



Plainedgeschools.org December 17, 2025

A Message from Interim Superintendent of Schools-
Carol F. Muscarella

December has been a wonderfully busy and spirited month across the Plainedge School District. From our High School's winter concerts and fall play to multiple Middle School performances featuring our 6th, 7th, and 8th grade musicians, our students showcased their incredible talent and hard work.

One of the highlights of the month was our Annual Season of Lights Celebration at Plainedge Park, where the community came together for music, treats, and a special visit from Santa. We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who helped make it so special. A big thank you to the Plainedge Best Buddies Club and our Grades 6–12 Chorus members for leading a joyful and festive sing-along that filled the air with holiday cheer!

We are grateful to The Brian Moore Foundation, the Plainedge Federation of Teachers, and Broadway Gourmet for their generous contributions of hot chocolate, snacks, and holiday-themed toys, which brought smiles and warmth to all of our students.

Special thanks to the Bethpage Fire Department and the North Massapequa Fire Department for bringing Santa all the way from the North Pole and making the day unforgettable.

We also sincerely thank Supervisor Joseph Saladino and the Town of Oyster Bay, New York State Senator Steven Rhoads, Legislator Rose Marie Walker, Nassau County Legislator James D. Kennedy, and Assemblyman John K. Mikulin for their continued support of our school community.

Finally, thank you to the Plainedge Board of Education, Central Administration, and our incredible Plainedge grounds and maintenance crew, who consistently go above and beyond to set up and support this beloved tradition.

Thank you all for helping make this community celebration shine so brightly!

As we wrap up 2025 and enter this festive season, I want to extend my heartfelt appreciation to the entire Plainedge community. December is always a time of reflection and celebration, and I am truly grateful for the support, partnership, and

pride you bring to our schools each day.

Thank you to our students, families, staff, and community partners for your continued dedication to making Plainedge such a vibrant and caring place to learn and grow. Wishing you all a joyful holiday season and a happy, healthy New Year.

Warm regards,

Carol F. Muscarella

Interim Superintendent of Schools



Buses and Late Buses Committee Interest Form

At the November 18th Board of Education meeting, exciting plans were shared to launch a committee focused on reviewing bus routes to improve student safety and exploring late bus options to help more kids take part in afterschool activities. We'd love for you to apply and be considered for this important work! Click here to complete the **Buses and Late Buses Committee Interest Form** this will help us learn more about you, why you are interested, and will guide the selection process.

Buses and Late Buses Committee Interest Form



Plainedge High School Student Council

Our incredible Plainedge High School Student Council Canned Food Drive was a massive success. Thank you to everyone who supported the collection. All donations will support "For The Love of Pete's Pantry," a wonderful organization that partners with local schools, businesses, and community groups to provide non-perishable food, toiletries, baby items, and essentials to families facing food insecurity, poverty, or homelessness.



Plainedge Elementary Best Buddies

Our Elementary Best Buddies had the best time coming together for a fun Thanksgiving arts & crafts activity! The room was filled with creativity, smiles, and so much laughter. We're grateful for this amazing program and the meaningful friendships it continues to build each and every day.





Holiday Spirit

Holiday spirit filled the halls of Eastplain Elementary School as the Plainedge High School Jazz Band stopped by to perform festive holiday favorites on Holiday Pajama Day! Students and staff enjoyed the joyful music while dressed in cozy pajamas, making for a fun and memorable celebration!



Kindergarten Registration

PLAINEDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
2026 - 2027
KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION
ONLINE REGISTRATION BEGINS
JANUARY 20, 2026
CHILDREN MUST BE 5 YEARS OF AGE
ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1, 2026

1. Log onto www.plainedgeschools.org
2. Under the "Parent" tab,
Select Student Registration
3. Then select 2026-2027 Kindergarten

For questions, email us at
registration@plainedgeschools.org
or call the Registrar's office 516-892-7420

Season Of Lights

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who joined us at Plainedge Park for our annual Season of Lights Celebration!







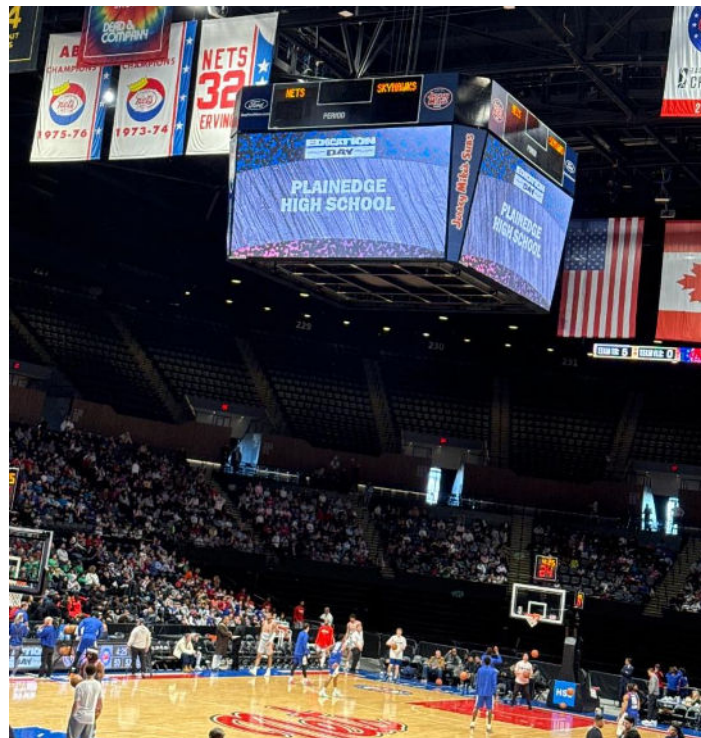
Plainedge High School Fall Play

Plainedge High School's fall production of *The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940* showcased remarkable student collaboration, creativity, and performance skills. The cast and crew demonstrated strong dedication to their craft, resulting in a well-executed and engaging play that highlighted the value of arts education within our school community.



Education Game

Plainedge High School students from the peer coaching classes of Ms. Knee, Ms. Fessler, Ms. Frank, Mr. Sussman & Mr. Hopper attended a special Long Island Nets Education Game Day just for schools this month!





Camp Good Mourning

The Plainedge School District PPS Department comprising our dedicated social workers, mental health counselors, school psychologists, and guidance counselors recently participated in a specialized grief-support training provided by Camp Good Mourning!

With 1 in 11 American children experiencing the death of a parent or sibling by age 18, and 92% of educators reporting that childhood grief is a serious issue that needs greater attention in schools, Plainedge is committed to proactively meeting this critical need. We extend our sincere appreciation to Bridget Murphy, Director of Special Education and Greg Wasserman, Director of Guidance for championing this important professional development initiative.

This training is especially valuable because our PPS team members are often the first trusted adults students turn to after a loss. By equipping staff with current, compassionate, and practical grief-support strategies, we strengthen our ability to recognize students' needs, respond with confidence, and foster a school environment where grieving children feel understood, supported, and never alone.



Student Spotlight

Congratulations to Joseph Manfre and Madison Callow for receiving the Nassau Zone Outstanding Physical Education student award. This prestigious recognition celebrates their dedication, leadership, and excellence in physical education.



District Art Show

The District Art Show was a fantastic event filled with creativity and inspiration. Over 100 talented Plainedge artists were so excited to show their family members and friends the beautiful work that was displayed. Congratulations to all our artists and our amazing art department for their hard work and dedication.



Teacher Spotlight

Jessica Yedwab is a Plainedge Middle School music teacher and coordinator who devotes her time wholeheartedly to her students and her profession. Whether she is supporting orchestra students, the middle school and high school musicals, or the Plainedge music program, Jessica gives 110%. Her passion for music is evident in the way she teaches, inspiring students to love both practice and performance. Through her dedication, she shapes not only her students, but her colleagues as well.



New York Islanders - Teacher Of The Month

Congratulations to Megan Bender, a fifth-grade teacher at Charles E. Schwarting Elementary School, on being selected as the New York Islanders Teacher of the Month! Megan shared, "What inspires me is watching my students discover strengths they didn't know they had. Every day, I get to see small steps turn into big victories moments when a strategy finally clicks, a confidence switch flips, or a student realizes they can do something they once thought was out of reach. Their resilience, humor, and individuality push me to show up as my best self every day!"

We are so proud to celebrate Megan and the incredible impact she makes on her students each day.



TEACHER OF THE MONTH

Presented by **xerox**

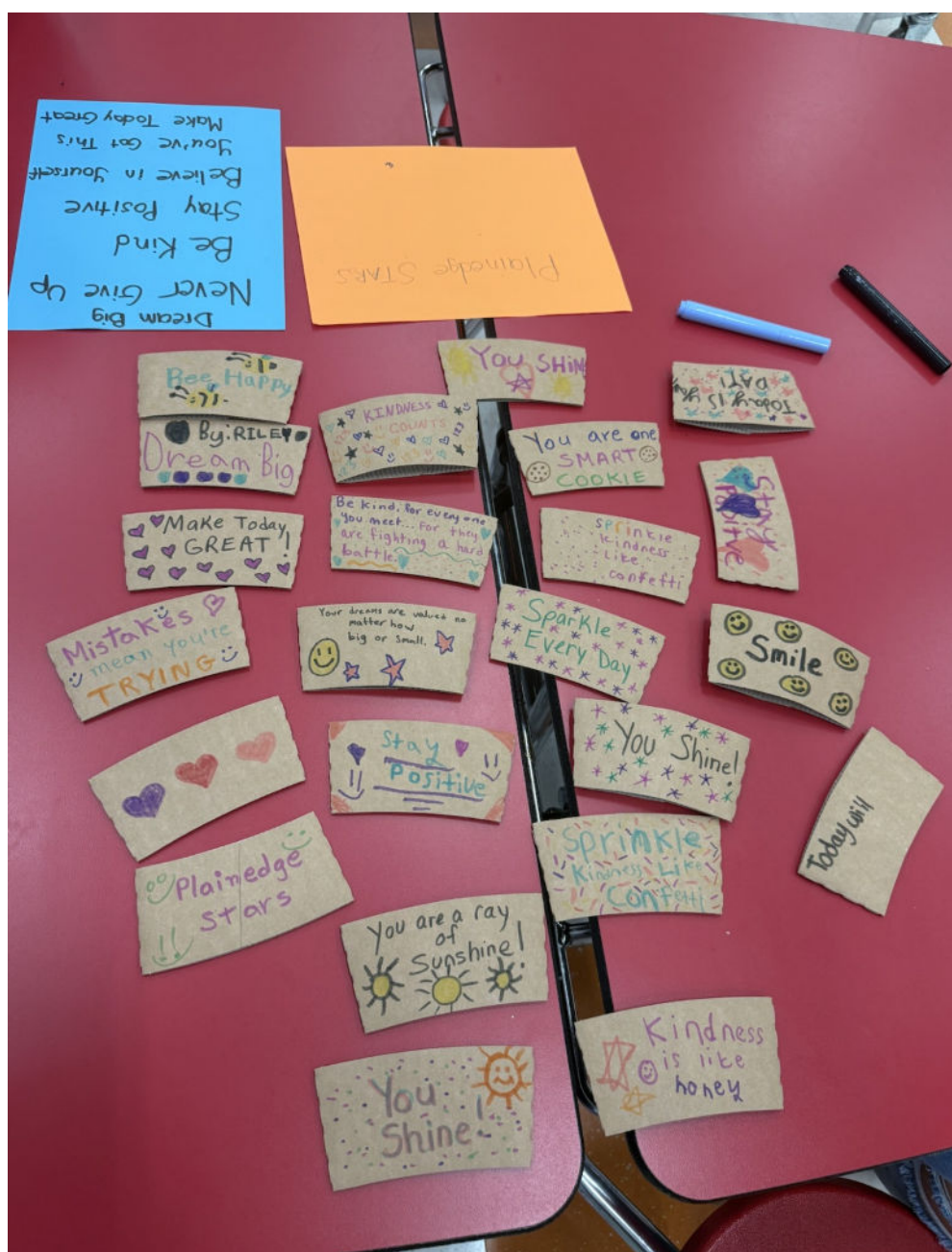
MEGAN BENDER
5th Grade Teacher,
Charles E. Schwarting Elementary School

TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF:
Some of my favorite memories are of us piling into our minivan to catch Islander games at the barn. Those loud, fun, full of heart moments shaped who I am, and the energy I bring to my students and players every day!



World Kindness Day

In celebration of World Kindness Day, our amazing Plainedge STARS program students put their creativity and compassion to work by decorating coffee sleeves for the local coffee shop, Perk and Press. Each sleeve was designed with uplifting messages and colorful artwork to brighten someone's day and remind our community that even small acts of kindness can make a big difference. We're so proud of our students for spreading positivity, one cup of coffee at a time!





Harlem Wizards

A huge thank you to our amazing community for coming out to support the PFT and PTA college scholarship funds and Vinny's Army, a local childhood cancer support charity. We hope everyone had a blast watching the World Famous Harlem Wizards bring their magic of tricks, hoops, and alley-oops!





Plainedge Fitness Center

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

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



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