

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK



It is hard to believe but summer is becoming a distant memory and we can feel the beginning of autumn in the air. School is in full swing. Students have joined clubs, settled into their courses and the fall sports season is well under way. We are looking forward to Spirit week, Homecoming and our first annual "Safe Halloween." Look for the flyers and "Connect-Ed" messages regarding these events.

I would like to take this opportunity to inform you that your son or daughter's progress/report card will be available for viewing on the Parent Portal on Friday, October 23, 2009. This gives you instant access to your child's progress in school since their grades appear on the portal as soon as they are posted to the system. Additionally, this access has now afforded us the opportunity to "Go Green" as well as to be fiscally responsible. We will not be sending home paper copies of progress or grades report cards, until the fourth and final marking period of the year.

If you do not have a Parent Portal

account or if you have set up a Parent Portal account and have forgotten your username and/or your password contact Michele Finlay at 859-2251. If you would like a paper copy sent to you, please call the guidance department at 859-2231.

A quick review of this newsletter reveals that our students have been very busy and have numerous opportunities to become involved in school activities. A student who is involved in school clubs and/or sports is more likely to also enjoy the academics during the school day. This is verified by the fact that for the 2008-2009 school year all 22 high school athletic teams were recognized as Scholar-Athlete Teams. As a result Islip High School was named a School of Distinction by the New York State Public High School Athletic Association. Islip High School received this prestigious recognition because all of the schools' athletic teams maintained an average of 90 or above.

Our students are stretching and attaining new heights as responsible young adults. The College Board's Advanced Placement Program (AP) provides motivated and academically prepared students with the opportunity to take rigorous college level courses while still in high school. Forty-three students have earned AP Scholar Awards in recognition of their exceptional achievement on AP exams. We are very proud of them and thank you for the support you provide us.

ISLIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS

ISLIP HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

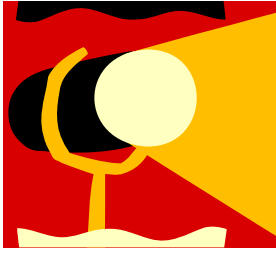


Be sure to visit the website for Islip Public Schools for all information and school closings.
<http://www.islipufsd.org>

Carol Jensen—Editor
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“The objective of education is to prepare the young to educate themselves throughout their lives”
Robert Maynard Hutchins

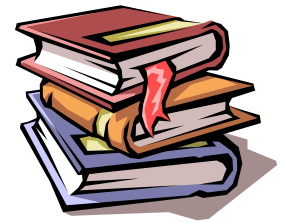


SPOTLIGHT ON ISLIP

A new program was started spotlighting different towns on Long Island. Recently a television crew from Cablevision was here to tape Islip. The programs will premier on Cablevision Channel 18 on Thursday, October 1st at 10:30 p.m. Throughout the month of October, it will air on Mondays and Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m.; Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m.; Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m.; Thursdays and Fridays at 10:30 p.m.; and Saturdays at 5:00 p.m. Tune in and see how our community shines!



Every child. one voice®



I hope everyone had an enjoyable summer. Thank you to all those who stopped by on Meet the Teacher Night to join PTSA or sign up for a committee. If you did not have the opportunity to stop by, membership letters and envelopes are available in the Main Office. Dues are \$10.00 for a parent and \$5.00 for students. Please have your student return the envelopes to the PTSA mailbox in the main office.

We have several programs already underway. This year's theme for the National PTA Reflections competition is "Beauty is...". Applications are available in the Main Office. Completed art work is due on October 23rd for judging. We are also sponsoring a Defensive Driving course, which gets you a 10% discount on your collision and liability insurance coverage. The course will be held on October 7th and 14th from 7-10 pm in the High School. Applications are available in the Main Office.

We are always looking for volunteers to help out in any way you can on our many committees. We would love to hear any new ideas you may have that will enhance the learning experience for all of our students. Please feel free to drop a note in the PTSA mailbox or send an email to mefranchi@yahoo.com so we can explore these suggestions with you.

This year our executive board members are:

President—Michele Franchi
Vice President—Tina Lackner
Treasurer—Lisa Barraco

Secretary—Dana Hearne
Council Delegate—Wendy Conway
Council Delegate—Kathy Nicolich

Our upcoming meetings are October 13th and November 9th at 7:00 pm in the High School Faculty Room. We look forward to seeing you there.

Watch our website, <http://www.islipptacouncil.org/his.html>, for up-to-date info on our activities.

Michele Franchi, President, HS PTSA

October 2009

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

					1 Meet the Teacher Night 7-9 pm	2 Senior Picture Makeups	3
4	5	6 Picture Day Fall Mini College Fair 8-9 am	7 Defensive Driving 7 pm	8	9 Emergency Sheltering Drill	10	
11	12 Columbus Day—School Closed	13 PTSA Meeting 7 pm	14 PSAT 7:30 am Freshmen Horizons 7:30 am Defensive Driving 7 pm	15	16 Homecoming (see back cover)	17 Homecoming Dance 7 pm	
18	19	20 Booster Club Meeting 7:30 pm	21 Blood Drive	22	23 Senior Class Photo	24	
25	26	27 Senior Picture Makeups	28	29	30	31	

November 2009

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Daylight Saving Time Ends		Election Day School Closed				
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	PTSA Meeting 7 pm Underclassman Picture Makeups	Booster Club Meeting 7:30 pm	Veterans Day School Closed		1st Quarter Marking Period Ends	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
		Winter Athletic Parent Code Night 6:00 pm		Thanksgiving School	Recess Closed	
29	30					

GUIDANCE CORNER

FOR UPDATED INFORMATION ON ALL GUIDANCE PROGRAMS AND EVENTS PLEASE LOG ONTO THE ISLIP UFSD WEBSITE www.islipufsd.org. THEN CLICK ON OUR SCHOOLS, ISLIP HIGH SCHOOL, GUIDANCE SERVICES.

Freshmen First News

The school year has started off with a great deal of activities to assist our students in getting back into the swing of things. The freshmen participated in the Freshmen Orientation Program on *Wednesday, September 2nd*. They were welcomed to the High School by Dr. Rossman, Principal; Mr. Juengerkes, Assistant Principal for 11th and 12th grades; Mr. Pramataris, Assistant Principal for 9th and 10th grades; Ms Garmendia, Director of School Counseling and the counselors, Mrs. Doheny, Ms. Friend, Mrs. Gould, Mr. Jargo and Ms. Picinich. Mrs. Gordon spoke to the students about having a fresh start in high school and about getting involved and making high school a fun, as well as an educational, experience. The students were then given their Student Planners, ID cards and a tour of the building. Most students reported that it was very helpful and made the start of school less stressful.

The counselors are in the process of meeting individually with their freshmen as well as in small groups. These groups will focus on getting to know the students and helping them to get involved in the school.

Freshmen Horizons, the first in a series of special programs designed for the freshmen, will be presented on *Wednesday, October 14th*. Activities that day will include career presentations from professionals in the areas of Law Enforcement, Building & Construction and Health Care. Additionally, the counselors will continue the process of getting to know the Freshmen with a series of "Team Building" activities in the gym.

SENIORS

Senior Class Meeting - On **Friday, September 11, 2009** Dr. Rossman, Mr. Juengerkes, Mr. Pramataris and Ms. Garmendia met with the Class of 2010. Many topics of interest were discussed with the seniors including the **Local Scholarship Application** form, which was distributed to all students present. The form is due back in the Guidance Office by **Monday, December 7, 2009**. If you would like another copy of the application they are available in the Counseling Office or on the Guidance page of the website.

Senior Counselor Meetings - The counselors have met, and will continue to meet, with their seniors individually and in classes - to discuss their transcripts, college applications and important dates to remember.

(Continued on page 6)

The transcripts were mailed home and corrections should have been returned to the Counseling office by Wednesday, September 16, 2009. An updated copy of the official transcript with the student's GPA and rank was mailed home on **Tuesday, September 29, 2009**. If you did not receive the transcript please contact your child's counselor for an updated copy.

Islip High School Fall Mini College Fair - On *Tuesday, October 6, 2009* the School Counseling Department hosted its fall Mini College Fair from 8:00 to 9:00 a.m. in the High School's Auxiliary Gym. Approximately 80 colleges participated and were available to meet with the students.

Financial Aid Night - On *Thursday, December 3, 2009* the School Counseling Department will host a Financial Aid Workshop on the ins & outs of financing a college education and filling out the FAFSA. It will be held in Room 130 in the High School at 7:00 p.m. Parents from all grade levels are welcome!

- Seniors:**
1. If you have applications that are due at the college by January 1, 2010, they must be submitted to your counselor by **Friday, November 20, 2009**.
 2. If you plan to play college sports and have registered with NCAA on-line, please don't forget to give your counselor the Transcript Request form to make sure that your transcript gets sent to the NCAA. Also be sure to complete the NCAA worksheet with your counselor to make sure you have a qualifying GPA in your core courses.
 3. If you are using the **Common Application** to apply to colleges, make sure you check to see if a particular college requires a supplement to the Common Application. i.e. Providence College.

Tips for Students from Washington University

MANAGING THE COLLEGE APPLICATION PROCESS

ACADEMICS COME FIRST:

Remember that colleges are most interested in your academic progress, including your **senior year courses and grades**. Be sure that you are taking the time that you need to do well in your classes.

KEEP DOING WHAT YOU LOVE:

Continue involvement in activities that you are most passionate about. Avoid pressure to fill your schedule with many new extracurricular activities during your senior year to "pad" your resume: **the depth of your commitment is more important**.

STAY ORGANIZED AND PAY ATTENTION TO DEADLINES:

Keep a folder for every school in which you are interested. Use it for brochures, financial aid information and applications. Keep photocopies of all admission and scholarship forms. **It is your responsibility to submit materials on time**. Write application requirements and deadlines on the outside of the folder, and check-off your progress as you go.

RESPECT THE TIME OF THOSE HELPING YOU:

Teachers use their personal time to write recommendations and counselors have many other students to assist. **Don't wait until the last minute to ask for a recommendation or ask for help**.

Juniors should also be aware that this exam is used to determine eligibility for the National Merit Scholarship Program.

ALL STUDENTS

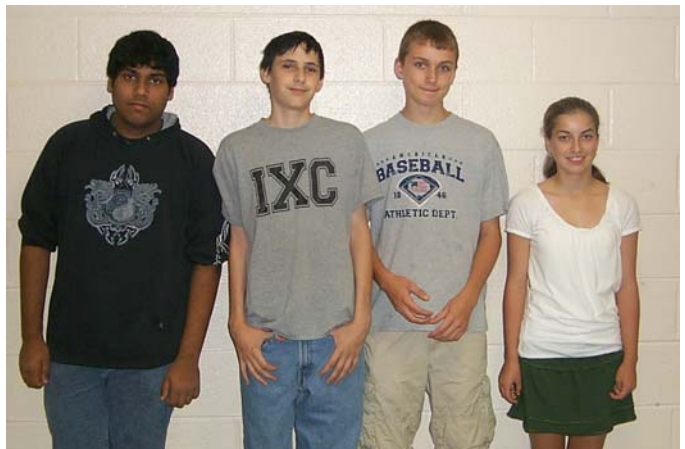
All students should be aware of the **Class Drop Policy** which appears on page 20 of the Student Planner.

For a **Full-Year Course**, students will have until five (5) school days after the end of the FIRST Quarter (11/13/09) to drop a full year class without penalty.

Research Students

June 20th at Deer Park High School. The four students are Matthew Busch, Brianne Kar, Patrick Fawley and Robert Stone. Additionally, Robert Stone received an honorable mention at the Long Island Science Congress held on March 11, 2009 competing against students in grades 9-12. We also had two seniors who won awards at the Science Congress. Michael Nelson received a Meritorious Honor Award for his work in avionics and Michael Fahner won the Highest Honors Award for his work with Petunia plants. Michael was asked to represent Islip at the New York State Science Competition held at Saint Rose College in Albany. This year we have five seniors entering the prestigious Intel Science Talent Search. They are Daniel Eichner, Christa Gentile, Michael Phalan, Samantha Rodriguez and Stephanie Schneider.

Four first-year research students received special awards for their work. These students attended the NYSSEF-Nebula Science Competition on April 29th held at Deer Park High School. They competed against 9th and 10th grade students and were honored on



Pictured above are Robert Stone, Patrick Fawley, Matthew Busch, and Brianne Kar.



National Hispanic Recognition Program

Samantha Rodriguez (pictured at left with Ms. Garmendia, Director of School Counseling), a senior at Islip High School, has been designated as a "Scholar" in the College Board's National Hispanic Recognition Program which uses the junior PSAT score to make that determination. Less than 5,000 of the 200,000 students identifying themselves as Hispanic receive this recognition. Out of this group, only students with a GPA of 3.5 or higher are designated as "Scholars."

Booster Club

Let's go BUCS!

The Islip Booster Club would like to thank everyone who helped out at Homecoming. We are also still accepting membership forms. If you haven't turned yours in yet, please do so. Hope to see you at our next meeting.

Booster Club Membership

Name _____

Address _____

Phone# _____ E-Mail _____

Child's Name	School	Sport(s) Played
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

I am willing to help out at Booster Club Events such as:

The Football Hut Purple & Gold Dinner Dance Alumni Soccer Game
 Wrestling Tournament Basketball Tournament Summer Sports Camp

Please send completed form along with a check for \$10 (Family Membership). Make checks out to Islip Booster Club and send to the **Islip Booster Club, P.O. Box 467, Islip, NY 11751**

ISLIP FRIENDS OF THE ARTS

Statement of Purpose: We encourage the students of Islip to participate in Art, Dance, Music, Theatre and the Visual Arts, and recognize their efforts through Awards, Scholarships and Enrichment Activities.

President, Barbara A. Engels, 102 Whitman Avenue, Islip, New York 11751 Tel. 277-7320

If you missed us on Meet the Teacher Night, it's not too late to become a member. Family membership is \$10.00 per year. Please send your check with your name, address, phone number and e-mail address to: Islip Friends of the Arts, c/o B. Engels, 102 Whitman Ave., Islip, NY 11751. Look for Islip Friends of the Arts news in each edition of this newsletter. Our Annual Holiday Sing-A-Long will take place December 4 (snow date 12/11) 7:00-9:00 p.m. in the Islip High School Cafeteria. Sing popular holiday music along with "Swing". This yearly event is a favorite of pre-school and elementary students, who can enjoy a visit with

Can These Boats Be Made of Cardboard?
(The Answer is "Absolutely!")



Boat #11-7 man boat
Captain- Elyssa Sapia
Lauren Hallal,
Kiersten Lavery,
Smantha Rodriguez,
Nicole Needrith, Dan
Eichner, Kevin Dinh.
Shore Crew- Karen
Gambina, Sonia Niazi

Boat #12-4 man boat
Captain- Mike Phalen,
Will Barsalona, Dave
Uher, Eric Purchaki
Proudly receiving 1st
Place trophy

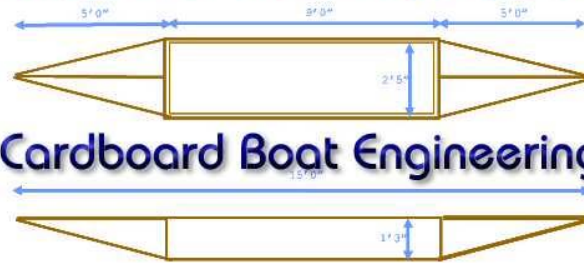


Islip High School
Science Olympiad
Cardboard Boat
Crews. Winners,
second year in a
row.

Islip Science Olympiad



Whatever Floats Your Boat



Cardboard Boat Engineering

On Sunday September 20, 2009 Islip High Schools Science Olympiad Team began the year by entering, a Cardboard Boat Regatta sponsored by the Freeport/Baldwin Elks Club. The race was held at a Town boat launch in Freeport amongst a large crowd. Islip was able to field two teams to compete in the competition with a great surge of interest from the students.

Boat #12-4 man boat

Captain-Mike Phalen
Will Barsalona
Dave Uher
Eric Purchaki

Boat #11-7 man boat

Captain-Elyssa Sapia
Lauren Hallal, Kiersten Lavery, Samantha Rodriguez, Nicole Needrith, Dan Eichner, Kevin Dinh. Shore Crew-Karen Gambina, Sonia Niazi

The Challenge

- Design and build a human-powered boat made from corrugated cardboard & duct tape which is capable of completing one trip around a 200-yard course with the people inside it.
- The purpose of the race is to give students the opportunity to put theory into practice based on the principles of water displacement, buoyancy and flotation. As well as working together in a "Team" building event to solve problems using unconventional methods while having fun!

The Team was proud to come back with a first place trophy for the second year in a row. After last years resounding victory they were moved into the Adult Division this year beating out two dozen other entries.

Congratulations go out to the Team for a fine showing again proudly representing Islip High School.

WHEN SHOULD MY CHILD STAY HOME WITH THE FLU?



H1N1 Influenza A Recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control

When should my child stay home with the flu?

Students with "Influenza-Like Illness" stay home when they are sick. Your child may have the flu and should stay home if they have the following signs and symptoms:

**Fever of 100°F
(37.8° C) or greater**
Cough
Runny Nose
Sore Throat

When should my child return to school?

It is recommended that students stay home until at least 24 hours after they are free of fever [100°F (37.8° C) or greater] or signs of a fever, without the use of fever-reducing medications.



What can we do to reduce the chances of spreading or "catching" H1N1 Influenza?

- Wash hands often with soap and water, especially after coughing or sneezing
- Use alcohol based hand sanitizers to clean hands if soap and water are not available
- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when coughing or sneezing and throw the tissue in the trash after use (if no tissue is available, cough or sneeze into your arm or sleeve—not your hand)

New York Statewide School Health Services Center

Islip Special Education PTA

Every Child – One Voice



Islip Special Education PTA
Every Child – One Voice

Welcome to the 2009-2010 school year. I hope this letter finds you looking forward and ready for another exciting year. Our next Special Education PTA meeting is scheduled for **Monday, October 19th in the Wing Auditorium**. The meeting will start at 7:30 pm following the Wing PTA meeting. All are welcome to attend!

Our guest speaker will be Dr. Brian Quinn. Dr. Quinn will be presenting on a method called Collaborative Problem Solving (CPS). It is a clinically-tested approach to explosive children. This method offers new perspectives on the problems that children face that exceed their coping capacities and a more effective way of dealing with them.

Please remember your membership counts. Membership is \$7.00 per person and checks can be made payable to SEPTA. You do not have to have a child in Special Education to be a member of SEPTA. Additional membership envelopes are found in your child's front office.

Our theme for SEPTA is Unity in the Community! SEPTA represents every child. You may have seen our tables at the "Meet the Teacher" nights! The money that we raise goes back to the schools. Your schools decide on how they would like to use this donation. For this we thank you **all** for your support! Please continue to support SEPTA.

P.S. Remember to mark your calendars for our Annual **Sweetheart Dance on Friday, February 5th** from 7-9 in the High School cafeteria.

If you would like to become a member you can also contact us via our website at islipsepta@yahoo.com.



FULL COLOR YEARBOOK

Students who want to take advantage of the discounted price of \$75 for our full-color Islip High School yearbook should purchase it from Mrs. LaCascia (Room 212) no later than December 23. Checks should be made payable to ISLIP HIGH SCHOOL YEARBOOK.



Help Support Islip Children's Endowment

Join Us For Our 5th Annual I.C.E. Fall Gala

Saturday, November 21st 2009 7:30pm-12am

Join us for a night of fun, fine food, dancing,
and entertainment as we honor

"Educator Of The Year" & "Community Member Of The Year".

Southward Ho Country Club

West Bay Shore, NY

\$100 per ticket includes:

**4 hours of Unlimited Beverages, Appetizers,
Pasta & Carving Stations, D.J. & Dancing**

To Purchase Tickets Contact:

Tinamarie Hardekopf 666-5259 Doris Kennedy 678-8308
Jen Portera 647-5458 Paula Hallal 277-6052

Get to Know I.C.E.!

The mission of Islip Children's Endowment is to support the Islip Public Schools by raising funds to support programs for the enhancement and enrichment of public education promoting excellence in public education, and reinforcing positive relations with the community.

I.C.E is a parent driven organization supported by teachers, administrators and parents like you with a common goal! If you would like to volunteer or donate please contact any of the above board members.

Funds previously raised by I.C.E. have been used to provide the following:

WING: Audio visual aids, Library books, PE "monster balls", classroom furniture and an FM System.

CRES: Funds for Friendship Club, books, classroom software, project supplies and cameras.

SES: Classroom furniture and easels, proximas, whiteboards, and multicultural books.

IMS: Furniture, projectors, maps, software, a sound system, a stationary bike, science equipment and e-instruction.

IHS: Environmental chamber, Petrocelli Substance abuse awareness student/parent program, stage head set mics, laptop for EXCEL, virtual physics program for experiments too dangerous for school.

Please support I.C.E so we can continue to enhance our schools!

www.islipchildrensendowment.org

Enhancing Educational Excellence

AP Scholars

The College Board announced Gregory Antonelli, Jason Balsamo, Emilie Bui, Alexa Capuano, Karen Gambina, Kaber Karimi, Robert Lycke, Samantha Rodriguez, Debbie Schram, Kristen Tramposch, and Daniel Wexler earned AP Scholar Awards on the basis of their outstanding academic performance on AP Exams. The College Board's Advanced Placement Program provides motivated and academically prepared students with the opportunity to take rigorous college-level courses while still in high school and to earn college credit, advanced placement, or both for successful performance on the AP Exams. Eight Islip students qualified for the National AP Scholar Award by earning an average grade of 4 or higher on a five-point scale on all AP Exams taken, and grades of 4 or higher on eight or more of these exams. The students who



Pictured above are left to right Debbie Schram; Jason Balsamo; Karen Gambina; Ms. Garmendia, Director of School Counseling; Alexa Capuano; Greg Antonelli and Emilie Bui.

earned AP Scholar awards were Gregory Antonelli, Jason Balsamo, Emilie Bui, Alexa Capuano, Samantha Rodriguez, Debbie Schram, Kristen Tramposch and Daniel Wexler. Karen Gambina qualified for the AP Scholar with Distinction Award by earning an average grade of at least 3.5 on all AP Exams taken, and grades of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams. Kaber Karimi and Robert Lycke qualified for the AP Scholar with Honor Award by earning an average grade of at least 3.254 on all AP Exams taken, and grades of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams.

Through more than 30 different college-level courses and exams, AP provides motivated and academically prepared students with the opportunity to earn college credit or advanced placement and stand out in the college admissions process. Each exam is developed by a committee of college and university faculty and AP teachers, ensuring that AP exams are aligned with the same high standards expected by college faculty at some of the nation's leading liberal arts and research institutions. More than 3,600 colleges and universities annually receive AP grades. Over 90 percent of four-year colleges in the United States provide credit and/or placement for qualifying exam grades. Research consistently shows that AP students who score a 3 or higher on AP Exams typically experience greater academic success in college and higher graduation rates than students who do not participate in AP.



Pictured above are Ms. Marisela Garmendia, Director of School Counseling with Daniel Wexler, Debbie Schram, Robert Lycke, Kelly Tramposch and Samantha Rodriguez. Missing from picture is Karimi Kaber.

Each exam is developed by a committee of college and university faculty and AP teachers, ensuring that AP exams are aligned with the same high standards expected by college faculty at some of the nation's leading liberal arts and research institutions. More than 3,600 colleges and universities annually receive AP grades. Over 90 percent of four-year colleges in the United States provide credit and/or placement for qualifying exam grades. Research consistently shows that AP students who score a 3 or higher on AP Exams typically experience greater academic success in college and higher graduation rates than students who do not participate in AP.

NYSCAMIE/
SCMIEA
Students

Islip HS is honored to be sending students to a variety of All-County and All-State music ensembles:

- Gregory Antonelli was accepted to both All-State String Orchestra and All-State Jazz. Gregory has accepted a spot playing Jazz Bass. He will also play Double Bass in the All-County Orchestra.

- Toni Ann Fanizzi was selected as a Jazz Alto Vocalist in the All-State Jazz Choir. She was also selected to play Flute in the All-County Band.

- Alex Masone was selected as an alternate on All-State Jazz Drum Set. This is a highly competitive area in which only two players are selected each year. Alternates must perform perfectly at a NYSSMA Solo Festival to be considered.

- Joel Najarro, Staci Palacino and Casey Richards were selected to participate in All-County Choruses.

**Islip High School
Fashion Show Committee
Meetings are beginning!
ALL PARENTS ARE NEEDED!**

Parents of underclassmen are needed as chaperones.

Parents of Seniors are needed for support and to help with committees.

Support your PTSA and your children - this is a fund event!!!

First meeting: Monday, October 19th, 7:00 p.m.

High School Library

October 16, 2009

HOME COMING

Parade 6:00 p.m.

Football game vs. Rocky Point

7:00 p.m.

Dance, Oct. 17, 7:00 p.m.

ISLIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Community Forum I

Wednesday, October 14th
7:30 p.m.
Islip Middle School

THE ISLIP BOARD OF EDUCATION INVITES YOU TO PARTICIPATE IN COMMUNITY FORUM I.

UPDATES ON PROJECTS COMPLETED DURING THE SUMMER TO ENHANCE OUR FACILITIES AND LEARNING, AS WELL AS OUR EXCEL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT, WILL BE PRO-

**MARK YOUR
CALENDAR**

Community forum I

October 14

7:30 p.m.

Islip Middle School