On June 23rd, South Side High School Seniors gathered at Hofstra University to bid farewell to the Rockville Centre School District. Clad in blue caps and gowns, students entered the arena to “Pomp and Circumstance” performed by the South Side High School Wind Ensemble and conducted by Mr. Barry LeBron, followed by the senior members of the Chambers Singers' rendition of the “National Anthem” conducted by Dr. Doreen Fryling.

We are extremely proud of the achievements of the Class of 2017; 87% earned a Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation, 51% of our graduates are IB Diploma Candidates and 96% of our graduating seniors plan to continue their education, attending a 4-year or 2-year college.

Speeches of congratulations and motivation were delivered by South Side High School Principal John Murphy, Board of Education President Mark Masin and Senator Chuck Schumer. Dr. William Johnson presented the Laurel Awards to Brandon Stein and Paulina Kenny. Ms. Bobbi Edelson from the Alumni Association presented the Centennial Award for School and Community to Kayhan Kazbay and Anna Rodriguez. Salutatorian Grace Feiner shared memories and spoke words of encouragement. Valedictorian Morley Hawriluk spoke to his fellow classmates about preserving and cherishing our planet. As the students were being called to come to the stage to receive their diplomas, unfortunately, the sprinkler system burst, disrupting the ceremony and forcing all in attendance to evacuate the building. This was not the end of the ceremony as some students had not yet walked across the stage and Senior Class President Paulina Kenny had not delivered her speech. As a way to honor these students and give the class of 2017 a chance to hear their Class President’s ‘Congratulations to the Class of 2017’ address, a second ceremony was held in the High School auditorium on June 29th, dubbed Graduation 2.0 by the South Side faculty. During the event Principal John Murphy reminded the crowd that this was a continuation of the commencement, not a separate event. Mr. Murphy noted that there was a silver lining to the disruption of the first ceremony. He said, “It’s a living testament to the fact that bad things do happen, but even under the worst of circumstances ... the loving kindness does seem to pierce through, and we see people coming together and, in that regard, we are fortunate.”

Graduates were gifted umbrellas bearing the school insignia and note cards reading, “May This Be The Only Time It Rains On Your Parade.”

Congratulations to all of the Graduates of the South Side High School Class of 2017!
South Side High School Class of 2017

Salutatorian
Grace Feiner
South Side High School Class of 2017

Brian N. Limerick
Caroline M. Livingstone
Liana K. Lo
Gabrielle Adele Lucas
Jake Thomas Lunney
Kiera K. MacAneney
Brittany Ann MacKnight
Camila E. Madera
Allison Clark Mahoney
Daniel P. Mallay
Joseph P. Marasco
Marc A. Marasco
Natalie Marinelli
Joseph A. Marino
Dalvin Martinez
Jessica J. Marino
Kyle M. Martirano
Ryan T. Martirano
Olivia Mastrosimone
Taylor A. Maughan
Jessica Mauro
Emily McAteer
Elisabeth McCarthy
Ryan James McCarthy
Aaliyah Christina McCrea
Matthew A. McDonald
Peter McEntee
Sean Michael McGee
Ryan F. McGurren
Evelina Balapanova McMahon
Lauren Elizabeth McNally
Trevor A. McNally
Alexandra K. McNicholas
Anthony L. McPherson
Joshua Medidha
Tasheen T. Moore
Kevin M. Moran
Allison J. Mullooly
Colin Joseph Mullolloy
Brendan Gerard Murphy
Julie M. Murphy
Andrea S. Murray
Mae M. Murray
Jaymi M. Musacchio
Madeline E. Musnisky
Kelsey Rachel Nass
Elizabeth F. Navarino
Dayna E. Newman
Taylor Lee Nunziato
Narisse A. Nurse
Madelyn Santana
Ian J. Santora
Joseph Sarro
Brandon N. Schiffman
Kevin Andrew Schnee
Daniel C. Schwartz
Christina Marie Scotto
Matthew Aaron Seganti
Paige V. Shaw
Jennifer M. Sheehan
Erin M. Sherlock
John M. Sherry
Tess E. Siegel
Charles Silecchia
Juan M. Siliezar
Rose Noelle Simorella
John C. Sliva
Emily G. Sobel
Danielle S. Sorscher
Nikki Staimle
Samantha L. Stanton
Brandon H. Stein
Lukas M. Straube
Tia Sutton
Yasmin Syed Aslam
Daniel C. Taity
Jeffrey M. Tavarez
Jourend T. Testa
Michaela A. Titus-Simmons
Scott Thomas Trutt
Amanda M. Ventura Molina
Nigel M. Viegas
Amanda M. Viegas
Victoria Eileen Ward
Tyquan M. Whitfield
Tyler Wukitsvits
Thomas J. York
Olivia G. Yuhas
Jacqueline E. Zogas

* Regsents Diploma Advanced Designation
● IB Diploma Candidate
During the fifth grade Moving-Up ceremonies at Covert, Hewitt, Riverside, Watson and Wilson elementary schools, there were words of congratulations on jobs well done as students bid farewell to their elementary years. There were also words of encouragement and support for the students' transition to South Side Middle School. Memories were shared and guests were treated to musical performances by the talented students. We wish all incoming 6th graders great success as they start their first year at South Side Middle School.
At the South Side Middle School Final Assembly, eighth graders were celebrated for their achievements and the successful completion of their work at the Middle School. The ceremony was attended by the students’ families, school faculty, administrators and members of the Board of Education. The ceremony was opened by 8th grader Kalib Hardley-Ferrens, followed by a speech from South Side High School 2018 SGA President Lily Coll. Both students spoke of the value of hard work and dedication and congratulated the eighth graders on their accomplishments. The ceremony also featured speeches by Superintendent of Schools Dr. William Johnson, South Side Middle School Principal Shelagh McGinn and Board of Education Vice President Liz Dion, all of whom expressed how proud they were of the students and also urged them to continue working hard in high school and beyond.

The farewell address was given by classmate Emilio Grillo and students were then called to the stage to accept their certificates. We wish them much success at South Side High School.
To All Rockville Centre School District Residents

If you believe that your school-age or preschool child may have a disability, please contact Dr. Noreen Leahy, Assistant Superintendent of Schools for Pupil Personnel Services and Special Education, at (516) 255-8928, or Dr. Orly Gadon, Chairperson of the Committee on Special Education/Preschool Education at (516) 255-8942.

DATES TO REMEMBER

August
29  BOE Tour of Buildings

September
4  Labor Day
5  First Day of School
6  Board of Education Regular Meeting
19  Board of Education Public Work Session

Congratulations to the Class of 2017!
We wish you much success on all life’s journeys!