



Plainedgeschools.org February 10 , 2025

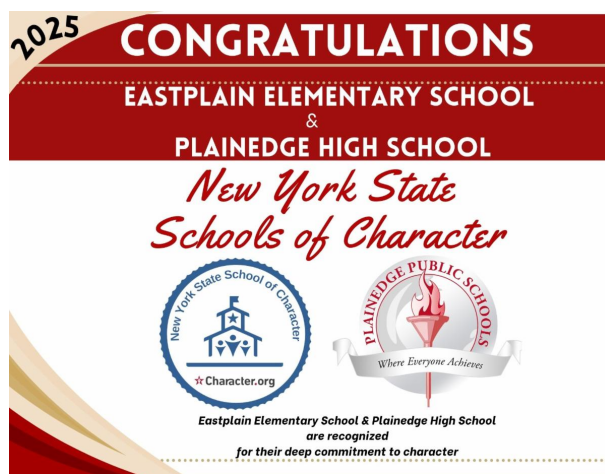
A Message from Superintendent of Schools-
Dr. Edward A. Salina, Jr.

I am happy and proud to announce that two of our schools, Eastplain Elementary School and Plainedge High School were designated as 2025 New York State Schools of Character. There are 98 state-level Schools of Character, 5 Districts of Character, and 8 International Schools of Character. Only six schools in New York State were on that list, and two of those were Plainedge schools. Eastplain Elementary School and Plainedge High School now join Plainedge Middle School and John H. West Elementary School in this prestigious recognition. Congratulations to Charles E. Schwarting Elementary School for receiving an honorable mention. We have been recognized for our implementation of a comprehensive approach that “equips and empowers staff to reinforce and model a range of positive core values that shape and form the hearts, minds, and choices of our students.” By prioritizing character development alongside academic success, our schools are shaping well-rounded individuals who will excel in all facets of life.

It was apparent to the State School of Character committee that our “L.E.A.D. for P.R.I.D.E.” core values are deeply embedded in our school’s culture and that our schools are truly a caring community focused not only on academic success but character development for all. It was evident that our schools work together with students, parents, and community members to create strong communities focused on character. The committee highlighted these schools as state exemplars for their practices and strategies for developing good character in our students, emphasizing that the contributions of all stakeholders in our school community are key to the success of all Plainedge students.

Congratulations to our entire school community for your dedicated contributions to both education and character development of our students. Your hard work and commitment have been instrumental in shaping the outstanding character of our students.

Sincerely,
Edward A. Salina
Edward A. Salina, Jr., Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools



Plainedge High School Summa Cum Laude Breakfast

On Wednesday, February 5, 2025, Plainedge High School honored 12 students with grade point averages of 100 and over. To achieve this, students must excel in all their classes, including many weighted honors and Advanced Placement courses. The following students achieved this tremendous accomplishment and were recognized at our annual Summa Cum Laude breakfast. In addition, we announced our valedictorian and salutatorian at this breakfast. The valedictorian for the class of 2025 is Shayan Joarder. Our salutatorian is Giulia Giuffrida.

Congratulations to the following students:

- Alec Anderson
- Daniel Butera
- Marianne Fullan
- Alessia Giuffrida
- Giulia Giuffrida
- Shayan Joarder
- Sabrina Johnson
- Runhan Li

- Antonia Macchia-Barba
- Olivia Puccia
- Heba Tariq
- MaryRose Varricchio



Best Buddies Fashion Show

Get ready for the 4th Annual Best Buddies Fashion Show! Join us on February 13th at 6 PM at Plainedge High School for a night of incredible performances, dances, routines, and struts that our students have been working hard on! You won't want to miss this spectacular event! Tickets are available now at [BBPHS.BOOKTIX.COM](https://bbphs.booktix.com)



Save The Date: Plainedge Hosts Special Olympics

Plainedge will be hosting Special Olympics NY once again this year on Saturday, May 3,



SAVE THE DATE

SPECIAL OLYMPICS NY

MAY 3, 2025

Leading with P.R.I.D.E.

Amazing work by Eastplain Elementary School as part of their service learning project, students in fourth and fifth grade at Eastplain participated in King Arthur's Baking Company's Bake for Good Assembly. This program allows students to learn, bake, and share their baked goods as an act of kindness using the power of baking to make a difference. Students learned that combining math, science, reading, and baking adds to delicious bread! Special thanks to the third-grade students who helped pack materials.



Plainedge Fitness Center

The Plainedge Fitness Center is open Monday-Thursday evenings from 6-10 PM and Saturday 8 AM - 12 PM for our community members. There are strength/cardio machines, Echelon Mirrors, dumbbells, kettlebells, and resistance bands that you can use.

Have you signed up for your free membership? [Click here to learn more!](#)

[Click here](#) to follow the Plainedge Fitness Center Instagram Account!

PLAINEDGE FITNESS CENTER

SCAN THE QR CODE TO SIGN UP TODAY!



**HAVE YOU SIGNED UP FOR
YOUR FREE GYM MEMBERSHIP YET?**

QUESTIONS? EMAIL: [FITNESS.CENTER@PLAINEDGESCHOOLS.ORG](mailto:fitness.center@plainedgeschools.org)

FREE MEMBERSHIP FOR PLAINEDGE RESIDENTS



PLAINEDGE FITNESS CENTER

Cardio/Strength Training-
This gym session combines the best of both worlds: cardio to boost your heart rate and burn calories, and strength training to build muscle and improve endurance. This session allows you access to our cardio equipment: Treadmills, Stationary Bicycles, Stairmasters, Rowing Machines and Ellipticals, as well as our strength training circuit.

Echelon Mirrors-
This will allow you to select a workout from a library of offerings. Fitness metrics like heart rate, calories burned, and workout progress will be tracked during your session. The interactive mirror incorporates a touchscreen display that allows users to interact directly with the interface.



QUESTIONS? EMAIL: fitness.center@plainedgeschools.org



Teacher Spot Light

Congratulations to our very own, Mr. White who was one of 21 educators from across Long Island to receive the ASSET Bright Light Award. Mr. White is an elementary STEAM Specialist, a high school CTE teacher who teaches college level video production classes, and one half of the team responsible for creating state-of-the-art planetarium experiences for Grades K-8. He is constantly brainstorming unique, amazing technology enhanced experiences for his students which empower them to make a positive contribution to our world. Mr. White's boundless energy, creativity, positive attitude and collaborative nature constantly inspire our students, staff and community members. Congratulations Mr. White!



PHS at Future Business Leaders of America

We're thrilled to celebrate an incredible milestone in our first year of FBLA! Our students competed in a range of events at the Spring District Competition at Hofstra University on January 10th, demonstrating their business skills through public speaking, decision-making, and job interviews. A special shout-out to Christian

Hardiman for earning 3rd place. Congratulations on this fantastic achievement!



Virtual Enterprise Trade Show

Virtual Enterprise had their first trade show of the year at Adelphi! Their company, Impact Apparel, is stylish clothing that gives back. With every purchase, Impact Apparel donates to a charity of your choice, making a difference together. The students did an amazing job presenting their business and engaging with other schools.



Alumni Spotlight

Thank you to Jillian Kane, Plainedge Class of 2020 alum, for visiting our PHS College Video Production students and sharing her career journey!

Since graduating from Plainedge High School, Jillian has built an impressive career, working at places like Hofstra, SNY, ABC, and more. Her firsthand insights into the video production industry were incredibly valuable to our students, offering them a glimpse into the exciting possibilities ahead. We're grateful to Jillian for taking the time to inspire and guide the next generation of media professionals!



Student Spotlight

Congratulations to Christian Hardiman for earning 3rd place at the FBLA Spring District Competition in the Job Interview Category! Competing against students from across Long Island, he showcased his business skills by crafting a stellar resume and cover letter and excelling in a mock job interview.

His outstanding performance has earned him a spot at the FBLA New York State Spring Leadership Conference & Competition in Rochester this April,

where he will proudly represent Plainedge!

The Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) provides students with incredible opportunities to sharpen their business and leadership skills, and Christian has truly risen to the challenge. We are so proud of him and wish him the best of luck!



Capital Improvement: Cafeteria Serving Lines



Last month, our elementary schools received brand-new cafeteria serving lines! Students are now enjoying faster, more efficient meal service! Thank you to our school lunch staff for their amazing work every day!

Capital Improvement: Music Wing Update



Congratulations on Retirement
Catherine Honeyman, Assistant Superintendent for
Curriculum & Instruction



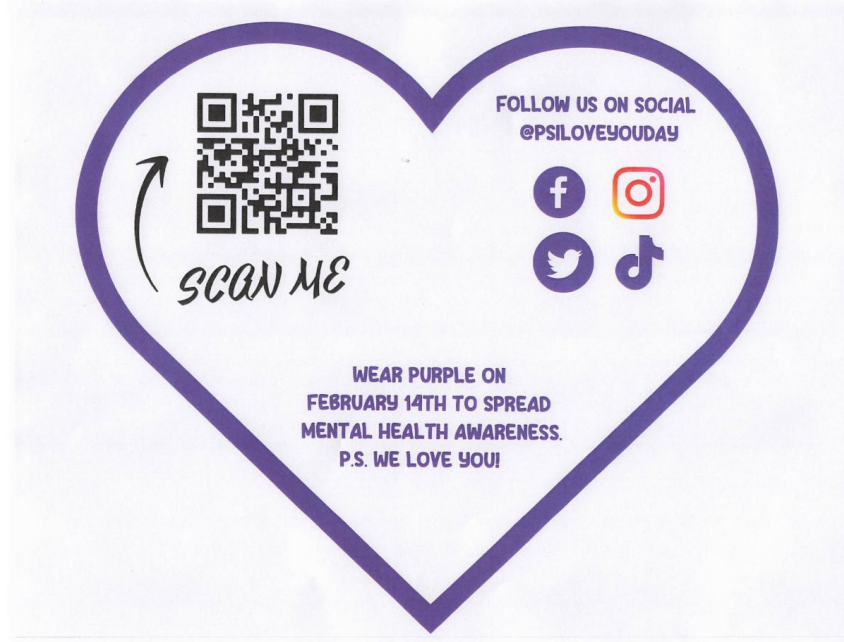
Plainedge Perk

Dr. Salina stopped by the Plainedge Perk at John H. West Elementary to see their student-run coffee shop in action! This special initiative provides JHW Student Council and Special Education students with the chance to build confidence and develop key skills like teamwork, money management, and customer service. We're incredibly proud of our students and staff for making this project a reality and embodying our school's core values of character.

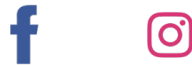


P.S. I Love You Day

Plainedge Schools will participate in **P.S. I Love You Day** on February 14, 2025, across the entire district. Students and staff are asked to wear **purple** to spread mental health awareness. This year's theme is "A brighter tomorrow begins today." We encourage everyone to spread love not only to the world and others but, most importantly, to yourself. Remembering that you hold the key to something much greater.



Plainedge School District | 241 Wyngate Drive, North Massapequa, NY 11758



Plainedge Public Schools | 241 Wyngate Drive No. Massapequa, NY 11758 241
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