

Centerport Harbor Civic Association

General Membership Meeting, February 26, 2025

Present: Michael Regan, Jim Walker, Anne Wesp, George Pullis, Bob Berding, Betsy Cambria

Pledge of Allegiance- Joshua Krief (student ambassador)

Update on Harborfields School Activities- Joshua Krief- 3 Harborfields HS Seniors were recently named National Merit Finalists, the Oldfield Middle School Robotics Team was selected to move on to the Long Island Championship for the second year in a row, Harborfields HS finished in the top third of competitors at the L.I.Science Olympiad and earned medals in several categories, and numerous other accomplishments were noted.

Treasurer's Report- CHCA has a balance of 12,686.86 in its accounts.

Brick Campaign- CHCA has sold 48 bricks for a gross of \$5,020.00. The campaign has been extended until the Spring Cleanup Event on April 5th.

Spring Cleanup- The Annual Spring Cleanup will be held on April 5th, 9:30 am-12:00 noon at Heron Park. The rain date is April 6th.

Guest Speakers: Dr. Rory Manning-Superintendent of Harborfields CSD

Mary-Lynn Karpenske- Director of Technology, Harborfields CSD

Dr. McMannus opened with a general review of district activities.

Moderator- Michael Regan, CHCA Co-President

School Matters:

- Continue to receive recognition by several rating programs as a top school district on a local, state, and national level.
- Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence, AP Scholar Designation, AP Honor Roll with Gold Access
- Four students were recognized in the College Board's National Recognition Program, and three students were selected as Semifinalists in the National Merit Scholarship Program.
- Three students musicians earned the highest music recognition in New York.
- All athletic teams earned Scholar Athlete recognition.

School Budget: 2025-2026

- 3/19/25- 3rd budget presentation, 4/9/25- 4th budget presentation, 5/13/25- budget hearing/5th budget presentation, 5/14/25- budget notice (6 days before vote), 5/20/25- budget vote & annual district board election.
- The present allowable tax levy is 2.36%

General Comments on AI in Education: Mary-Lynn Karpenske

- Will be used for personal learning (instruction can be tailored to a particular student's need)
- Interactive learning -can respond immediately to a student's questions
- Can be used for language translation & text level differentiation.
- 3 AI Resources at Harborfields:

-Magicschool AI-for Lesson planning, assessment creation, differentiation-it leverages AI technology to automate tasks, create content and provide personalized support.

-Brisk- is an AI powered chrome extension designed to streamline and enhance various aspects of an educators work.

-Diffit- is an AI powered tool that helps educators differentiate instruction by adapting content to various reading levels, thus making it more accessible to students of all reading levels.

AI Panel Q&A: Dr. Manning, Ms. Karpenske, Joshua Krief

- Privacy concerns- school presently has software to warn/stop students from divulging personal information. The bigger question is what happens at home.
- Ethics, integrity- the school uses software that helps to determine the likelihood that content is AI generated. The teachers also know the students well enough to identify AI generated work from what the student usually does.
- Critical thinking- how to separate fact from fiction? The same way they separate fact from fiction without AI. Teachers have the students look at the source materials and critically evaluate them.
- Guidelines and policies- for the most part, these are being developed. Although the Board of Regents will issue guidelines, it appears that each district will come up with their own policies.
- Appropriate age for AI introduction? – Ai can be used in different ways to benefit students and teachers from elementary through senior high levels.

Next General Membership Meeting: Wednesday, March 26th, 2025, at Harborfields Library at 7 pm in the Large Meeting Room.