



[Plainedgeschools.org](https://plainedgeschools.org) April 28, 2026

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

April was filled with meaningful learning experiences and exciting opportunities for our students, culminating in a moment of tremendous pride for our entire school community.

I am delighted to share that Charles E. Schwarting Elementary School has been named a 2026 State and National School of Character. Out of schools and districts from around the world, only 103 were recognized this year, and just two in New York State earned this distinguished honor with Charles E. Schwarting proudly among them.

This recognition reflects our commitment to a comprehensive approach to education that empowers students to understand, value, and consistently demonstrate the character strengths that help them thrive academically, socially, and as responsible, engaged citizens. By prioritizing character development alongside academic excellence, our schools are fostering well-rounded individuals prepared for success in all areas of life.

The State and National School of Character committee highlighted that our "L.E.A.D." core values (Loyalty, Empathy, Accountability, and Determination) are deeply embedded in the culture of Charles E. Schwarting Elementary School. It is clear that Schwarting is a caring and connected community that places equal emphasis on academic achievement and character development. The committee further recognized the school as a national exemplar, noting that the collective efforts of students, staff, families, and the broader school community are essential to the success of every Plainedge student.

Building on these outstanding achievements, we also continue to celebrate the hands-on learning experiences that bring learning to life across our schools. This month, our third-grade students participated in the Student Robot Connection Event, engaging in Earth Day themed challenges using a variety of robots. This innovative experience beautifully blended creativity, technology, and environmental awareness. We extend our sincere gratitude to our dedicated fifth-grade coaches and high school student volunteers whose support helped make this event such a success.

We are also excited to share that our Adult Education programs launched this month, offering community members enriching opportunities for learning, wellness, and recreation. This spring's offerings include pickleball, yoga, Cricut, volleyball, and strength and stretch classes each designed to encourage active living, creativity, and meaningful community connection. For those who were unable to register for the Spring session, we encourage you to look out for our fall registration opportunities.

As always, we encourage you to remain connected with your school community by attending upcoming events and staying informed through our district website, community groups, and social media channels. Your engagement continues to strengthen and support all that we do across the district.

Warm regards,
Carol F. Muscarella
Interim Superintendent of Schools



Welcome to Plainedge Dr. Zublionis

Board of Education President Joseph Beyrouthy and Vice President Michael Morrisey welcomed Dr. Zublionis as the new Superintendent of Plainedge Public Schools effective July 1, 2026.

Dr. Zublionis brings nearly three decades of experience in education and currently serves as Superintendent of the North Shore Central School District. Throughout his career, he has served as a social studies teacher, coach, building principal, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, and Superintendent, leading initiatives focused on instructional improvement, professional learning, and student support systems.

We are excited to welcome Dr. Zublionis to the Plainedge community and look forward to his leadership as we continue to support student success and districtwide excellence.

[Click here to read the formal announcement from the Board of Education](#)



Congratulations Charles E. Schwarting



Congratulations to Charles E. Schwarting Elementary School for being recognized as a 2026 New York State and National School of Character!

2026

CONGRATULATIONS

CHARLES E. SCHWARTING
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

*New York State and
National School of Character*



Character.org

Character.org

Charles E. Schwarting Elementary School
is recognized for their
deep commitment to character

Congratulations Dr. Dennis Ricci

Congratulations to Mr. Dennis Ricci, Plainedge's Assistant to the Superintendent for Academic Services, on earning his Doctorate in Educational Leadership from Saint

Peter's University. His research focused on executive functioning challenges and supporting student self-efficacy.

We are incredibly proud of his dedication to excellence and the tremendous impact he makes every day in his role, supporting the students and families of Plainedge Public Schools.



Student Robot Connection



Students explored creativity, teamwork, and technology through hands-on robotics and Earth Day inspired activities. Rotating through five interactive stations that combined coding, problem-solving, and environmental awareness all while

practicing our **P.R.I.D.E.** core values: Positive, Respectful, Inclusive, Dedicated, and Empowered learning.

Strike Out Pollution

Students coded Dash robots to knock down “pollution” pins, building coding skills while learning the importance of protecting our environment.

3Doodler Earth Day Art

Creativity came to life as students designed and built their own Earth Day creations in 3D using 3Doodler pens.

Planetarium Experience

Students explored space, learned about exploration, and discovered how innovation today shapes the future.

Indi Earth Challenge

Using color-coded mats, students programmed Indi robots to navigate to Earth Day images, strengthening sequencing and problem-solving skills.

Ozobot – Our Corner of the World

Students created coded paths with markers, guiding Ozobots on journeys around the world while combining geography, creativity, and coding.

Throughout the day, teams tracked how they demonstrated P.R.I.D.E. values using tally cards, reflecting on teamwork, respect, and positivity at every station.

Plainedge High School CSI Competition

The CSI Competition brought together eight teams of 8–9 students, with each team made up of seven students from Plainedge and one from Bethpage. While many participants are College Forensics students or members of the Forensics Club, the event is open to all students in grades 9–12. About a week prior to the competition, students received a storyline that built up to a murder, providing context for their investigation.

Upon arriving at the BMAC, teams were assigned a crime scene to process. Students searched for evidence, photographed the scene, took measurements, created sketches, and collected and packaged materials.

The day also included an analysis component featuring lab simulations such as DNA analysis, toxicology, blood typing, shoe print casting, fingerprinting, ballistics, pathology, microscopy (hair analysis), and ink chromatography.

Drama students portrayed characters and suspects from this year’s Old West–themed case, allowing teams to question them about the evidence. Each team also participated in a formal 15-minute interrogation of one suspect. Throughout the event, students were evaluated at every step by volunteers, many of whom are former Plainedge graduates and professionals working in related fields.

At the conclusion of the competition, teams presented their final findings in small-group presentations. After scores were tallied, the first-place team received plaques, and honorable mentions were recognized with framed certificates for categories such as Best Crime Scene Sketch and Best Photography. The CSI Competition provided an engaging, hands-on learning experience that students truly enjoyed.

Special Thank you to Maureen Chiolo, Forensic Club Advisor and PHS teacher for hard work and dedication to creating such an amazing event for our students!





Plainedge Alumni

Congratulations to Plainedge alumnus Dan Villari on signing with the Los Angeles Rams! This accomplishment is a powerful example of what happens when talent meets relentless dedication. From leading the PHS Red Devils to a Long Island Championship to earning the Jim Thorpe Award in 2019, his journey has been nothing short of exceptional.

Keep pushing forward, Dan, this is only the beginning. #PlainedgeProud



We Make a Difference Ceremony

Congratulations to the PFT for celebrating the 27th Annual "We Make a Difference Awards Ceremony." It was truly an inspiring evening leaving everyone who had the opportunity to attend feeling the same sense of pride and community spirit. Nearly 185 students were recognized for demonstrating qualities such as empathy, generosity, kindness, and community spirit.

Thank you to the Plainedge High School Jazz Choir under the direction of Peter Lakes, whose music added an uplifting energy to the night.

Thank you to Erin Lehane and Elyssa Dove for helping coordinate this event with extraordinary commitment, creativity, and passion, which were reflected in every detail.





Plainedge Middle School NJHS

We would like to wish a huge congratulations to our PMS 2026 winners of the NJHS Outstanding Achievement Award! We are so proud of you for this tremendous accomplishment! Congratulations to Aalia, Hailey & Vinny!



2026 Student Council Excellence Award

Congratulations to the Charles E. Schwarting Student Council for being recognized by the NAESP (National Assoc. for Elementary School Principals) 2026 Student Council Excellence Award!

Their community service initiative, Help the Pet Shelters, made a meaningful impact by supporting local animal shelters through a school wide pet supply drive. Students, staff, and families came together to collect essential items including food, blankets, toys, and cleaning supplies to help care for animals awaiting adoption.

Beyond the donations, this project helped raise awareness about the ongoing needs of shelters while fostering compassion, responsibility, and a strong sense of community service among students.

Learn More here: <https://bit.ly/NAESP-SHWARTING>



Spring Break Abroad

Our PHS students participating in the International Travel trip spent their spring recess immersed in rich history, vibrant culture, and unforgettable experiences. From exploring ancient landmarks to enjoying authentic cuisine, this opportunity brought learning to life beyond the classroom. These meaningful experiences help broaden perspectives, deepen global understanding, and create lasting memories for our students.



Mott Million Dollar Challenge:

Congratulations to Sarah Abdul-Rassoul, a member of the Plainedge High School FBLA Club, for being selected as one of 300 winners of the 9th–12th Grade Social Category in the First Round of the Mott Million Dollar Challenge, winning \$250!

The Mott Million Dollar Challenge is a national innovation competition for kids and teens in grades K–12 supported by funding from the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, and powered by the Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship (NFTE), which will administer the competition in collaboration with VentureLab, Young Entrepreneur Institute (YEI), the Afterschool Alliance, and Collaborative Communications. Across the competition, a total of \$1,000,000 (one million dollars) in prize money will be awarded.

The task of the competition was to propose a business idea that helps solve a social or community issue. The pitch should clearly explain the problem in the community, why it matters, and how their business idea would help fix or improve it.

Sarah pitched an idea called "Proof Over Prestige," which is a verified skills-based transcript for students that not only includes their academic grades but also incorporates their community involvement, soft skill evaluations, and non-academic performance metrics.

Sarah will now move on to the second round and if she qualifies for the Semi-Final Round, she will have an opportunity to participate in the Live Pitch Competition in Michigan!



Plainedge High School Girls Basketball

The Town of Oyster Bay presented the Plainedge High School Girls Varsity Basketball team with a citation in recognition of their outstanding season and championship success at the April 21, 2026 Board of Education meeting. The team captured the Nassau Class A title and went on to win at Stony Brook University, earning the distinction of Long Island Class A Champions. Finishing the

2025–2026 season with an impressive 18–7 overall record in Conference A-1, the student-athletes' dedication, teamwork, and excellence have made the entire Plainedge community proud and were rightfully honored by the Town for this remarkable achievement!



Red Devil Roast: Parent Visit

Our Plainedge High School Red Devil Roast student workers welcomed parents for a fun Friday coffee stop! From crafting delicious drinks to sharing smiles and conversation, our students were hard at work showing off their skills and school pride.





Teacher of the Month:

We are proud to share that Plainedge High School Special Education teacher of 22 years, Ms. Lewis was honored as the Islanders Teacher of the Month! Her passion for teaching, commitment to her students, and positive impact on the school community truly make her a standout educator. The New York Islanders in partnership with Xerox recognize and appreciate the teachers and school staff members who work hard to provide and inspire brighter futures. Ms. Lewis is obsessed with the Islanders and was truly honored to receive this award. She was given \$500 from Xerox to use for classroom supplies and was given a special NY Islanders jersey at the game on March 30, 2026.



John H. West Spring Tea

Our John H. West 5th grade students celebrated their Spring Tea and continued a very special tradition.

As the story has been passed down, many years ago, a local veteran from the Plainedge community began honoring graduating students in a truly unique way. From his nearby garage, he carefully crafted army-style dog tags for each member of the graduating class, year after year, a true labor of love recognizing this important milestone.

Even after he was no longer with us, the tradition he started has lived on. Today, our school proudly continues this meaningful gesture, presenting each 5th grader with a commemorative dog tag to mark their final year at John H. West.

We are so grateful to our PTA, whose generosity and support help keep this special tradition alive for our students.

These dog tags are more than just a keepsake they represent friendships, growth, challenges overcome, and all the memories made at John H. West.





Elementary Best Buddies Club

Planting seeds and watching friendships bloom at our Elementary Best Buddies Club event!





High School College & Career Fair

An incredible turnout at Plainedge High School's College & Career Fair! With more than 100 colleges and organizations represented, students engaged in meaningful conversations and explored a wide range of future pathways.



A New Chapter Begins:

Our Library Media Centers are officially reopened! These beautifully redesigned spaces are vibrant hubs for reading, imagination, and discovery. From cozy corners to curated collections, every space invites students to dive into stories and grow their love of reading.



College Awareness Week

College Awareness Week at Plainedge Middle School! Our Middle School students had a great time connecting with Plainedge High School seniors, who visited the auditorium to share their college experiences, offer advice, and talk about their excitement for what's ahead. These meaningful conversations helped inspire curiosity and encouraged students to start thinking about the many possibilities in their future!



Now Boarding: Class of 2032



Gates 6-8



Next Stop: Our Futures

The future is RIGHT!
in ROOM 131





Plainedge High School Drama Production

Congratulations to the cast and crew of the High School Drama Club for their outstanding performance in *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*. Their hard work, creativity, and commitment were evident in every aspect of the production.







PLAINEDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

BUDGET VOTE

MAY 19, 2026

6 AM - 9 PM

PLAINEDGE HIGH SCHOOL GYM



Stay Connected:

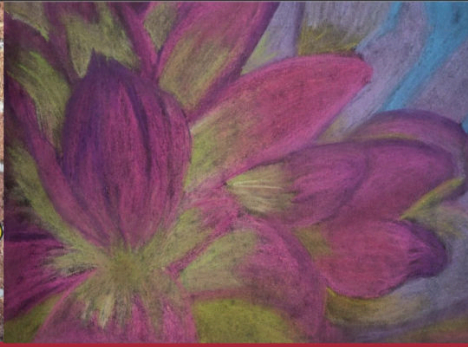
We invite you to stay connected with your school community by participating in upcoming events and staying informed through our district website, community groups, and social media channels, helping you remain engaged with all that's happening across our district!

Visit www.plainedgeschools.org/district/ to view the 2025-2026 Calendar & School Guide.

Anthony Dell'Italia- 5th Grade



Danica Rossi- 9th Grade



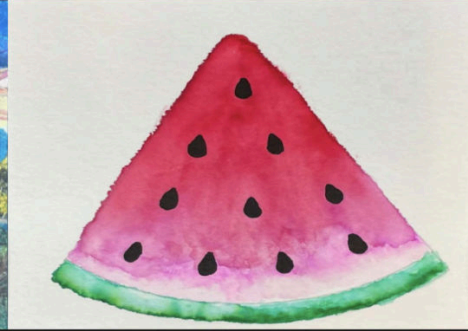
PLAINEDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS 2025-2026 Calendar & School Guide



Emily D'Amore- 8th Grade



Penelope Schoenberger- 6th Grade



Plainedge Fitness Center

Welcome to the Plainedge Fitness Center

We take pride in offering a welcoming, non-intimidating, state-of-the-art fitness center where our community can thrive. Our newly expanded second-floor fitness center features dedicated cardio training space, single-station cable resistance machines, free weights, kettlebells, resistance bands, medicine balls, slam balls, and interactive Echelon Mirrors—providing everything you need for a complete and well-rounded workout experience.



Fitness Center Hours

Monday-Thursday 5:00 PM-8:50 PM
Saturday & Sunday 8:00 AM- 11:50 AM
**** Plainedge Fitness Center is *ONLY* open when school is in session ****

Frequently Asked Question

- Q:** Where is the fitness center located?
A: The fitness center is located at Plainedge High School. Parking is available at the rear of the building near the gymnasium. Please enter through the designated fitness center doors.
- Q:** What if I don't have a smartphone?
A: That will not be an issue. Please bring valid identification, and we will be happy to register you upon arrival. When you visit the facility, a student staff member will assist with check-in.
- Q:** Can I stay longer than the hour time slot?
A: Yes. Provided the facility has not reached maximum capacity, members are welcome to remain for as long as necessary..
- Q:** I can only sign up on the hour. What if I show up later or earlier?
A: You can arrive at any time in the hour long window of the time you signed up for
- Q:** I am unsure how to use the equipment
A: Both adult and student staff members are fully trained on all equipment and are available to provide guidance and assistance.
- Q:** What should I bring with me?
A: All members must wear athletic sneakers while using the equipment. You are welcome to bring a towel, water bottle, Bluetooth headphones, or an exercise mat for personal use.

Questions?

Call: (516) 992-7641
Email: fitness.center@plainedgeschools.org

WELCOME TO THE **P** LAINEDGE FITNESS CENTER



241 Wyngate Drive
No. Massapequa, NY 11758

Free Membership for Plainedge Residence

Mon. - Th. 5:00 - 8:50pm
Sat. - Sun. 8:00 - 11:50am

****The Fitness Center is CLOSED when school is closed****

Fitness Center Offerings

CARDIO TRAINING: To boost your heart rate, burn calories, & improve your endurance. Our cardio equipment includes Treadmills, Stationary Bicycles, Stairclimbers, Rowing Machines and Ellipticals.



STRENGTH TRAINING: Machines, free weights, kettle bell, & resistance ball can be used for strength training to help you build & maintain muscle and strength, improve bone density, & boost metabolism

ECHELON MIRRORS: Allow you to select on-demand workout classes, including yoga, HIIT, kickboxing, strength training and so much more. The interactive mirror incorporates a touchscreen display for users to interact directly with the interface.



Membership Eligibility

To qualify for membership at the Plainedge Fitness Center, individuals must meet one of the following criteria:

- **Be a Plainedge resident, 18 years of age or older,**
or
- **Be a current Plainedge High School student**

All prospective members are required to complete a **two-part application** through 1) The Plainedge Fitness Center app. 2) **CognitoForms** for proof of residency **or** provided **in person during regular business hours.**

How to Book/Cancel a Session

- Open the Plainedge Fitness Center app
- Find the day & time you want to book a session
- Tap the time, then book
- If you cannot attend that sessions, cancel the session by clicking on the session, then cancel booking



Instagram: @plainedgefitnesscenter

Plainedge Fitness Center Membership Instructions

1. Visit the App Store (iPhone) or Google Play Store (Android) on your mobile device to download The Plainedge Fitness Center App or scan the QR code.



2. Open the Plainedge Fitness Center App scroll down to "register"

3. Register using your email address and create a password

4. After pressing next, enter your "First" and "Last Name" press next to continue

5. Enter your cell phone number and date of birth, then press next

6. You will then be prompted with our "Studio Waiver". Please read the entire "Waiver and Release from Liability" and then press " Start Signing"

7. Place your signature in the red box, and then press "accept and sign," then press "finished"

8. When the "Welcome Message" appears please **check your email** to get to the link to upload your license through cognito forms.

9. Give staff 24-48 hours to approve your membership

Facebook: Plainedge Fitness Center

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



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