

# YOUR SCHOOLS

NEWSLETTER OF THE ROCKVILLE CENTRE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Volume 35• Number 1 September 2013

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## DATES TO REMEMBER

### October

- 9 Board of Education Public Work Session
- 12 Homecoming
- 14 Schools Closed—Columbus Day
- 22 Board of Education Meeting

### November

- 5 Schools Closed—Election Day
- 6 Board of Education Public Work Session
- 11 Schools Closed—Veterans' Day
- 20 Board of Education Meeting

## To All Rockville Centre School District Residents

If you believe that your school-age or preschool child may have a disability, please contact Mrs. 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.

## Welcome Back!

The Rockville Centre Board of Education would like to welcome everyone to the 2013/2014 school year!

This school year is certain to be an exciting one as we continue work on many of the projects that were approved in the March 2013 Bond Vote. Over the summer we completed work on the South Side Middle School Track, the South Side High School Gym, and we began installing air conditioners in elementary classrooms. We also started the necessary steps for the renovations on South Side High School and Watson Elementary School. For the most up-to-date information on the School Improvement Bond we invite you to visit the Update Page on our website [www.rvcschools.org](http://www.rvcschools.org) or by clicking [here](#).

We invite all residents to attend our meetings or to watch them on Thursday evenings on the RVC School Channel (channel 19 for Cablevision subscribers or channel 36 for Verizon FIOS subscribers). For a complete list of Board of Education meetings please visit our website: [www.rvcschools.org](http://www.rvcschools.org). Your input about our District will enable us to continue to provide students with the best education possible.

Sincerely,  
Liz, Mayda, Gregg, Mark, and John  
Rockville Centre Board of Education

## New Director of School Facilities & Operations Named



Pictured l to r: Director of School Facilities & Operations, John Scalisi and South Side High School Head Custodian, Eric Lonks.

The Rockville Centre School District welcomes Mr. John Scalisi who previously worked as Director of School Facilities and Operations at the Bellmore – Merrick School District from July 2007 to June 2013. He currently holds numerous certifications required to maintain the standards of building operations.

Mr. Scalisi is also a volunteer fireman and Ex-Captain of the North Merrick Fire Dept.

# Meet The New Staff 2013-2014

## SOUTH SIDE HIGH SCHOOL

### David Beinlich – Art

Mr. Beinlich earned his Bachelor of Arts degree at Briarcliffe College and his Master of Science degree at Long Island University.

Mr. Beinlich completed his Student Teaching in the Babylon School District.

### Michael Casamassima – Math

Mr. Casamassima earned his Bachelor of Arts degree at SUNY Geneseo and is currently enrolled in a Master's program at Stony Brook University.

Mr. Casamassima has been working as a Leave Replacement Mathematics teacher in the Great Neck School District.

### Nicholas Catino – Music

Mr. Catino earned his Bachelor of Music degree at New England conservatory of Music and his Master of Arts degree at New York University.

Mr. Catino has been working as a Music teacher at MS126 in Brooklyn since September 2012. He has also been working as a Music teacher at Mannes School of Music Prep since August 2012.

### Kelly A. Chester – English Language Arts

Ms. Chester earned her Bachelor of Arts degree at Franklin and Marshall College and her Master of Arts degree at Teachers College, Columbia University.

Ms. Chester has been working as an English teacher at George Jackson Academy in New York since September 2009.

### Kaitlin Clarke – Foreign Language

Ms. Clarke earned her Bachelor of Arts degree at Marist College and her Master of Education degree at Harvard University.

Ms. Clarke has been working as a .5 middle school Spanish teacher in Newton, Massachusetts.



*New High School staff, Back row: (l to r) David Beinlich, Nicholas Catino, Katie Clarke, Greg Northrop, Kim Pleines. Front row: (l to r) Kelly Chester, Mike Casamassima, Terese Whang.*

## SSHS CONT'D

### Greg Northrop – Long Term Substitute Special Education Teacher

Mr. Northrop earned his Bachelor of Arts degree at Molloy College and his Master of Science degree at Touro College.

Mr. Northrop has been working as a Permanent Substitute teacher at South Side Middle School since September 2011.

### Kimberly Pleines – Art

Ms. Pleines earned her Bachelor of Arts degree at New York Institute of Technology and her Master of Art degree at Adelphi University.

Ms. Pleines has been working as an Art teacher in the Baldwin School District since March 2009.

## SOUTH SIDE MIDDLE SCHOOL

### Christopher Aloisi – Physical Education

Mr. Aloisi earned his Bachelor of Science degree at Syracuse University and his Master of Arts degree at Adelphi University.

Mr. Aloisi has been working as a Permanent Substitute teacher at South Side Middle School since September 2012.

## SSMS CONT'D

### Susana Martinez-Bauer – Art

Ms. Martinez-Bauer earned her Bachelor of Arts degree at Adelphi University and her Master of Science degree at Long Island University – CW Post.

Ms. Martinez-Bauer has been working as a Permanent Substitute teacher at South Side Middle School from September 2009 to the present.

### Ryan Bockelmann – Technology

Mr. Bockelmann earned his Bachelor of Science degree at SUNY Oswego.

Mr. Bockelmann worked at Massapequa Public Schools as a Web Design instructor from October 2012 to the present. Mr. Bockelmann was also a Technology teacher at Smithtown High School from May/ June 2011.

### Caitlyn Collins – Foreign Language

Ms. Collins earned her Bachelor of Arts degree at Iona College.

Ms. Collins has been working as a Spanish teacher at Oyster Bay High School since January 2013. She also taught Spanish at Friends Academy during the 2011/12 school year.

### Cadence Pagano – Art

Ms. Pagano earned her Bachelor of Arts degree at Adelphi University and is in the process of earning her Master's degree at Long Island University.

# Meet The New Staff 2013-2014



*New Middle School staff, left to right: Caitlyn Collins, Francis Ventura, Susana Martinez-Bauer, Chris Aloisi, Ryan Bockelmann*

## SSMS CONT'D

Ms. Pagano has been working as a Long Term Substitute teacher at South Side High School from November 2012 to the present.

### **Francis Ventura—Foreign Language**

Ms. Ventura earned her Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts degree at SUNY Stony Brook.

Ms. Ventura worked as a Spanish leave replacement teacher at Long Beach High School from September 2012 to the present.

## DISTRICT-WIDE

### **Kristen Aksionoff - Physical Education**

Ms. Aksionoff earned her Bachelor of Science degree at SUNY Cortland and her Master of Science degree at Hofstra University.

Ms. Aksionoff worked as a Physical Education teacher in the Baldwin School District from September 2008 to the present. She also worked one year in the Malverne School District.

### **Sean McCabe - School Psychologist**

Mr. McCabe earned his Bachelor of Arts degree at Boston University and his Master of Science degree at CUNY Queens College.

Mr. McCabe has been working as a School Psychologist in the Elmont School District since September 2012.

## HEWITT SCHOOL

### **Carol Sharkey - Long Term Substitute**

Ms. Sharkey earned her Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degree at Molloy College.

Ms. Sharkey has been working as a Teaching Assistant at Hewitt School since October 2010.

## WATSON SCHOOL

### **Danielle DiMare - Long Term Substitute**

Ms. DiMare earned her Bachelor of Arts degree at Boston College and her Master of Science degree at Long Island University.

Ms. DiMare has been working as a Teaching Assistant at Watson School since September 2011.

## WATSON SCHOOL CONT'D

### **Peter Gibbons - Long Term Substitute**

Mr. Gibbons earned his Bachelor of Arts degree at Le Moyne College and his Master of Science degree at Hofstra University.

Mr. Gibbons has been working as a Teaching Assistant at Watson School since January 2010. Mr. Gibbons served as a Long Term Substitute teacher replacing Ms. Antonina Spallino-Ford for the period January 2012 through June 2012.

### **Kathleen Zimmer - Long Term Substitute**

Ms. Zimmer earned her Bachelor of Science degree at Fordham University and her Master of Science degree at CUNY Hunter College.

Ms. Zimmer has been working as a Teaching Assistant at Watson School since September 2010.

## WILSON SCHOOL

### **Keith Bosch - Physical Education**

Mr. Bosch earned his Bachelor of Science degree and Master of Arts degree at Adelphi University.

Mr. Bosch has been working as a Physical Education and Health Education teacher in the West Hempstead School District since September 2004.



*New District elementary schools staff from left to right: Keith Bosch, Kristen Aksionoff, Danielle DiMare, Carol Sharkey, Sean McCabe*

# School Improvement Bond and Capital Improvement Photos

Over the summer, School District staff and contractors worked tirelessly undertaking many Capital Improvement and Bond projects. At South Side High School the gym floors were stripped, repainted and refinished and the old bleachers were replaced with beautiful new customized ones. Installation of the lighting on the South Side High School field also began this summer. Bases for the light poles are in place and electricians are scheduled to start the wiring in the coming weeks. To determine how much drainage was needed for the new field, soil samples were taken from the High School field this summer. These samples will also provide us with valuable information needed in the engineering of the new extensions.

At South Side Middle School, the old surface of the track was removed and a brand new rubber surface has been installed and painted. Please feel free to stop by and give the track a test run/walk.

Aging boilers at Hewitt Elementary School were replaced with new, more energy efficient units. These new units will allow the school to operate in a more environmentally friendly manner while saving the District costs associated with running older models.

The cornice at Riverside Elementary School was given a fresh coat of paint and looks good as new.

We will continue to update you concerning your bond dollars at work as we move through what will be an exciting time in the Rockville Centre School District and Community.

## South Side High School Gym



**Before**



**During**



**After**

## South Side High Soil Boring



## South Side High School Field Lighting



# School Improvement Bond and Capital Improvement Photos

## South Side Middle School Track



**Before**



**After**



**During**

## Hewitt Boilers



**Before**



**After**

## Riverside Cornice



**Before**



**During**



**After**



**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

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**SCHOOL ENROLLMENT**

<b>ENROLLMENT BY SCHOOL</b>	<b>2013</b>
<b>Covert</b>	286
<b>Hewitt</b>	445
<b>Riverside</b>	174
<b>Watson</b>	293
<b>Wilson</b>	400
<b>South Side Middle School</b>	855
<b>South Side High School</b>	1104

\* If you currently receive the STAR property tax exemption, you must register with the New York State Tax Department to continue receiving this exemption. The deadline to register is December 31, 2013. Seniors receiving the Enhanced STAR exemption do not need to register with the Tax Department, but must continue applying annually with their local assessor or sign up for the New York State Tax Department's Income Verification Program. Click [here](#) to view the STAR Registration Fact Sheet or visit: [www.tax.ny.gov/pit/property/star13/](http://www.tax.ny.gov/pit/property/star13/) to register online.

The District has implemented a 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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