



Levittown LEADER

@Levittown_PS

@levittownpublicschools

Let's Hear It for the CLASS OF 2019

Proudly dressed in their caps and gowns, seniors from both Division Avenue High School and General Douglas MacArthur High School entered the David S. Mack Sports and Exhibition Complex at Hofstra University on June 22 as they prepared to close the chapter on their high school careers and open a new one to the future.

Family and friends filled the complex as central and building administrators, board members, keynote speakers, and invited guests took their spots on stage before the graduates.

Division Avenue High School Principal John Coscia reflected on the school's core values of pride, honor and commitment and how the graduates embody all three. MacArthur High School Principal Joseph Sheehan expressed how proud he was and what an honor it was to grow beside them for the past four years.

Superintendent of Schools Dr. Tonie

McDonald challenged the graduates to never stop learning, embrace every new opportunity and be the best version of themselves. "Learning is a lifelong process," she told them. "As you go through life, please look for opportunities to learn something new."

She also recognized a handful of graduates from each school who would be entering the military. The students received a standing ovation from everyone in the complex and Dr. McDonald wished them all to come back home safe.

Levittown alumni and Hall of Fame inductees Thomas Hutchinson, Division Avenue High School valedictorian from the Class of 1990, and James Chenevey Jr., a Levittown Memorial High School graduate, returned as keynote speakers for the ceremonies. Mr. Hutchinson spoke during Division Avenue's ceremony about the keys to happiness. He told students that "progress equals happiness"



(From left) Division Avenue graduates Britney Cardenas, Alex Byrne and Natalie Baquet received their diplomas.

and encouraged them to "find your why and feed it daily" and to "be grateful, always leave your mark and to believe." Speaking to MacArthur graduates, Mr. Chenevey, currently the CEO of Earthlite Inc., encouraged the seniors to "practice being patient, be open to other ideas and cultures, always look to help others, express gratitude every day, seek leadership opportunities and network."

The graduates also heard from their respective valedictorians, salutatorians and class presidents, who each reflected on their school experiences and projected life lessons onto their fellow peers, as well as from Board of Education President Peggy Marengi.



MacArthur High School's Class of 2019 proudly accepted their diplomas during the school's commencement ceremony.

Division Ave.

Sean Wolf: Valedictorian

Sean was enrolled in 22 accelerated and Advanced Placement courses. Among his many achievements, he was recognized as a Commended Student in the National Merit Scholarship Program and was among a select few to receive an AP Capstone diploma. He was also honored as a National Hispanic Recognition Program Scholar and an Advanced Placement Scholar with Distinction. Sean was involved in the National Honor Society, Math Honor Society, DECA, Mathletes, Science Olympiad team, Physics Olympics team and varsity basketball team. Through these organizations, he showcased his leadership abilities and made a positive impact on his fellow peers. Sean will attend Cornell University and major in computer engineering.

Michael Adams: Salutatorian

Michael served as a class officer in his junior and senior year. As a junior, he was recognized by the Long Island chapter of the American Chemical Society for his outstanding scholastic achievement in high school chemistry and was designated an AP Scholar with Distinction. He was also a member of the National Honor Society, Math Honor Society, Tri-M Music Honor Society, Physics Olympics team, Peer Leaders and DECA. Michael maintained high honor roll status and put his studies first, enrolling in 21 honors and Advanced Placement courses. He played the tenor saxophone in the school's marching band, jazz band and all-district band. Michael will attend Boston College, where he plans on studying biology.



Division Avenue High School's valedictorian Sean Wolf (right) and salutatorian Michael Adams.



(From left) Division Avenue graduates Jacqueline Cedano, Taylor Ben-Jacob, Eric Aguilar and Ryan Alvarez.



Seniors Hunza Arshad Khan (left) and Allison Ekberg prepared to graduate from Division Avenue High School.

A list of the Class of 2019's top college acceptances

Adelphi University
 Boston College
 Cornell University
 Culinary Institute of America
 CUNY John Jay College
 Fashion Institute of Technology
 Hofstra University
 Northeastern University
 Pace University
 Penn State University
 Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
 Stevens Institute of Technology
 St. John's University
 SUNY Albany
 SUNY Binghamton
 SUNY Farmingdale
 SUNY Geneseo
 SUNY Maritime
 SUNY Stony Brook
 Tufts University
 U.S. Air Force Academy
 University of Pittsburgh
 University of Southern California
 Vermont University



(From left) Seniors Jordan Waitkus, Samantha Collins and Joseph Gagnon graduated from MacArthur High School.



MacArthur graduates Ashley LoFaso (right) and Kristi Ryu were all smiles before their commencement ceremony.

Class Stats

Candidates for graduation: 504

Diplomas granted: 490

Graduation rate: 97%

Total Advanced Regents Diplomas: 64%

Total graduates continuing postsecondary education: 93%

Attending four-year colleges: 69%

Attending two-year colleges: 22%

Attending trade/tech schools: 3%

Military service and workforce: 8%

Seal of Biliiteracy recipients: 70
 (One of the highest numbers in Nassau County)

MacArthur

Saajid Chowdhury: Valedictorian

Saajid was selected as only the second MacArthur High School student to become a National Merit Scholar in the National Merit Scholarship Program, and was the Lifetime Achievement Award recipient from the Long Island Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, a first for MacArthur. He was involved in the school's Tri-M Music Honor Society, was first chair cellist in the school orchestra, and was accepted into several regional orchestras. Saajid served as president of the Math Honor Society and treasurer of the National Honor Society and was a member of the Science Olympiad, Mathletes and Nassau County All-Star Mathletes teams. He will attend Stony Brook University to study theoretical physics.

Hannah Kilmetis: Salutatorian

Hannah was an Advanced Placement Scholar with distinction and served her peers well as president of the National Honor Society and Tri-M Music Honor Society. Hannah was also a member of the peer leadership club, Math Honor Society, World Language Honor Society and Science Olympiad team, where she medaled in several events. This past fall, Hannah proudly helped lead the district's Levittown Education Against Destructive Decisions Fair as a student marshal and was a member of the homecoming court. Hannah was the second chair cellist in the school's orchestra and plays for the Nassau Pops Symphony Orchestra. She plans to attend Vermont University, where she will study veterinary science.



MacArthur High School's Valedictorian Saajid Chowdhury (right) and Salutatorian Hannah Kilmetis.

Levittown School District
150 Abbey Lane
Levittown, NY 11756
(516) 434-7000

Nonprofit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Levittown, NY 11756
Permit No. 50

*****ECRWSS*****
Residential Customer

CLASS OF 2019
Congratulations



Division Avenue graduates Thomas Benz (left) and Edwin Bencosme with their diplomas.



MacArthur seniors Nevaeh Sanchez (right) and Enzo Maraboli closed the chapter on their high school careers.



(From left) Jenna DelRe, Gianna Facarile and Tiffanie Ferrara graduated from Gerald R. Claps Career and Technical Center.



MacArthur High School's Class of 2019 celebrated the end of their high school careers during their commencement ceremony.



Division Avenue High School's Class of 2019 dressed in their blue and white caps and gowns for their commencement ceremony.



A few of the proud graduates from MacArthur High School's Class of 2019.



Seniors Anjana Haridas (left) and Benjamin Goldfeder graduated from Division Avenue High School.



Summer 2019 Success for Every Student! www.levittownschools.com

 @Levittown_PS
 @levittownpublicschools

Levittown
LEADER

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Peggy Marengi, **President**
Dillon Cain, **Vice President**
Trustees: Marianne Adrian, Christina Lang, Jennifer Messina, James Moran, Michael Pappas
Elizabeth Appelbaum, **District Clerk**
Dr. **Tonie McDonald**, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. **Christopher Dillon**, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Finance
Debbie Rifkin, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources
Todd Winch, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction
516-434-7000 • www.levittownschools.com • 150 Abbey Lane, Levittown, NY 11756