superintendent, and far right, George Treadwell, supervisor of transportation.



## 2018-2019 Budget Propositions

## School District Budget Notice

Budget Adopted for 2017-18      Budget Proposed for 2018-19      Contingency Budget for 2018-19

### Proposition 1 - General Operating Budget \$95,087,640

Budget to Budget increase: 3.66%  
Tax Levy increase: 2.53%

### Proposition 2 - Capital Project \$26,224,708

#### Capital Project Work -

FDR Pod Renovations for Science Labs and General Classrooms; FDR Mechanical Upgrades; Haviland Science Classroom Renovations; Haviland Mechanical Renovations; North Park Mechanical Renovations

Capital Project Cost **\$26,224,708**

Less: State Aid (61.9%)\* - 16,233,094

Local Taxpayers' Share of Cost **\$9,991,614**

Less: Capital Reserve - 4,000,000

Net Local Share **\$5,991,614**

\*The total amount to borrow is \$22,224,708. State aid of \$16,233,094 will be reimbursed over 15 years and used to offset debt payments.

### Proposition 3 - School Bus Purchases \$692,386

Purchase of (4) 66 Passenger Buses, (1) 72 Passenger Bus, (1) 7/8 Passenger Mini-Van and (2) 15 Passenger Wheelchair Vans as per the bus replacement schedule.

**\$692,386**

Less State Aid (60.1%) **-\$416,124**

Net Cost (after state aid) **\$276,262**

#### Average Estimated Basic STAR Exemption for the 2018-19 School year by town:

Clinton	\$916
Hyde Park	\$901
Pleasant Valley	\$916
Poughkeepsie	\$916
Rhinebeck	\$916

Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$91,733,017	\$95,087,640	\$94,239,336
Increase for the 2018-19 School Year		\$3,354,623	\$2,506,319
Percentage Increase in Proposed Budget		3.66%	2.73%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		2.13%	
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount, net of Reserve	\$58,678,866	\$60,166,084	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable			
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable			
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy			
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	<b>\$58,678,866</b>	<b>\$60,166,084</b>	<b>\$58,678,866</b>
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$1,559,755	\$1,556,417	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$57,545,243	\$58,609,667	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, Excluding Levy to support Library Debt, and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	\$57,119,111	\$58,609,667	
I. Difference: (G - H); (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval)	\$426,132	\$0	
<b>Budget Overview</b>			
Administrative Component	\$8,499,646	\$8,679,636	\$8,560,205
Program Component	\$70,387,029	\$73,458,942	\$72,946,754
Capital Component	\$12,846,342	\$12,949,062	\$12,732,377

### Contingency Budget

NYS sets limits for spending under a contingency budget. If Proposition 1 is defeated on May 15th, the School District has three options: put up the same budget, a revised budget or go straight to a Contingency Budget. If a second vote is defeated, the District must go to a Contingency Budget which means a 0% tax levy increase. The district would be required to reduce the proposed expenditures budget by at least \$848,304 and reduce the proposed tax levy by \$1,487,218.

<b>2018-2019 Proposed Budget</b>		<b>\$95,087,640</b>
<b>Less: Non-Contingent Expenses</b>		
Managerial/Confidential Salary Increases	\$ 42,659	
Equipment	711,007	
Student Supplies	94,038	
Transfer to Capital Projects	600	
Reduce Admin Supplies and Contractual	0	-\$848,304
<b>2018-2019 Contingent Budget</b>		<b>\$94,239,336</b>

<b>Comparison of Contingent Budget to Proposed Budget:</b>		<b>% increase from prior year</b>
2018-19 Proposed Budget	\$95,087,640	3.66%
2018-19 Proposed Tax Levy	60,166,084	2.53%
2018-19 Contingent Budget	\$94,239,336	2.73%
2018-19 Contingent Tax Levy	58,678,866	0.0%

# BOARD OF EDUCATION ELECTION

Two seats on the Board of Education will be filled at the May 15th Board Member election due to the expiration of two terms of office. Both seats are three-year terms of office commencing on July 1, 2018 and ending on June 30, 2021. Information on the Board member election can also be found on the District's website by clicking on Budget & Vote Info. under Quick Links.

The candidates seeking election to the Board have provided the following statements:



Carl Tomik

**Carl Tomik**

I would like to promote and expand a strong school system that benefits both the students, staff and the community. Working with and involving the community creates a positive

atmosphere for all involved. At this point in my career I have the time and energy to commit to working towards these and other goals and would enjoy the opportunity to do so.



Perry G. Sheldon

**Perry Sheldon** and I am seeking re-election to the Board of Education, of which I have been a member for the past 6 years.

Providing an appropriate public education for our children is a critical element to our community. We must inspire our students to seek a lifetime of learning. To do this, we must offer educational opportunities that will make "college and career ready" a reality.

I have spent most of my adult life working in the construction and facilities management professions. My experience has been, and will continue to be, an asset to the district.



Congratulations to **Brian Halling**, a math teacher at FDR High School, who has been named a 2018 Forty Under 40 honoree by the Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce due to his strong commitment to the Hudson Valley. There were more than 100 nominations encompassing professions ranging from fitness trainers, investors and bankers, doctors, engineers, teachers, and veterans.

"The 40 young professionals who have been chosen by a committee of their peers, truly represent the best and brightest in the Hudson Valley," said Chamber President and CEO Frank Castella, Jr.

**Lynnette Williams**, principal of North Park Elementary, was recently awarded the Dr. Mary Barter Scholarship from the New York State School Superintendents' Council. The \$2,000 scholarship is awarded annually to a woman or minority enrolled in a graduate study program leading to a school district administrator certificate or a doctoral degree.



Congratulations to Ms. Williams who is working to earn her Ph.D. in Education Policy Leadership at the State University of New York at Albany.

## Math Mania Day



Ralph R. Smith students spent Math Mania Day enriching their skills by playing math games to support fluency and problem solving skills. Visiting *New York Times* bestselling author and trainer Greg Tang provided exercises to get students excited about math. Critical strategies and skills were targeted, and best of all, parents joined their children in the evening to play math games at school.



## IBM Hosts HMS Students for STEM Day

Students from Haviland attended a STEM Day at IBM to learn about blockchain design thinking and IBM careers. Hands-on science activities, robots, programming, and demonstrations - including lighting a pickle on fire with electricity - rounded out the educational visit. Debbie Furman, IBM's STEM Ambassador to the District, hopes to host another event next year so students can again benefit from hands-on, real-world activities related to STEM.

## HMS Hour of Code



FDR teacher Dave Czechowski and FDR computer science students went to Haviland Middle School to help math classes participate in an Hour of Code activity with their Chromebooks during Computer Science Education Week. All elementary schools also participated at the Family Code Night held at R. R. Smith Elementary School. Globally, more than 100 million students from 180 countries participated.

# This Year's Valedictorian and Salutatorian!

F.D. Roosevelt High School is pleased to announce that Lia K. Strait is the 2018 valedictorian and Natalie J. Molloy is the salutatorian. Superintendent of Schools Dr. Greer Rychcik and Principal Mr. Rick Parfy made the announcement on March 1st and congratulated Lia and Natalie on their achievements.

**Lia K. Strait, Class of 2018 Valedictorian**, has a weighted average of 99.5. She began taking high school courses as an 8th grade student at Haviland Middle School. Her acceleration has allowed her to take the most challenging courses offered at FDR including honors and advanced placement courses. Lia is serving as the student member of the Board of Education, the executive council president of Student Government, and a peer leader in the FDR Sources of Strength program. She plays the violin in the orchestra and has been involved in the Positive Partners program as a mentor for freshmen students. Outside of school, Lia enjoys riding horses and taking dance lessons. She earned the Girl Scout Silver Award - the highest award a Cadette can earn - for her work in refurbishing the nature trail at Netherwood Elementary School.



**Lia K. Strait**  
Valedictorian

Lia is interested in pursuing a degree in biomedical engineering. Her goal is to ultimately become a research scientist focused on tissue engineering for organ growth and replacement.

## Natalie J. Molloy, Class of 2018

**Salutatorian**, has a weighted average of 99.24, with coursework consisting of a number of honors and advanced placement classes. Natalie has been an active member of the FDR Parent-Teacher-Student Association (PTSA) and the FDR National Honor Society (NHS). Earlier in her time at FDR, she played the violin in the orchestra and was part of both the lacrosse and tennis teams. Outside of school, Natalie enjoys being a Sunday school teacher for young children in her church. She has also spent time as a summer camp counselor with Youth Mission Outreach, helping teach nutrition skills to children in the City of Poughkeepsie.



**Natalie J. Molloy**  
Salutatorian

Following graduation, Natalie plans to attend Baruch College in New York, NY to study accounting. Natalie would like to live in New York City and ultimately pursue a career as an actuary.

## Top 20 students for the Class of 2018

Lia Strait, Natalie Molloy, Thien-y "Melanie" Vo, Alexis Green, Sydney Tomaseski, Dillon Davies, Joshua Grosse, Lexus Pattershall, Natalie Habaybeh, Logan Ritter, Anne Dolan, Amber Diehl, Christopher Young, Md "Naveen" Chowdhury, Wyatt Matyas, Natalie Boucher, Waffah Ahmed, Hannah Apuzzo, Abbie Cummings, and Amber-lynn Ilker



### Lights, Camera, Action!

High school students inform their classmates and highlight school activities on Fridays by producing a television show, FDR Live. The show appears on screens throughout the school and features the talents of Elizabeth Odendahl, Caleb Malcarne, Hannah Lasher, Rhianna (Roxie) Frantz, Ezraah Azzam, Sydney Bonelli, Seth Robinson and Rose Trifilo. With the help of advisor Tracy Ansley, the team runs a teleprompter, soundboard and camera and writes all the copy.

## FDR President's Players Delight Audiences

FDR productions of "Panic Broadcast of 1938" in the fall, and "James and the Giant Peach" in the spring, received rave reviews from their audiences. Hundreds of hours of rehearsals, set construction, and costume design made the shows successful.

"We have an extraordinarily committed and talented group of students who constructed the sets, created props, scouted for costumes, worked backstage, played in the pit orchestra and performed on stage," said Melinda DiMaio, the district's director of fine and performing arts. "There are few endeavors that bring students together in the common creation of beauty like the making of theater."

The FDR Theatre Parents' organization provides a tremendous amount of student support, which is greatly appreciated, she added.



## BOARD of EDUCATION

Douglas H. Hieter, President  
Daniel M. Duffy, Vice President



Denise R. Biery  
Jeffrey B. Danielson  
Steven E. Mittermaier  
Perry G. Sheldon  
Michael C. Zagorski  
Lia Strait, *Student Member*

## SUPERINTENDENT of SCHOOLS

Greer Rychcik, Ed.D.

## DISTRICT CLERK

Joanne "Jay" Mikula

PO Box 2033 • Hyde Park, NY 12538

## HYDE PARK CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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## Voting Information

The annual Board member election and budget vote will be held on Tuesday, May 15, 2018, between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. at the Haviland Middle School gymnasium. Information on the vote can be found on the District's website by clicking on Budget Vote Info under Quick Links.

## Voting by Absentee Ballot

Persons unable to appear at the polls on May 15th may apply to vote by absentee ballot. Applications are available by contacting the District Clerk Joanne Mikula at 229-4000 x 1001 or at [jmikula@hpcsd.org](mailto:jmikula@hpcsd.org).

## Budget Hearing

A public hearing to provide information on the proposed 2018-2019 budget will be held on Thursday, May 3rd at 7:00 p.m. at the administration office followed by a Board of Education meeting.

## Voter Registration

The District will conduct voter registration on Thursday, May 3rd at the administration office at 11 Boice Road. **This will be the last day to register to vote in the District's May 15th vote.** Information about voter registration can be found on the District's website under Budget Info. under Quick Links.

## Wrestling Returns

On January 10th, for the first time in 35 years, a home wrestling match was held in the Hyde Park Central School District. The modified team faced off against Saugerties at Haviland Middle School and things got off to a great start with Mason Enkler winning the first match.

The roster included eight boys and five girls, a decidedly different composition than 35 years ago. Six wrestlers won matches even though most of the team, under the direction of Coach Nicholas Clair, had only been exposed to the sport for six weeks.

The return of wrestling was a collaboration between Superintendent Dr. Greer Rychcik, Athletic Director Tom Cunningham, and the Board of Education. Both the superintendent and the athletic director have strong family connections to the wrestling community. "We started the program at the modified level in the hopes of growing the program up to the JV and Varsity level in the years ahead," she said.



## Violet Avenue Named a Top 10 School in Dutchess

Violet Avenue Elementary School was rated a top ten school in Dutchess County for 2017 according to the New York School Quality Index from the USA Today Network. This rating captures data collected by the State Education Department on suspension rates, diversity of the student body, and test scores.

Superintendent Dr. Greer Rychcik and Deputy Superintendent Aviva Kafka presented a plaque to Violet Avenue at an all-school assembly on February 2nd and celebrated with the students and staff.



Mark Your  
Calendar for  
**Graduation!**

The Class of 2018  
will celebrate  
Commencement at  
6 p.m. June 22<sup>nd</sup>  
at the FDR Athletic  
Stadium

www.hpcsd.org • HYDE PARK CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT 8

OUR MISSION: The Hyde Park Central School District empowers our community to strive for excellence and embrace the opportunities of our globally connected world.