

FARMINGDALE FEDERATION OF TEACHERS

"We Shape the Future"

CLASSROOM POINTERS



Summer 2026

Volume 41 Number 1

Celebrating Our Graduates

As part of our continued commitment to the students and the Farmingdale community, the Farmingdale Federation of Teachers awarded more than \$6,000.00 in scholarships and prizes to twelve deserving students at ceremonies held across the district.

"We are proud to acknowledge the accomplishments of our Farmingdale students and to support them as they continue to pursue their future endeavors," stated FFT President Cordelia Anthony.

Each year students are recognized not only for excellence in academic achievements, but also for involvement in athletics or social clubs and for demonstrating school spirit and outstanding citizenship in our school community.

HIGH SCHOOL AWARDS

Awards and checks for \$1000.00 were presented to:

Eve Eskin Memorial FFT Scholarship:

Joseph Mei

FFT Scholarship:

Sarah Aliendro

FFT Valedictorian Scholarship:

Nicholas Zito

David A. Bresse Scholarship:

Zechariah Brunswick

Awards and checks for \$500.00 were presented to:

Gina R. Pellettiere Memorial Scholarship:

Erin Meyer

Beatrice Ferrari Memorial Scholarship:

Gianna Recine

Awards and checks for \$200.00 were presented to:

FFT CTE Scholarship:

Ryan Kearney

EIGHTH & FIFTH GRADE AWARDS

Awards and checks for \$250.00 were presented to:

FFT Student Awards

Howitt Middle School:

Brianna Rosario

Albany Avenue:

Benjamin Chew

Northside:

Kai Turturro

Saltzman East Memorial:

Sahiba Kaur

Woodward Parkway:

Quinn Calhoun

*Congratulations to the award recipients and to all of the graduates
on achieving such significant milestones!*

SPOTLIGHT ON....

JANET DIESO- WOODWARD PARKWAY ELEMENTARY

Founded in 1993, the NYSUT Humanitarian Award honors individuals who have demonstrated exceptional volunteer service within their communities. This year, the Farmingdale Federation of Teachers proudly nominated Janet Dieso for this distinguished award. Janet is the visionary behind Dalers Fight Like Dieso, an initiative dedicated to raising awareness and providing support to fellow Farmingdale Dalers affected by cancer. As a former cancer patient, she organized the Light the Night walk with "Fight Like Dieso Team," successfully raising over \$7500.

The recipients of the NYSUT Humanitarian Awards were recognized with a plaque during the 2026 NYSUT Representative Assembly held in Albany, New York.



KIM BACCARELLA HOWITT MIDDLE SCHOOL 2026 STEM STAR TEACHER AWARD

Howitt Middle School teacher Kim Baccarella was named a recipient of the 2026 STEM Star Teacher Award by the Long Island STEM Education Leadership Association.

The award recognized educators who demonstrated an exceptional commitment to providing equitable access to high-quality STEM learning experiences. Kim Baccarella was honored alongside educators from districts across Long Island at a recognition ceremony on May 14, 2026.



THERESE MANNINO FARMINGDALE HIGH SCHOOL 2026 Barry Manilow Music Teacher Award

Farmingdale High School Orchestra Director Thérèse Mannino, was awarded the 2026 Barry Manilow Music Teacher Award.

The Manilow Music Teacher Award recognizes an outstanding music teacher who helps to bring music to life for their students. It is presented by the Manilow Music Project, established by legendary singer-songwriter Barry Manilow.

Ms. Mannino received the award directly from Barry Manilow at a backstage ceremony on June 27, 2026.



2026 NYSPHSAA CLASS A CHAMPIONS

Farmingdale High School's varsity cheer team and coaching staff won their second NYSPHSAA Class A State Championship. After finishing third and second in previous years, the Farmingdale Dalers claimed the title on March 7, 2026, in Binghamton, New York. The team's first state championship was in 2020.



The coaches of the Farmingdale Varsity Cheerleading team: Head Coach Caitlin Beatrice Section VIII Coach of the Year and Assistant Coach Amanda Licata.



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*"Everyone who remembers his own education remembers teachers,
not methods and techniques.*

The teacher is the heart of the educational system."

- Sidney Hook

*The Farmingdale community said goodbye to
these retiring "hearts" at the end of the
2025-2026 school year:*

Farmingdale High School

Lori Oldham
Tina Marchetta
Virginia Paladino
Kevin Shanley

Howitt Middle School

Rosalie Longo
Matthew Szabo

Saltzman East Memorial

Christine Cutrone
Christine Linsalata
Elizabeth Kabat

Woodward Parkway

Joan-Marie Barthel
Malgorzata Bednarski
Joseph DeAngelis
Gina Novack-Shapiro

*We thank each of them for their years of service and
dedication to the students of Farmingdale.*