IDEA Task Force Coalition: On Friday, March 10th, over 140 5th and middle school students attended Game Night at Islip High School. The $5 entrance fee included games, a DJ, pizza, chips, and a beverage. All attendees went home with a goodie bag. The Bach Harrison survey will be administered before the end of the school year for 6th, 8th, and 10th graders. Information gathered will help guide IDEA’s focus for 2017-18. Post Prom will be on Wednesday, June 21st. Any group that wishes to help or make a donation should reach out to Ken Phalen at kphalen41@gmail.com.

Islip Board of Education:

- At the April 4th Board of Education meeting, the Board passed a resolution requesting that the State Legislature provide adequate funding for Foundation Aid. This is state funding which is distributed to districts based on enrollment and student population needs, and Islip Schools is owed over $6 million. This was an initiative spearheaded by NYSSBA and a number of other districts across New York State.

- The Board recently held a retreat during which the Board of Education Mission Statement was amended to reflect the goals and objectives for the coming school years. These may be found under the Board of Education heading on the district website.

- With the State Budget signed earlier this month, Islip School District has built their budget within the tax levy limit of 1.71%, with the total budget for 2017-18 at $82,534,687. The Board of Education and the Central Administration team invite all stakeholders to the next Board meeting on Tuesday, May 2, 2017 starting at 7:30 p.m. in the Islip Middle School Auditorium for the Public Hearing on the Budget.

- At the Board’s March 28th meeting, Social Studies Coordinator, Dr. Drysielski, discussed the new social studies framework coming down from the State Education Department. It was shared that the new framework is focused on critical thinking skills and relating the content material to relevant information for students. The shift will have students directly interpret primary sources, examine
historical basis, perspective, and utilizing the content rather than memorizing the material. The department will be working throughout the summer to re-design the curriculum to meet the standards by September 2017.

**Islip Booster Club:** If you haven’t already, please consider ‘liking’ the Booster Club’s new Facebook page – it’s the one with the profile picture of the new turf field ([https://www.facebook.com/IslipBoosterGoBucs/](https://www.facebook.com/IslipBoosterGoBucs/))

**The Islip Breast Cancer Coalition (IBCC):** Join Team Islip Breast Cancer Coalition on Saturday, June 10th at Smiths Point for the LI2Day 13.1 Mile Walk when walkers, volunteers, and survivors join together in a community event like no other. One hundred percent of the funds raised at this event stay on Long Island to assist those most in need. More details and registration for the walk may be found at [www.li2daywalk.org/li2day-13-1-walk](http://www.li2daywalk.org/li2day-13-1-walk) or you may also register by contacting Gina Cacoperdo at 631-524-6641. When registering, please be sure to register for team “Islip Breast Cancer Coalition,” and they will provide help to meet your fundraising commitments.

**Islip Food for Hope:** On Saturday, May 20th, Islip Food for Hope will be hosting a Community Picnic at Ross Memorial Park from noon to 2:00 p.m. Bring a blanket and enjoy a free, nutritious meal compliments of Applebee’s. Donations of non-perishable items are welcome but not required. For more information or to volunteer, please call Maryann at 631-539-0815.

**Islip Middle School PTA:** The Middle School PTA is wrapping up a successful year with a spring spirit wear sale running through May 8th. This is a fundraiser for the upcoming grade-level barbeques. This year, the PTA meetings focused on incorporating topics and speakers meaningful to the middle school community. On May 8th, Dr. Martin and the District’s Social Studies Coordinator, Dr. Rob Drysielski, will discuss the transition to the new social studies framework. This is a very important topic that impacts all current middle school students, and everyone is encouraged to attend beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Middle School Library. Dr. Martin has offered several resources for parents and children to read together in response to the popularity of the Netflix series, “13 Reasons Why.”
Islip North Community Watch: The Rusy Bohm American Legion is holding its annual Spring Cleaning on Sunday, April 30th beginning at 11:00 a.m. All are welcome to attend. Lunch will be provided by Bulls I BBQ.

Islip Rotary Club: Islip Rotary’s Community Service Dinner is the largest event of the Rotary year and funds raised at the event are allocated to our community. This year, Rotary is proud to honor their 2017 Community Service recipient, Senator Phil Boyle. The dinner/celebration is on Friday, May 12th beginning at 7:00 p.m. at Captain Bill’s Bayview House in Bay Shore. Tickets are $85 per person and late RSVPs are being accepted. Call 631-921-3667 for more information. All community partners are encouraged to join Rotary for a wonderful evening to celebrate the amazing work of Senator Boyle.

The Rotary Gift of Life Dinner/Dance will be held on Wednesday, May 10th starting at 6:30 p.m. at Timber Point Mansion in Great River. The evening will feature a fabulous DJ and gourmet dinner. Contact Bob Nathan, 631-321-7134; ntennisplayer@aol.com for more information or to make a reservation.

Keep Islip Clean (KIC): Keep Islip Clean is in the midst of numerous Earth Day events which are held throughout April. One very special event is the 28th Annual Brook Street Wetlands Cleanup, scheduled for Saturday, April 29th from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. This cleanup is one of KIC’s very first Earth Day activities. Wetlands border both sides of the road, and KIC volunteers come out every year to remove not only litter, but often large debris. In the past, volunteers have found furniture, tires, and even a metal safe. The wetlands are a healthier ecosystem thanks to this annual event. Members of the KIC Clubs at both Islip High School and Middle School are always on hand to help make the cleanup a success. Families, students, civic organizations, scouts, and individuals are encouraged to help. Community service hours are available for students.

KIC’s next public meeting is on Thursday, May 18th starting at 7:00 p.m. at historic Brookwood Hall in East Islip. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Sherwood Elementary PTA: Sherwood’s Talent Show will be held on Friday, April 28th and feature over 30 acts. There is a $5 admission charge. PTA will also be hosting a Plant Sale at Sherwood Wednesday, May 10th and Thursday, May 11th, just in time for Mother’s Day weekend! It’s a busy time of year for Sherwood’s fifth graders - there will be a dance/mingle with their Commack Road counterparts on Friday, June 2nd, followed by a BBQ luncheon on Monday, June 12th, and, of course, their Moving Up Ceremony on
Tuesday, June 20th. Field Day for all students at SES is Thursday, June 15th with a Friday, June 16th rain date.

**Trinity Lutheran Church:** Trinity Lutheran has been officially certified by OCFS (Office of Children and Family Services) as a certified Day Care. Beginning in September 2017, extended hours will be available for 2, 3, and 4 year olds. For more information, contact Kathryn Cantanno at 631-277-5855.

Trinity operates a Food Pantry that is open on Wednesday and Friday afternoons from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Residents of Islip may receive food with proof of residency (i.e. utility bill). The pantry is mostly self-funded with a small portion of State funding, hence the residency requirements, and accepts other donations including outside group and individual food drives.

Trinity Lutheran also hosts NA (Narcotic Anonymous) meetings on Tuesday and Friday evenings at 7:30 p.m. Step AA meetings are held each Monday at 7:00 p.m. at St. Mark’s in Islip.

**Wing Elementary PTA:** Wing physical education classes hosted Zumba in March! Students participated in a Zumba class during each gym period during the first week of the month. In addition, PARP was a tremendous success. The Dr. Seuss theme carried throughout the month, and each day brought a new activity for the students. Thank you to the special guest readers who participated in “Community Reader Day.” This was a great way to bring members of the Islip community together with our youngest students.

An additional thank you to the community members and local organizations who participated in the Health & Safety Fair. With your help, students were exposed to several different ways to keep themselves healthy and fit.

April began with Autism Awareness, and students at Wing participated in several awareness activities through the first week of the month. The week culminated with ‘wear blue’ day and an awareness march around the school.

As previously mentioned, the Wing PTA *Box Tops for Education* fundraiser is ongoing. As a follow-up, the new *Classroom Enrichment Program* was a huge success. Each teacher at Wing was presented with an item from his or her “Wish List” as a gift from the PTA. Teachers were beyond grateful and truly appreciated the PTA’s way of saying “thank you.”
Upcoming Wing Elementary PTA events include:

**APRIL:**
- 17\textsuperscript{th} – 21\textsuperscript{st} Earth Week
- 25\textsuperscript{th} – 27\textsuperscript{th} Kindergarten screening (by appointment only)
- 27\textsuperscript{th} \textit{Dumpster Doug} assembly (follow up to Earth Week)

**MAY:**
- 1\textsuperscript{st} – 5\textsuperscript{th} Teacher Appreciation Week
- 4\textsuperscript{th} Scholastic Book Fair & Plant Sale (evening hours)
- 8\textsuperscript{th} PTA meeting & Joint PTA Budget presentation (MS Library)

**JUNE:**
- 1\textsuperscript{st} Kindergarten Orientation
- 7\textsuperscript{th} Field Day
- 10\textsuperscript{th} LI Ducks Family Night (Fireworks Night)