



An “Enchanted Evening” at the Senior Prom

by Mauricio Bustamante

From the excitement that buzzed the room all night, it was clear that many seniors enjoyed their prom on Friday, June 3, at Da Mikele Illagio in Elmhurst. Held from 7pm to 12am, this was the first time in years that the prom was not held at Terrace on the Park.

Three hundred and fifteen students and 28 chaperones attended the senior prom.

The event included hors d’oeuvres for the first hour, a buffet, all-night music, access to an outdoor terrace, a photo booth in which the attendees could take an unlimited number of pictures, and screens in the room that displayed a live feed of the seniors

dancing.

Senior Samantha Perez enjoyed the senior prom. “The night went by so quickly, I was a bit upset when the night was coming to an end. I wish it would have lasted longer,” she said. Alan Reyes said, “The place was really nice and big, and the food was really good. It was an eventful night.” Daniela Hernandez agreed

saying, “It was a memorable night. I really enjoyed the food, music, and photo booth. I’m glad I was able to get many pictures with my friends and keep them as a reminder of the night.”

Towards the end of the night, Mr. Vega had the students settle down so they could announce prom royalty: Duke and Duchess went to Anthony Chauca and

Patricia Megan, Joshua Rodriguez and Ashley Chang won prince and princess, and Jason Seino and Nolett Ahmed won king and queen. Prom royalty are picked randomly so no one feels left out, Mr. Vega said. “I was shocked that my name was called and realized that I was class prince,”

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Ngawang and Bradley dancing to Justin Bieber.

The Show Goes On!

by Katerin Coyago

The Talent Show was very close to being cancelled for the first time in years, said Mr. Vega, because there were not many of the school rehearsals taking place, but the show went on as planned on May 12.

According to Mr. Vega, over 250 tickets were distributed, including tickets sold, tickets

given to performers for their families, and the tickets given to staff.

Thirteen acts performed in the show. The acts consisted of singing, dancing, rapping, and poetry.

Valerie Cruz, Bryant Cuero, Gabriel Miller, Jessica Pichardo, Samantha Pineda, and Pamela

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Blood Drive Surpasses Goal

by Vanessa Urrutia

Seventy-four pints of blood were collected in the recent blood drive, exceeding this year’s goal of 60 pints, according to Mr. Vega, coordinator of student activities.

This year’s first and only blood drive was held on May 16 from 8:30am to 2:30pm.

“There were 61 donors, 13 donated two pints each through an automated procedure, and 48 donated one pint each through a whole blood procedure,” he said.

“It’s a great feeling to know you’re helping people,” said Mr. MacDonald, who has been a regular donor at the school’s blood drives. “I’ve had family members’ lives saved by blood donations,

and I think it is very important to depend on people’s generosity with blood,” he said.

Steven Ortiz, a junior, who donated for the first time, said “I’m glad I was able to contribute to saving lives.”

Eligible donors had to be 17 or older and needed parental permission.

Donors must not have traveled where the Zika virus is present within the last three years, not have had any tattoos or ear, nose, skin piercings done within the last twelve months, must weigh at least 110lbs, and satisfy other height and weight requirements.

Thirty-three people who signed up to donate were deferred because they did not meet

requirements, including low iron levels in their blood work.

Donors can donate again fifty-six days after a whole blood donation and one-hundred and twelve days after an automated red cell donation.



Anthony donates his blood.

JUNE REGENTS SCHEDULE

compiled by Danish Bokhari & Tysain Shand

June 14 Tuesday	June 15 Wednesday	June 16 Thursday	June 17 Friday	June 21 Tuesday
9:15 am	9:15 am	9:15 am	9:15 am	9:15 am
Global History & Geography	Living Environment	Algebra (Common Core)	Algebra 2 /Trigonometry	Chemistry
1:15 pm	1:15 pm	1:15 pm	1:15 pm	1:15 pm
English Language Arts (Common Core)	U.S. History	Comprehensive English	Geometry (Common Core)	Physics

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Record Turnout for Career Day



Daryl discusses how Queens Voc impacted his career.

by Purnata Anwar

Seventy guests attended Queens Voc’s 14th Career Day to speak with students about their careers.

People from a wide variety of professions came to present, including private investigators, doctors, a judge, CEOs, and software programmers. Many were Queens Voc graduates.

“I came to present today because I believe I can provide

guidance to kids who are confused like I was as a Queens Voc student ten years ago,” said software consultant Kacy James, who graduated in 2007.

“Meeting the guests and listening to them speak about their careers helped me get insight into various careers. After hearing Daryl Villavicencio, an auto technician, speak, it’s great that I now know somebody in the electronics field,” said Junior Warin Wohab.

Guests gave advice to students during their presentations. “Higher education is an investment that is worth the time and money,” advised optometrist Dr. Lacey Dustin.

Leadership students escorted speakers throughout the day. Mr. Vega and his leadership students arranged breakfast and lunch in the library. Principal Burg said, “These people are volunteering and it’s only appropriate if we offer them food and drinks to show our appreciation for spending the day with us.”

Ms. Burg gave Queens Voc

mugs to the guests, to show her and the school’s gratitude. The mugs have a special significance. “On my last day as a student teacher, my cooperating teacher gave me a mug and I still have it because it symbolizes my time as a student teacher. That is why I gave mugs to the presenters, even if it stays on their shelf, it’s still a memory of the time they spent with us at Queens Voc,” she said.

With seventy guests, there was a lot of scheduling necessary. Mr. Schimenz, who scheduled the guests, said he tried to accommodate guest and teachers’ requests, but that is not always possible.

“We covered 170 classes,” he said, “and many of the guests want to talk to students in the same majors and in the same grades.” Mr. Schimenz said he has worked on every career day since it started under the previous principal, Ms. Vittor, “because it’s important for our students to learn about careers. Isn’t that our job as teachers?” He said that “when bringing people in from the outside, we should make sure they leave with a good impression of the school. If we’re well organized, guests will be more likely to return next year,” said Mr. Schimenz.



Matthew Catera



Reginald Tiu



Susan Edelman

An “Enchanted Evening”

continued from front page said Joshua.

The price of each ticket was \$120 until May 9, then the price rose to \$130. “I wanted to sell at least 250 tickets by May 9. If more tickets would have been sold by that deadline, I would have kept the price at \$120 instead of raising it. I needed to raise it to cover some of the expenses for the prom,” said Mr. Vega, who coordinated the event.

In previous years, prom was held at Terrace on the Park, in Flushing Meadows-Corona Park. “The senior class wanted to have their prom at a different place. Some seniors suggested Douglas Manor, Jericho Terrace, Giando on the Water, Leonard’s Palazzo, and Da Mikele Illagio,” said Mr. Vega.

“We picked Da Mikele Illagio

because it had the date and time we were looking to have the prom, and we were given the same deal we had at Terrace on the Park. Also, the place is much bigger than the other ones, so students were able to enjoy themselves more while they danced,” he added.

Preparation for the night started in the beginning of the school year, according to Mr. Vega. “We began looking at the different places, but we didn’t finalize our choice until January. Ms. Burg, a few seniors, and I went to Da Mikele Illagio in May to try the food that is served at the place,” he said.

Senior officers Cindy Carangui, Katerin Coyago, and Tia Singh, along with the Leadership students, contributed greatly to planning the event said Mr. Vega.



Angel’s got moves!



Dana and her sister perform a cultural dance for the show.

Talent Show

continued from front page

Tavarez sang. The rapper in the show was Alex Minchala. Kimberly Maldonado danced with Ms. Vasquez, Bradly Moog danced with Ngawang Dawa, Jayleen Valenzuela danced with Jasmine Farrier, Dana Johnson danced with Aniyha Johnson, and the dance team performed as well. Vasiki Konneh read a poem he wrote, a Talent Show first, said Mr. Vega.

“I am pleasantly surprised the acts performed well because there was a lack of the school rehearsals, but it was clear that most acts did rehearse on their own,” said Mr. Vega.

Talent Show tickets were sold for \$1 for the SO members and \$2 for non-SO members. Performers received free tickets for their

families. Students needed signed permission slips to buy a ticket.

Initially the show was almost cancelled because, Mr. Vega said, “We had only sold a few tickets a couple of days before the show.” But after the Leadership students advertised the Talent Show during each lunch period, there was more than enough interest.

According to Mr. Vega, the stage crew did an amazing job with coordinating the lighting, the music, and the equipment along with each act. The stage crew members were Stephani Alvarez, Jonathan Coyago, Valentina Muriel, Joseph Santana, and Jenny Wong.

“We received many compliments about the show. I hope to continue the Talent Show for many years to come with more acts,” said Mr. Vega.

Queens Voc would like to thank the following guests who registered and attended Career Day 2016:

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Peter Adam | Marc Crawford Leavitt |
| Nathalie Alonso* | Jaime Lopez* |
| Matthew Bermudez* | Kali Loverdos |
| David Bermudez* | Ira Margulis |
| Jennifer Cabezas* | Brendan McNamara |
| Edwin Cadiz | Eric McPherran |
| Matthew Catera | Janine Medina |
| Jesse Clark* | Alap Momin |
| Con Ed Reps | Gail Neufeld |
| Blake Davis | Diana Nevins |
| Steven D’Elena* | Nicole Noriega |
| Lacey Dustin | Andres Ospina* |
| Susan Edelman | Travis Ousley |
| FDNY Reps | Andres Pazmino |
| Randi Fleishman | Janine Quijije |
| Andres Gallo* | Doreen Quondamatteo |
| Jonah Gensler | Denise Rivera* |
| Kadisha Gordon | Christopher Sauer |
| Eric Greenberg | Suveer Seemangal* |
| Valerie Gulston | Sade Stephenson |
| Adriana Henriquez* | Reginald Tiu |
| Mike Hernandez | Suchita Todi |
| Everett Hopkins | Christopher Torres |
| Harry Huncken | Tanvir Toy* |
| Jamal Ien | Lewis Urena* |
| Kacy James* | Daryl Villavicencio* |
| Marvin Jeffcoat | Terel Watson* |
| Jordan Kaplan | Jillian Weston |
| Kristina Kendall | Matthew Yi |
| Sabina Khan | Matthew Zagada |
| Udayashankar Kompala | |
| Rajasekar | |

* Denotes QV Alumni

Seniors Show Pride in Their College Choice

by Istiak Ahmed

More than 50 seniors participated in National College Signing Day on Monday, May 2. Ms. Karabelas, the college advisor was in the cafeteria during all lunch periods taking pictures of seniors with their college acceptance letters.

College Signing Day is a nationwide event that was created by First Lady Michelle Obama to celebrate students going to college. National College Signing Day is part of the Reach Higher Initiative, which was developed in 2014 to inspire students to pursue and complete a postsecondary degree at a 2 or 4-year college.

According to whitehouse.gov, there were over 1,000 College Signing Day events in the country. In 2015, over 600 schools and communities celebrated College Signing Day.

“Students have actually put their pictures on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram which has brought a lot of attention to the event and the school,” said Ms. Karabelas.

Mr. MacDonald, Ms. Volpe, and Principal Burg were putting photos of students on Queens Voc Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram page with #ReachHigher to get recognition for Queens Voc on College Signing Day.

“The goal for next year is to get more students to participate in



Disorn is excited for college.

the event and post their photos of themselves with their college acceptance letters on social media to get the school more recognition for the event,” said Mr. MacDonald.

2016 Yearbooks Completed

by Cristian Chamba

The yearbook layout has been completed and sent to the printers but the yearbook committee has not received a date for when the yearbooks will be in.

The yearbooks are expected to be in before graduation on June 24. “We still aren’t completely sure when they will come in, it depends on the printing company,” said yearbook committee member Karen Arista.

The yearbook includes staff pictures, sports teams, clubs, pep rallies, and spirit week. The yearbook also includes pictures of senior activities, shops, officers, off-guard pictures, and portraits. Senior portraits are the largest category in the yearbook because there are 354 portraits this year, taking up about 10 pages.

Ms. DeCarlo’s yearbook committee, which has been working on the yearbook since the beginning of October, was supposed to submit all pages by May 19 to their publisher, but they did not meet that deadline and had to move it back to May 24 because they were missing some pages.

“Working on the yearbook was stressful at times because we didn’t always have enough pictures or sometimes couldn’t get pictures of an event,” said yearbook committee member Sofia Vergara.

To help gather pictures, the yearbook committee used the app Replayit. “Very often the same people were the only ones posting pictures of themselves and their friends so it was difficult to get pictures of every senior,” said Ms. DeCarlo.

One event there was no trouble getting pictures was Oscar Night, a Queens Voc ritual that is hosted by the yearbook committee. “It was an amazing night and I was so proud of the crew for putting together such a well-run show and for the senior class for coming out and supporting each other, plus everyone looked great!” said Ms. DeCarlo.

With the school year coming to an end, member Karen Arista said, “Ms. DeCarlo is a good leader. She made things fun and interesting. We always had a good time while working on the yearbook and we got to see pictures others won’t until they are handed out. At the end it was worth all the pain and stress.”

“We definitely faced some struggles but the group was awesome and we got the job done,” said Ms. DeCarlo.

The students on the yearbook committee are Melissa Alvarado, Karen Arista, Jessica Cardoso, Ashley Chang, Ariz Flores, Valentina Muriel, Guadalupe Nahuacatl, Chelsea Sanchez, Sofia Vergara, and Joseline Yauri.

SkillsUSA Headed to Nationals in Kentucky



Skills USA fundraises for its competitions with bake sales.

by Tia Singh

The SkillsUSA National competition takes place from June 20 to June 24 in Louisville, Kentucky. Geovanny Velez will be competing in nationals for Residential Systems and Installation Maintenance, Erika Ramirez for Nail Care, along with her nail model Pinky Chumber, and Derek Toohey for Networking. Students who win first place in nationals move on to the World competition.

Mr. Rivera, Ms. Ramdeo, and Mr. Valdez will be chaperoning the trip. “SkillsUSA needs to fundraise enough money to attend nationals,” said Triston James. “The money we raise will cover

flight, hotel, food, and registration for national qualifying students,” he said. SkillsUSA will receive some funding for the trip from the NYCDOE and SkillsUSA Area 5. SkillsUSA sponsors will only provide money to students who win nationals for the World competition.

To raise money for nationals, SkillsUSA is having a T-shirt fundraiser. “We create personalized T-shirts for \$15. You can bring your own shirt and we can put any picture, and text that you would like,” said Randy Shvlabak. SkillsUSA also puts any color, size and font text on senior hoodies for \$10.

This year SkillsUSA will be holding their annual Teachers

vs. Students Basketball game, but there will be no teacher pie smashing during intermission because not enough teachers signed up, said Randy Shvlabak. This event is going to be held on Monday, June 13. The cost for students to attend is \$3.

The process depends on how many people show up. “If only 20 people show up then they will be split into four groups and each group will play a quarter. If more than 20 people show up then a raffle will decide who plays in each quarter,” said Ms. Ramdeo.

For the past three years SkillsUSA members have participated in the NYC AIDS walk. This year, however, SkillsUSA will not be participating in the walk because “no one raised enough money,” said Triston James. According to Ms. Ramdeo, to participate, students had to meet two requirements: registering for the walk and raising a minimum of \$50.

Twelve SkillsUSA members attended a masquerade ball on a yacht at Chelsea Piers on June 1. The party started at 5:30pm and ends at 10:30pm, “the party celebrated the end of the year for SkillsUSA,” said Randy Shvlabak. SkillsUSA participants from other schools also attended the event. SkillsUSA members had to pay \$60 to attend and food included.

“It was lit. The mac and cheese was popping,” said Davier Simmons.

AP Students Await Results

by Jonathan Flores

Nearly 100 students took Advanced Placement tests in May. The school has five AP courses: Environmental Science, Physics 1, English Literature, Calculus AB, and European History. The Advanced Placement tests were about three hours long and took place in the school’s auditorium. Students will be notified of the results in July.

According to Mr. Gorman, assistant principal for science and math, the same courses will be available next year.

There are two ways students can get into an Advanced Placement class, said Mr.

Gorman. The first way is called “AP Potential.” According to the College Board, “AP Potential is a web-based tool that allows schools to generate rosters of students who are likely to score a 3 or higher on a given Exam based on their performance on the PSAT/NMSQT.” Next year the school will use the same method to see who is likely to pass an AP course. The second method is teacher recommendations. Students can get recommended by their teacher to go into an AP course if they perform well in their class.

Most of the students who took AP courses took the AP test for the course. Of the 19 students who took the AP Environmental

Science course, 14 took the test. Twenty-five students took the Physics 1 AP course and 21 took the test. Twenty-six students took the AP English Literature course and 24 took the test. Forty-six students took AP Calculus AB and 37 took the test. All 24 students who took the AP European History course took the test.

**See
Ms. Ocampo
in room 155
to sign up for
AP courses.**

Students of the Month Announced for April and May



Students of the Month for April.

by Jennifer Cosme

The Students of the Month for May are Allen Chauca Aguayza for SED, Anthony Chauca for SCEET, Batool Abiad for SES, and Julianne Cuesta for SSBT.

They were chosen for their maturity, the designated theme for May. “I did not expect it at all, but I am really proud, my hard work and dedication is recognized,” said Batool Abiad, a senior. Julianne Cuesta also commented on her award. “I show more maturity than most of my classmates, but I always tell them that if they want to succeed to stay focused, to stay at the top and keep going forward,” she said.

The Students of the Month for April were Karen Juarez for SSBT, Javier Arias for SES, Tseing Lama for SED, and Franklin Jarama for SCEET. The theme for April

was perseverance. “I tried to pay attention in class and did what I needed to do like help my peers out in class and with homework. I always keep the good work up,” said Tseing Lama.

The students of the month for each SLC are chosen by their teachers and their assistant principal by the third week of every month. The monthly themes are determined by the Arista members.

Mr. Gallagher, director of SED, said that he emails the SED teachers asking for recommendations based on the month’s theme. Then, they discuss the students in an SLC meeting.”

Mr. Garcia, the director of SES, said he makes the final decision based on their grades on Pupil Path and from the teachers’ recommendations.



Equipment almost ready for use in the computer lab.

New CAD Class to Start in September

by Derek M. Toohey

In September, Queens Voc will offer a computer art class called Computer-Aided Design (CAD). According to Assistant Principal Ali, this full-year course will count for the two art credits required for graduation.

Mr. Ali said that he wants to bring CAD to Queens Voc because “many students want to study something in the STEM field, and college engineering courses require knowledge of CAD.”

“I hope that students gain an understanding that CAD is important in engineering and construction fields,” said Mr. Ali. “CAD programming is used for blueprint reading in our electrical and plumbing programs.”

The class will first be offered to sophomores in SCEET, but Mr. Ali hopes to expand it to other SLCs. Students in the class will take the SOLIDWORKS Certification exam. Mr. Ali said that depending on how many students pass the certification exam, the course

may become a new CTE program called Architectural Design rather than simply an art class.

According to Mr. Ali, all equipment for the class, including new computers, 3D mice, and a CAD software application called SOLIDWORKS, was already purchased. According to Assistant Principal Alikakos, the total cost of the new technology was approximately \$55,000.

The computers used for the class are called Lenovo ThinkCentre M39z. These computers run the Windows 7 operating system, contain Intel Core i5 processors with clock rates of 2.9 gigahertz, and have 16 gigabytes of RAM. Mr. Ali said that the class will use 30 computers; 28 will be for student use and two will be used with the 3D printers.

The class will take place in the computer lab in the library, which Mr. Ali said is “the only available space in the building.” A teacher for the class has not yet been hired.

And the New AP is...

by Tysain Shand

Ms. Martino Alves has been appointed assistant principal of data and testing.

Ms. Martino Alves, a social studies teacher who transferred from Bryant High School four years ago, applied for the position and went through two levels of interviews, one with the School Leadership Team and a second with the principal.

According to Ms. Burg, 44 people applied for the position, eight of them were interviewed and only two of them made it to the final interview with the principal.

Principal Burg made the final decision to promote Ms. Martino Alves, who started working in the position in April.

“I have over 17 years of experience as an educator, I have experience with managing data in schools, and I used to work at Brown University as an educational researcher studying how students perform,” said Ms. Martino Alves.

“I had no doubt in my mind about taking on the job, but I knew I was going to have to work hard and learn a lot,” she said.

Ms. Martino Alves said that there aren’t any real changes

she wants to make in the school, however, “I want to better track student success and help to support the principal,” she said.

“She is be responsible for all standardized testing in the building and working with the data from those exams to help us all be better at what we do: educating kids,” said Ms. Burg.

Ms. Martino Alves said that she loved being a teacher, but she is ready for the challenge that being an assistant principal will bring. So far she is happy in her new role. “It’s been good, I’ve been learning a lot, especially about testing,” she said.

Senior News



Mauricio and his brother.

by Cindy Carangui

The school year is coming to an end, but for many seniors high school is too. The most recent, big event was senior prom.

According to Mr. Vega, three hundred and thirteen prom tickets were sold. Prom, which began at 7pm and ended at 12am, was held at Da Mikele Illagio for the first time. The event included hors d’oeuvres, a buffet, a venetian hour for dessert, a DJ, a photo booth,

and a commercial photographer. The royal court including a prom king and queen, prince and princess, and duke and duchess were randomly chosen.

The graduation ceremony is on June 24. It begins at 7:30 pm and will take two hours, said Mr. Vega.

There are three rehearsals scheduled: June 16 at 8:30am at Queens College, and June 21 and 22 at 12pm in the Queens Voc auditorium. On the final rehearsal day, caps gowns, and graduation tickets will be distributed. Tickets are limited to four per graduate. Only students who meet the requirements to graduate are allowed to participate in the ceremony. Two hundred and ninety seniors are on track to graduate.

Report cards and diplomas will be distributed to seniors on June 28 from 12pm to 1pm in the cafeteria. Students who still have to return a textbook will be notified via their report card. Diplomas will not be given to graduates who owe schoolbooks, Ms. Ocampo said, “Anything owed can deter a graduate from receiving a diploma.”

Yearbooks will be distributed on June 24 in the auditorium,

beginning at 10 am to 12 pm. Any debts must be paid to the school by June 15 in order to receive a yearbook.

The last senior newsletter was distributed June 8. The newsletter included information about the graduation ceremony and rehearsals, Regents schedule, and yearbook distribution date.

A “Transition Day” will be held for seniors on June 10, 13, 24, and 27. Ms. Judge and Ms. Karabelas will visit each senior shop class to address concerns such as college support, being an adult, party safe, high school and college differences, and entering the workforce.

Neither Karaoke Night nor Movie Night occurred for the seniors because of delays in planning the events and the lack of time remaining this school year.

A senior paintball trip, scheduled for April 29, was cancelled, said Senior Class President Deepan Rajau, who was coordinating the trip, because “the teachers I talked to initially wanted to go but they changed their minds. They did not realize it was during break and many had family events to attend.” At least seven chaperons were needed for the trip.

A School of Many Certifications



Kelvin wears the proper protective equipment while sawing.

by Danish Bokhari

“We have an advantage in the job market over others who did not go to a vocational school,” said Jonathan Vargas, a Cisco networking student. Part of that advantage is Queens Voc’s eight CTE programs and the 31 certifications students can earn.

Some organizations such as OSHA and NOCTI offer certifications in specific majors. “NOCTI is an international organization that has exams for different fields and industries,”

said Mr. Garcia, assistant principal.

Mr. Garcia said that Graphic Arts students get certified in Adobe Creative Suite 5 or 6. “The certification exam has students perform tasks in a simulated work environment, testing students on their knowledge of Adobe Photoshop,” he said. Although students can earn the Adobe certification, Mr. Garcia said the graphic design world does not require it and that a portfolio helps prospective employees stand out.

Cosmetology teacher Ms.

Crosbie helps prepare students for their state board license. Ms. Crosbie said the seniors who passed their cosmetology classes are eligible to take the state exam. The state license exam allows the students to run a salon based on state regulations. Cosmetology students take a NOCTI certification to test their understanding of cosmetology and business.

The Virtual Enterprise NOCTI certification is for business students who understand aspects of business creation and management. Business students receive a Microsoft Specialist Certification if they pass their Microsoft Excel, PowerPoint, and Word certifications. Mr. Garcia said students take the certification because “It is proof that a person is up to industry level standards for business.”

The pre-engineering students are expected to become certified in Alternating Current, Direct Current, and Digital Electronics. The DC certification is proof of understanding direct current and the basics of circuitry

using Ohm’s law. Copper wire certification is proof of being able to build ethernet cables for networking purposes. The AC certification uses trigonometry to calculate the distance and means in which electricity travels. Ms. Ramdeo said, “Students can use their certifications to work for companies with copper cabling and telecommunication skills.”

The CCENT and CCNA are certifications students work to achieve in Cisco. The certifications demonstrate understanding of routing and switching technologies in corporate or local environments, said Mr. Valdez. According to Mr. Valdez, the junior Cisco teacher, the exam consists of networking concepts, theoretical questions, and practical lab simulations to prove a student is capable of configuring networks.

Computer repair students take a NOCTI certification and an A+ certification. “The A+ and NOCTI certification are for students who are capable of repairing and troubleshooting computers,

printers and laptops,” said Mr. Rodriguez. The certification exam contains questions on troubleshooting hardware, operating software systems, and network issues on an entry level.

The electrical installation major has the most certifications. Students are certified with NCCER and OSHA as proof of understanding safety and regulatory practices in construction and electrical installation. The Energy Management Systems certification is supposed to demonstrate that the person is qualified to install systems that help manage gas and electrical efficiency, and to troubleshoot related problems. Electrical students are certified to conserve and recycle materials with their GPRO certification. The AC and DC certifications for EI students demonstrates understanding of motor controls. EI students are certified in creating and fixing ethernet and coaxial cables for their Copper Wiring certification.

Mr. McCarthy and Mr. Rivera declined to be interviewed for this article.

Cosmetologists at Work



Maria applying mascara at the fashion show in April.

by Pamela Tavarez

Over 63 cosmetology students took the NOCTI Exam on Friday, May 20 and Saturday, May 21.

“The NOCTI was interesting,” said Anika Isaac. “There were certain parts of the test that were tricky, like the razor cutting during the haircutting portion. It wasn’t

as difficult as my teachers made it seem because I was well prepared for the exam.”

Mr. Garcia said, “We decided to move the NOCTI to Saturday to be able to strengthen the schedule and ensure that students have time to complete the exam without disrupting classes.”

The NOCTI Exam is a crucial

test for students who want to pursue a career in cosmetology. The NOCTI certification provides cosmetologists a better chance to find successful jobs in the industry, said Ms. Quartuccio, a cosmetology teacher.

The certification also shows proof of the many hours students were required to complete. The State Board Exam is required for students who wish to obtain their cosmetology license. Students are prepared for both the NOCTI and State Board Exam.

Ms. D’Onofrio, a cosmetology teacher and one of the proctors for the NOCTI, believes students were very well prepared. Results are expected before the end of the school year.

To help students with their required work based learning hours, seniors volunteered at the Senior Citizen Center in Sunnyside, providing services that include manicures, hair cutting, thermal styling, and facials. The most recent trip took place on

Friday, April 22. “Volunteering on actual clients helps students improve their skills and feel more comfortable performing services on others. These trips are necessary for them to gain exposure to various parts of the cosmetology industry,” Ms. Quartuccio said.

Fifteen students were chosen to participate at a fashion show that took place on Thursday, April 21 at City Tech.

“Volunteering on actual clients helps students improve their skills and feel more comfortable performing services on others.”

The students worked on models, doing hairstyles and makeup. Ms. Quartuccio said she randomly selected seniors to work on models to be more fair and to allow all students the opportunity to gain experience without regard to their skill level.

Senior Clariza Tejada said, “It was a fun experience and I realized how stressful it is to be backstage. In the future I want



Argelia giving a facial.

to work in the fashion industry so I thought it was fun seeing how everyone came together to help.” The fashion show pushed seniors to improve their work ethics under pressure. According to Clariza, they left to perform their magic at 8am and finished with all the models by 2pm.

The events students have participated in helped them gain experience and professionalism, said Ms. Quartuccio. Assistant Principal Garcia, who approves the coordinated trips said, “These trips help expose students to professionalism and count as work-based learning activities students need in order to graduate.”

For Some Students Service Credit Substitutes for Work Based Learning

by Gabriel Miller

Some students at Queens Voc are earning service credit as work based learning hours according to Mr. Garcia, the director of SES.

According to Mr. Garcia, the SES students who have service credit report to both him and Ms. Carpino.

Through service credit students gain experience and credit for helping out other teachers and faculty members, according to Ms. Gross, the work based learning coordinator.

“It helps the students understand time management, what it means to report to someone, hard and soft skills, and how to take responsibility,” she said

According to Ms. Gross, she is in charge of the SES students and

Ms. Zagada is in charge of SSBT and SCEET.

Ms. Ocampo, the assistant principal, said, “Every student needs to have 60 hours of work based learning hours to graduate with a CTE diploma, that’s why we give them the opportunity to gain those hours here.”

“The difference between service credit and work based learning is that service credit is given to students who have a gap in their schedule. Work based learning is about students putting what they learned in their CTE class to practice in the real world,” said Mr. Garcia. “Business students are able to use the service credit towards their work based learning because it’s like they’re working in an office,” he added.

Mr. MacDonald, the program chairman, said, “There are 41

students who have service credit, 34 of them are in SES and seven are in SCEET. All of them are seniors except for one junior.”

Ms. Zagada says that she sends her work based learning students to offsite job area that will match their CTE training. She only counts service credit as work based learning if there is related work to be done within the school. “For example if a SCEET student is in Tech Squad fixing computers or Smart boards then the service credit will count because they’re doing actual work,” she said.

“Some students don’t even need the 60 hours,” Ms. Carpino, a school secretary said. “I have some students that just want to help out.”

Dahlia Capulin, a student, said, “I enjoy knowing that I’ve helped someone.” Dahlia said she volunteers her time assisting Mr. Rosenthal, Mr. Gorman, and Ms. Carpino.

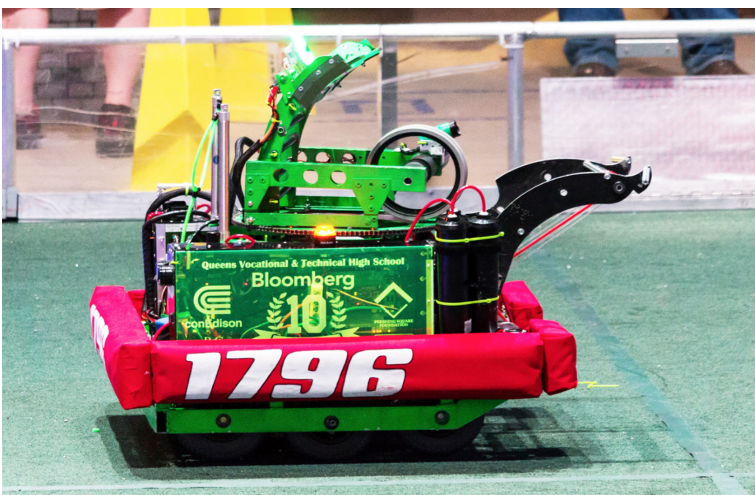
Bradley Moog was one of the chairman presenters. “The judges told us that we really impacted them and we were starting a legacy. Even though we did not get chosen for the award we are very proud of how far we made it,” he said.

At the end of the competition, the team had their traditional formal dinner to celebrate the end of the robotics season and reflect upon everything that happened during the season.

“The team dinner was such a big deal for us because it marked the ending of a rigorous season. This was hard for the seniors because it’s almost like a goodbye to the team,” said Davier Simmons. “It got very emotional for us at one point because we realized that our journey with the team is over,” he said. “We start to question if we will have an experience as great as this,” he added.

On Sunday, May 1 the RoboTigers went to Six Flags in St. Louis. “Going to the amusement park was fun because it allowed our team to become even closer,” said Lin Yue, a

RoboTigers Make History



Robotics team's star ready for competition.

by Adham Kenawy

The RoboTigers have gone to the FIRST Robotics championship in Saint Louis, Missouri three times in the past four years but they never made it beyond the qualification matches until now. “We made history,” said Tia Singh, one of the two captains of the robotics team.

The RoboTigers survived the qualification matches and

advanced to the elimination matches. “It has always been my dream to compete in a championship elimination match,” said Guadalupe Juarez, the other captain of the robotics team.

Since the RoboTigers won the Chairman’s Award at Hofstra, they got to compete for the award worldwide. “For the first time, we were able to share our story to a panel of judges,” said Nelson Bellido, a RoboTigers member.

Zumba Time for Parents, Students, and Staff

by Karla Loor

Free Zumba classes, sponsored by Goodwill, took place on Mondays at 5:15pm. The classes were free for students, parents, and the community. On Wednesdays, the class began at 3:30pm for teachers and other staff members, said Maryse Unodain, Goodwill’s parent coordinator. The classes were instructed by Maria Padilla, who has a regular Zumba certification and Zumba Gold. The classes feature dances of salsa, culpa, bachata, cha-cha,

as well as stretches said Ms. Baez, Queens Voc’s parent coordinator.

“It’s a fun, excellent time,” said parent Stella Nicolovienis, who attended the classes.

For students, a parent consent form was needed while parents and facility only needed to show up and be ready join the class.

Zumba classes were to continue until June 20, but saw a drop in participants once the weather improved and ended on May 25.

Ms. Padilla hopes to get more participants next year.



RoboMentors!

RoboTigers member.

On May 15, the robotics team joined the school’s baseball team at the spring Parks Day at Flushing Meadows Park. The Queens Voc students helped paint trash cans and dig weeds. “We set out to leave our community better than it was handed off to us. That’s why we try to participate in events like these,” said Brian Green, a RoboTigers mentor.

Ashley Chang, a RoboTigers member said, “joining robotics has easily been the best decision I’ve ever made. Although I joined

late I want to thank the team so much for welcoming me with open arms.” She added, “from winning the Chairman’s Award to having the highest scores in New York Regional, saying I am proud is merely an understatement. The team has taught me so much. I am proud to be able to call myself a RoboTiger.”

The RoboTigers decided that they will continue to meet every Tuesday and Thursday to prototype new mechanisms and plan community outreach even throughout the summer.



Luis helps test the robot.



Angelica and David sell their products to other firms.

Three Firms, One Successful Trade Show

by Michael Ortega

The Virtual Enterprise International Trade Show, held on April 19, allowed students from around the world who participate in Virtual Enterprise, a simulation of a business world environment, to promote their marketing campaigns.

Ms. Mitchell's class and Mr. Mugan's class were required to make transactions with consumers and other businesses. Each Queens Voc firm, DCW, STAR, and NYCycles, had its own booth.

Ms. Mitchell and Mr. Mugan, the VE advisors, had prepared their students for the trade show since February. "We were planning marketing strategies, booth display, and coming up with ways to outsell the competition. It's always a competition at the trade show," said Ms. Mitchell.

"We attracted customers by using a polaroid camera and one of our selling techniques was to provide a personalized picture to those customers who bought \$1,000 worth of merchandise. We

then raffled the polaroid camera," said Chief Executive Officer David Valenzuela.

DCW member Rafael Lagos said, "My classmates and I sold an abundant amount of products and made connections with other firms who sell their own unique goods. I walked around the trade show buying products while also trying to convince others to come to our booth and buy from our company. The trade show was a fun experience and I rekindled with old friends from middle school who are part of VE in their high school."

Mr. Mugan's firm, NYCycles, took the lead in sales among the three school VE firms, selling \$438,000 worth of virtual merchandise. DCW's revenue was \$145,845, and STAR's was \$106,048.

Mr. Mugan said that 80 percent of sales were because of the Hover Cycles, "A hands free two-wheel balancing board." NYCycles received a gold medal for best website and a silver medal for its catalogue from the Youth Business Summit.

Cisco Club Goes to Six Flags to Learn

by Adham Kenawy

On June 6, Mr. Valdez and Mr. David took 46 juniors and seniors from the Cisco Club to Six Flags Great Adventure in New Jersey.

"Students learned about the interconnections of the rides and they learned to troubleshoot problems. At the same time, students went on rides and had some fun," said Mr. Valdez, Cisco teacher.

Senior Cisco student Anthony Shi said, "We also learned how to manipulate servers and network devices within the facility that handles the cashiers, ticket and locker system allowing us to understand the ability of networking by cooperating with Six Flags' IT staff."

Mr. Valdez and Mr. David picked the best performing students in their classes. Mr. David picked 11 students from his senior Cisco class and 10 students from his NOCTI class because, he said, the senior class has not been performing well academically. Mr. Valdez picked 25 students from his junior Cisco class.

But the trip wasn't all work. Nolett Ahmed, a student in the Cisco senior class said, "Six Flags is a great place to be with friends. I was so excited to go on the Congo Rapids and watch everyone get soaked in water."

Anthony added, "I feel like the point of this trip is to make a lasting connection between Cisco juniors and seniors."

See Mr. Bowen for information about the GPRO certification.

The Good That Goodwill Does

by Isabel Flores

Goodwill provides services to the school to help students excel on the New York State Regents and SAT exam said Ms. Grandchamps, the tutor for the Global, U.S. History, and English Regents.

Global, U.S. History, and English Regents tutoring sessions are held in room 219 on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays.

Ms. Grandchamps said that only six students come in on a daily basis. "Some kids wait until last minute to prepare for the Regents. They don't realize that they won't be able to review everything a week before the Regents."

Ms. Grandchamps works mostly with English language learners. "I find that those kids need help with the vocabulary. I work with them and go over words that they don't understand. We look it up in the dictionary and try to find related words in order for them to remember the definition." Ms. Grandchamps pointed out that many ELL students don't tend to score high because they don't know the vocabulary, so it is hard for them to pass these Regents exams. In the tutoring session, they go over questions from actual Regents exams, and she provides them with websites where they can study at home.

"When I started my high school career, I lacked the English skills needed to help me succeed on my English Regents. But

that all changed after I started working with Ms. Grandchamps, now I have the confidence and the ability to pass the English Regents with a good score," said Juan Pablo Rodriguez, a senior. Ms. Grandchamps said she gives the students feedback on how to improve their score on the multiple choice questions as well as building an outline for the essay.

"I want kids to prepare ahead of time," she said. Sometimes she goes to the cafeteria to talk to individual students and encourage them to come. Students are excused from one of their classes in order to attend the Goodwill study session if they are given a pass signed by Ms. Grandchamps. These passes will let the teachers know that they will be at a tutoring session during those classes. "The kids that have certain classes such as weight training or gym will ask their teacher for permission to be released at least twice a week," she added.

SAT tutoring sessions are on Monday from 9:18am to 2:18pm and Fridays from 10:18am to 12:00 pm. Ms. Victoria, the SAT tutor from Goodwill said, "only six students attend these sessions but sometimes only one person comes."

The students who are taking the SAT on June 4 are learning tricks on how to quickly answer questions by making educated guesses. "They learn how not to spend a lot of time answering a question that they don't have

the answer to and skip to the questions that are easy to answer," she added.

"The students who are taking the SAT next year will have more time to prepare. These sessions will help them excel on their upcoming SAT," said Ms. Victoria.

Juan Pablo Prieto, a sophomore, said that he goes twice a week to prep for the SAT. During these two days he works with Ms. Victoria on the critical reading, writing, and math sections from the Kaplan book. "I feel very confident taking the SAT next year," said Juan Prieto.

"I give them packages from different sections such as reading, math, writing, and the essay, where they get to do different exercises which will help them improve their overall score," she added.

"I walk around the school and approach kids telling them that I will help them raise points on their SAT exam," she said. Ms. Victoria said that most kids feel overconfident because they think that because they are good at math or writing, they will be able to do well on the SAT. "You need to know how to manage your time," Ms. Victoria added.

"The Goodwill center is not all about tutoring students; it also helps boost students' confidence and gives them the motivation to do better. Personally, the Goodwill center helped me grow as a person and it changed my perspective about education and college," said Juan Rodriguez.

Summer is Looking On the Sunny-side

by Michelle Paguay

Queens Voc students can register now for the Sunnyside Community Services One Step Forward College Readiness Program, "a six-week summer program that provides juniors with SAT and college preparation to help them get ready for the fall testing," said Ms. Karabelas, college advisor.

Classes begin Monday, June 27 and end on Thursday, August 4. Students will attend classes four days a week, from Monday to Thursday, from 4:30pm to 6:30pm. "The classes I took were not only really helpful but fun as well," said senior Passang Dolma. Orientation for students and parents will be on June 22.

Ms. Karabelas said she is planning to meet with interested students on June 10 at 2:15pm. There is a sign-up sheet on her door if she is out of the office.

A range of courses will be offered through this program. Students will take reading and writing seminar classes, SAT and SAT II prep classes, enrichment classes in math and English, and free trips to local colleges. "We

will probably go to Fordham, NYU, Sarah Lawrence, Barnard, Columbia, and as many other area schools as we can," said Devin Kelly, College Success Team coordinator.

"Space is limited so if students are interested they are urged to apply and attend," said Ms. Karabelas. Students have to register in person at Sunnyside Community Services. About 120 students from various schools participate in this program. "Usually about 12-30 Queens Voc students participate in the summer program," said Mr. Kelly.

Regularly, the price for this

program is \$450 per student, but for the past two years Queens Voc students have gone for free. "We are losing Queens Voc funding for the fall, which means that Queens Voc students can enroll for this summer and Queens Voc seniors are guaranteed college advising through the whole college process," Mr. Kelly said, "but right now we are not going to be able to offer Queens Voc students free SAT prep classes in fall 2016 and spring 2017." Passang Dolma said, "It's sad that students next year will have to pay for the fall. I was lucky enough to participate in this great program for free."



Juniors complete packets to be well prepared for the SATs.



Renovating rooms motivates students, said AP Alikakos.

Room 407 Gets a Makeover

by Jhun Rhenz Martinez

Room 407, which is currently used for Cisco classes, has been renovated with new computers, routers, switches, and furniture.

Principal Burg and Assistant Principal Alikakos decided to renovate room 407 to provide students a better working environment. “Cisco is a new program in Queens Voc and students can pursue a career in this field,” said Mr. Alikakos. “Renovating the rooms with new equipment will help motivate students to perform at their peak.”

Mr. Valdez, a Cisco teacher, said that “prior to the renovation students had less desk space, uncomfortable ceramic chairs, and old equipment to work on. The renovation gives students more desk space to work with and the chairs will help students get comfortable because they have up to three periods in the room. Updated equipment such as routers and switches will help students be ready for the industry.”

According to Mr. Alikakos,

the renovation project planning started early in February, and the work will be done by June 30. The electrical set up is not yet completed for the desktop computers and racks, which house the routers and switches.

Mr. Valdez said that he and his Cisco club members chose the color of the chairs, wall, and equipment. “Our goal for the room is to have a cozy and comfortable vibe,” he said.

Junior Jonathan Gomez said, “The renovation is okay. Before the renovation the room was cluttered; we had less space. Now, we have more space to work with.” Senior Lyman Iyeke said he likes the new chairs but sees them as a distraction because “the rolling chairs are too comfortable and students can play around with them.”

Mr. Alikakos said that approximately \$50,000 of the school’s budget was spent on the renovation. The AP said that he and a team of staff members moved furniture and equipment to help minimize the cost.

Next Step For Freshmen



Giovanni encourages freshmen to choose business as their shop class during CTE Night.

by Paulette Baque

One hundred and sixty-five out of 374 freshmen attended CTE Night on Wednesday, May 18, from 5:30pm to 8pm.

The purpose of CTE Night was to allow freshmen to explore the shops before they choose one of Queens Voc’s eight majors.

Students and parents were encouraged to meet teachers and speak with students in each major. They explained the skills, class requirements, and certifications that are offered in their shop. Each information session was 10 minutes long. Only 15 people were permitted into each session

because of safety concerns.

Students were encouraged to choose the major they were most interested in and were advised to consider options such as the time for each shop, hands-on components, national exams, and level of difficulty of each.

According to Mr. Gallagher, director of the School of Exploration and Discovery, commonly called exploratory, the performance of the students during their CTE class rotations, and their grades and attendance will also be used to determine which major they are placed in.

“Coming to CTE Night was interesting because my parents

Perfect Attendance All Year... (So Far)

- compiled by Paulette Baque
- One hundred and sixty-three Queens Voc students had perfect attendance from the first day of school on Sept. 9 through May 31, according to school attendance record provided by Ms. Carfagno.
- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Abbasi, Haseeb | Galindo Perez, Alex |
| Alarca, Juan | Galvez, Giancarlo |
| Aleman Calle, Jonathan | Garcia, Christopher |
| Amigon, Flor | Garcia, Jefferson |
| Askar, Ali | Garcia, John |
| Avila, Myriam | Garcia, Nicolas |
| Barnaby, Mariyah | Ghoneim, Janna |
| Barrera, Christian | Gomez, Gabriel |
| Barros, Jason | Gonzalez, Rodrigo |
| Bates, Darius | Goodluck, Otis |
| Bensai, Yasmine | Grande, Brenda |
| Calero, Brandon | Guaman, Brian |
| Calle Ortiz, Ronald | Guaman, Junior |
| Calva Romero, Cesar | Guaman, Roger |
| Canela, Giselly | Guillen, Jackeline |
| Carchi, Katherine | Gusqui, Andrea |
| Cardoso, Michelle | Gutierrez, Jimmy |
| Carneo, Michael | Guzman, Saul |
| Carpio, Henry | Hernandez, Enrique |
| Carroscio, Rebecca | Hossain, Tasnim |
| Castillo Puma, Anthony | Huerta, Jacqueline |
| Castro, Brandon | Huertas, Derrick |
| Cedeno, Jacob | Jablonski, Erwin |
| Cevallos, Julissa | Jarama, Franklin |
| Chalco, Nadia | Jerez Palaguach, Sandi |
| Chauca Aguayza, Allen | Kaur, Manmeet |
| Chumber, Pinki | Ke, Peter |
| Cielo, Guillermina | Kenawy, Maya |
| Cortes, Brian | Khan, Jubair |
| Cortes Molina, Anely | Khan, Nureen |
| Cruz, Jacquelin | Koutsoumaris, Yiannis |
| Cuenca Cordenon, Lisseth | Kwunchaithanya, Disorn |
| Cuenca Hernandez, Carlos | Lama, Tsering |
| Dawa, Ngawang | Laszczych, Daniel |
| Dejesus, Jerick | Ledesma, Carlos |
| Del Rosario, Mirian | Lema, Andy |
| Diakite, Fode | Leon Chumbi, Edgar |
| Diaz, Edwin | Llanos, Jefferson |
| Diaz, Kelsy | Loja, Cynthia |
| Eng, Kevin | Loja, Marlon |
| Enriquez, Adalid | Lopez, David |
| Escobar, Perla | Lopez Vega, Edgar |
| Espinoza Perez, Jessica | Martinez, John |
| Estevez, Ruben | Martinez Valle, Brian |
| Fang, Andy | Mateos, Enzo |
| Florez, Crystal | Matias, Bryan |
| Francisco, Leonardo | Matias, Jeremy |
| | Maynard, Krizon |
| | Mejia, Henry |
| | Mejia, Larry |
| | Meneses, Rosa |
| | Mexca, Jose |
| | Miranda, Angel Luis |
| | Molano, Maria |
| | Mones-Tonacatl, Christian |
| | Morocho, Joseph |

- Mrozek, Jacek
- Myroniuk, Vanessa
- Nahuacatl, Guadalupe
- Naito, Shusei
- Ordonez, Roberto
- Orduna, Jennifer
- Ortega, Jordalin
- Ortiz Belo, Emilio
- Ossorio, Ivan
- Padilla, Alex
- Padilla, Jorge
- Patel, Vatsal
- Perez, Angel
- Perez, Marcos
- Puma, Evelyn
- Quiles, Nicolas
- Quiroz Vasquez, Maria
- Ramirez, Margarito
- Ramirez, Mayra
- Razzaq, Abdul
- Reyes, Alan
- Rodriguez, Edwin
- Rodriguez, Joshua
- Rodriguez, Karen
- Rodriguez, Kyle
- Rodriguez, Matthew
- Rodriguez, Steven
- Saavedra, Marcelo
- Sakib, Kawsar
- Sanchez, Alfredo
- Sanchez, Gabriela
- Santos, Johan
- Saquipulla, Jeff
- Sibri, John
- Sinchi, Daisy
- Singh, Ruppy
- Sosa, Kate
- Tanio, Andrea
- Tenempaguay, Arthur
- Tenesaca, Jonathan
- Timbi, Keyla
- Toala, Richard
- Ulloa, Karen
- Urena, Nickolas
- Valencia, Israel
- Valiente, Gilbert
- Vijay Rivera, Jeffery
- Vilela, John
- Vivar, Michael
- Wahid, Sandjidah
- Wong, Charles
- Wu, David
- Yang Jia, Chen
- Yascaribay, Fernando
- Young, Marcus
- Young, Stephanie
- Zaw Haw, Wunna
- Zhen, Kevin
- Zhen, Stephanie
- Zin Nyi, Min

and I got to learn about each choice that there is,” said freshman Heaidi Guzman. “The students explained a lot more than what we learn in class because they are already in it and they know more than we do because we were there for just a few weeks.”

According to Mr. Gallagher, the number of seats available for the sophomore year is 108 for EI, 54 for plumbing, 45 for C-Tech, 56 for business, and 10 for graphic arts. All 56 for cosmetology class are currently taken, unless a student transfers out.

“Electrical installation was my first choice, pre-engineering second, and business last,” said freshman Brian Fernandez. “I found electrical installation to be the most interesting because of all the different material I can learn. That way I can get a job right after high school,” he said.

There will be four EI and two plumbing sophomore classes for the next school year because of the high request for seating in

these two CTE classes.

“Students who attended the event will get priority over those who did not attend. Students who do not pick a major will be placed in shop classes where seats are available,” said Principal Burg. “Once a major is chosen, there is small room for moving,” she added.

The ARISTA and Presidential Honor Society coordinators Ms. Basirico and Ms. Karabelas had planned a trip to Coney Island Luna Park for the ARISTA/ Honor Society students, however, the trip has been cancelled.

The trip was supposed to take place on Friday, May 27.

“There were issues with the students and planning a definite trip because we are limited with time. Because of finals and

Teachers who represented their CTE classes were Ms. Zagada for C-Tech, Ms. Ramdeo and Mr. Beninati for pre-engineering, Mr. Valdez for Cisco, Mr. Cintron and Ms. Nunez for EI, Mr. Rivera for plumbing, Ms. Basirico for cosmetology, Ms. Gross for business, and Mr. Petrilli and Mr. Garcia for graphic arts.

Regents, there was no time to sort out concerns,” said Ms. Karabelas.

There were some concerns from the students about the prices at the amusement park. “Many students didn’t like the idea of going to Coney Island and after they found out that they were gonna pay a lot of money they were more discouraged,” said Presidential Honor Society student Adham Kenawy. The price range for the park activities was from \$35 to \$100.

The trip is not being rescheduled.

ARISTA Trip Cancelled

by Andrea Zaavedra

The ARISTA and Presidential Honor Society coordinators Ms. Basirico and Ms. Karabelas had planned a trip to Coney Island Luna Park for the ARISTA/ Honor Society students, however, the trip has been cancelled.

The trip was supposed to take place on Friday, May 27.

“There were issues with the students and planning a definite trip because we are limited with time. Because of finals and

Remembering Queens Voc

Ms. Burg is right. In her letter on this very page, she exclaims that this has been a great year for Queens Voc.

It sure has. We've seen success in Robotics, SkillsUSA, Virtual Enterprise, Constitution Contest, and financial literacy testing. Before the year is over, we will have success in NOCTI testing and other certifications. We had a successful talent show and Oscar night. We raised a record amount of money in the Breast Cancer Walk, took in a record amount of blood in the blood drive, and performed lots of other community service. Most of our teams went to the playoffs—including every spring team. For the first time, we had a pep rally—two in fact: one for the fall/winter teams and one for the spring teams. And as usual, we had a fall spirit week and a spring spirit week.

We have many, many improvements within our school, too. Room after room has been updated with new equipment and furniture, as Mr. Alikakos said in the article on the Cisco room renovation, to help motivate students to perform at their peak.

We will remember how good we had it here. Our hope is that those of you who remain at Queens Voc--students, teachers, staff, administrators--will remember how good you have it here too.

Newspaper Production 101



Teamwork is important for layout editors.

by Helen Eng

The *Vocational Voice* took first place in the 2015-2016 American Scholastic Press Association School Newspaper contest. The paper scored 880 points out of a possible 1000. The ASPA called it “an excellent school newspaper, which shows creativity and journalistic knowledge.”

The *Vocational Voice* is produced by the journalism class, a senior honors English class that students opt to be in. There were 32 students in the class this year.

“We produced four newspapers this year, which hasn’t been done in a while,” said Mr. Schimenz, who has been the advisor for the past 18 years. “This class was receptive to work and had a high level of productivity. Because of that, I put pressure on myself to not let the class down,” said Mr. Schimenz.

The process of publishing a newspaper requires dedication and cooperation. Editor Danish Bokhari said, “The collaboration of journalists, editors, photographers, and the advisor make a good newspaper. And of course, many hours of revisions.”

Mauricio Bustamante, who has been an editor for two years, said that, “It is important to stay organized, communicate, and work with others so nothing goes wrong.”

At Queens Voc, producing a newspaper starts with journalism students brainstorming informative and interesting topics for newspaper articles. Teachers are also asked to submit ideas for newspaper articles. Topics are prioritized as primary or secondary articles based on their importance.

After the list of ideas is

finalized, the journalists select the articles they would like to write. Journalists usually write one or two articles per edition, but are “not allowed to write about the activities they take part in, to keep the articles as objective as possible,” said Mr. Schimenz.

Once the students have chosen their articles, they begin to research. Each article must answer: who, what, where, when, why, and how. The journalists have to develop interview questions to conduct interviews that will help them obtain the best and most accurate information.

Journalist Betsy Flores said that the hardest part of being a journalist for the school newspaper is getting students to comment about different topics or activities around the school. “They either don’t know about it or are not involved in the school,” she said.

Drafts of each article are given to the advisor every Friday. Mr. Schimenz returns the articles with a lot of green ink. He writes lots of suggestions and questions, and challenges the information in the articles.

Journalist Pamela Tavarez said, “Mr. Schimenz wants our articles to be straight to the point. His comments prevent me from babbling on with unnecessary information.”

Journalist Jhun Martinez agreed. “His criticism helps make my article sound more succinct and clear,” he said.

While the journalists are working on their articles, they also need to take photos, which must be taken with a camera rather than a mobile phone because a phone camera has fewer megapixels so the photos come out pixelated. There are a lot of criteria for photos

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Jonathan Flores
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Gabriel Miller
Michael Ortega
Michelle Paguay
Alissa Rivera
Tia Singh
Pamela Tavarez
Cosme Tellez
Derek Toohey
Vanessa Urrutia
Andrea Zaavedra
Xi Zheng

**“Good enough”
is the enemy of “it can
be better.”**

in the newspaper, so journalists take many from different angles. Action shots are preferred.

“The last days before the newspaper comes out are the most stressful because of last minute corrections. I have to hunt and chase people around,” journalist Isabel Flores said.

Once the articles are ready, the editors make sure digital copies are saved for layout and are formatted into columns.

“The bulk of the layout is done on Saturdays and Sundays, from 8am to 8pm, and if the pages are not done, we finish them after school,” said Mauricio. At layout, the volunteer layout editors use InDesign to place the articles, headlines, pictures, and captions onto a newspaper-size page.

Mauricio has been selecting,



Melissa Burg
Principal

What a year!

We have had such a great year! I want to thank everyone for making the 2015-2016 school year so wonderful! First and foremost to the teachers: you work tirelessly to get students to understand material and prepare them for futures they have not even imagined yet! Deans and school safety: you make sure the building is not only safe but a pleasant place to be. Custodians who make sure that the building is clean and in proper working order so we can all do our jobs. Secretaries who help everyone, especially me, run the building effectively and efficiently. My assistant principals: who do so many jobs I wonder at times how they can keep up! Our school aides and paraprofessionals, who often assist the students and staff without causing a stir. Ms. Baez, our parent coordinator, who meets and greets our parents and make sure they have all that they need and more! Cafeteria staff who make sure that breakfast and lunch is prepared not just for our school but other schools as well. Students who work hard at their job of learning and growing into young adults ready to face the world when they graduate. I hope I haven’t forgotten anyone, but if I have I’m sorry.

Everyone who is reading this, find one person at QV to thank before you leave for summer break. Let them know they are appreciated. Remember one kind word can warm many winter months.

Thank you everyone who makes Queens Vocational and Technical High School the best place to work and learn!!!! Have a great summer!

Melissa Burg



**Do you have an opinion
about any of the articles
in this issue of
Vocational Voice?
Write and tell us!
Be sure to sign your
letter and put it in
Mr. Schimenz’s mailbox
in the main office.**



Forever

Mr. Schimenz
Main Office

Readers can also write us at Editor@VocVoice.org

cropping, and inserting the pictures this year. “Keeping track of the picture-taking is a big task,” he said, “but the fun part is putting the pictures on the pages.”

The hardest part of layout is proofreading the whole paper before turning it into a PDF, said Mauricio. “We spend hours reading and re-reading the pages to make sure there are no errors.”

Once the pages are converted into PDFs, they are combined

into one file and emailed to the printers. Within a day or two, the newspapers are delivered to the school. Journalism students then bundle the papers and deliver them to English classes throughout the day.

The journalists look forward to getting feedback, which mostly comes from Mr. Burke’s students. “It’s fun to read what students feel about the paper, said journalist Adham Kenawy.



Class of 2016 College Acceptances



compiled by Purnata Anwar
and Katerin Coyago

Many of our graduating seniors are moving on to college. The Vocational Voice has traditionally recognized the colleges graduates have chosen to attend.

Because of a delay in reassigning this article, we were unable to speak with all graduating seniors. We apologize in advance to those who have been left off this list.

Batool Abaid: Brooklyn College, Adelphi University, John Jay College, LIU, St. John’s

Lisette Acosta: City College, College of Staten Island, Lehman College, Queens College, Queensborough CC, St. Francis College

Istiakh Ahmed: Baruch College, Brooklyn College, Pace University, Queens College, St. Francis College, York College

Nolett Ahmed: Brooklyn College, Le Moyne College, NYIT, St. John’s, SUNY Buffalo

Rehath Ahmed: City Tech, LaGuardia CC, Queensborough CC

Matthew Albert: LaGuardia CC, Borough of Manhattan CC, Kingsborough CC, Queens College

Melissa Alvarado: Queensborough CC, York College

Argelia Angeles: LaGuardia CC, Borough of Manhattan CC, Queensborough CC

Purnata Anwar: SUNY Buffalo, Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, Baruch College, Brooklyn College, SUNY Binghamton, City College, Hunter College, LIU, Queens College, St. John’s

Bryan Arias: LaGuardia CC, Dowling College, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Vaughn College

Karen Arista: QueensBorough CC, Borough of Manhattan CC, LaGuardia CC

Johnell Artis: City College, NYIT

Angela Ayora: City College, Brooklyn College, Hunter College, John Jay College, Queens College

Carol Azanes: Hunter College, Adelphi University, College of Staten Island, Lehman College, Queensborough CC, York College

Paulette Baque: SUNY Oswego, SUNY Cobleskill, College of Staten Island, NYIT, LIU, Buffalo State

Nelson Bellido: NYIT, Farmingdale State College, Buffalo State

Harnoor Bhumak: Queensborough CC, Guttman CC, City Tech, Queens College, Buffalo State

Danish Bokhari: Queens College, City Tech

Ariane Bolanos: LaGuardia CC, Queensborough CC

Dahlia Capulin: John Jay College, City Tech

Cindy Carangui: Fashion Institute of Technology, Lehman College, Queens College, York College

Jessica Cardoso: City Tech, York College

Maritza Cardoso Avila: Borough of Manhattan CC, LaGuardia CC, Medgar Evers College, Queensborough CC

Ashley Cena: John Jay College

Zitlali Ceron: LaGuardia CC, Queensborough CC

Johnny Cespedes: Borough of Manhattan CC, Queensborough CC

Ashley Chang: City Tech, SUNY Oswego, SUNY Plattsburgh, SUNY Buffalo

Anthony Chauca Cambi: City College, Hunter College, RIT, Stony Brook University, SUNY Buffalo, Vaughn College

Anibelka Checo Rodriguez: Queensborough CC, LaGuardia CC

Fasil Cheema: Queensborough CC

Saite Chen: Queens College, Brooklyn College, City College, City Tech

Chris Chique Chicaiza: Queensborough CC, LaGuardia CC

Tenzin Chosang: Queensborough CC

Mahdi Chowdhury: Queensborough CC, Bronx CC, Brooklyn College, LaGuardia CC

Mushfika Chowdhury: Queensborough CC, Berkeley College, St. John’s

Catherine Coj Tahay: Queensborough CC, Brooklyn College, Borough of Manhattan CC, Kingsborough CC

Sandy Cordero: LaGuardia CC, Borough of Manhattan CC, Queensborough CC

Jennifer Cosme: John Jay College, Baruch College, City College, Hunter College, NYIT, Queens College, York College

Katerin Coyago: John Jay College, City College, St. John’s, SUNY Oswego, University at Albany, University at Scranton, York College

Giovanni Cruz: LaGuardia CC, Queensborough CC

Nikki Ann Cruz: Seminole State College of Florida

Valerie Cruz: John Jay College, Borough of Manhattan CC, LaGuardia CC, Lehman College

Lucero Depena: Bronx CC, Borough of Manhattan CC, Hostos CC, LaGuardia CC

Passang Dolma: Hunter College, Baruch College, City College, Fordham University, Guttman CC, LIU, Manhattan College: Manhattanville College

Brian Dominguez: City Tech, Farmingdale State College

Gabriela Dos Reis: Queensborough CC, Borough of Manhattan CC

Helen Eng: City College, Baruch College,

Brooklyn College, Drexel University, Queens College, St. John’s, University of Pittsburgh

Nick Eras: Queensborough CC, Borough of Manhattan CC, LaGuardia CC

Angel Escalante: City College, LaGuardia CC, City Tech, Queensborough CC

Rene Espiritu: City College, Brooklyn College, Farmingdale State College, Hunter College, Queens College

Justin Felder: Queensborough CC, City College, LaGuardia CC, York College

Alejandro Fernandez: LaGuardia CC

Genisis Fernandez: John Jay College, City College, Borough of Manhattan CC

Sidney Fernandez: St. Francis College, John Jay College, City Tech, Queensborough CC

Betsy Flores: St. John’s, Borough of Manhattan CC, Marymount University, SUNY Cortland, Queensborough CC

Isabel Flores: City College, SUNY Binghamton, Queensborough CC, Queens College, York College

Jonathan Flores: City College, Hunter College, Lehman College, NYIT Queensborough CC, York College

Stephanie Flores: City College, Borough of Manhattan CC, Hostos CC, LaGuardia CC, York College

Gustavo Flores Mendez: City College, Brooklyn, City Tech, Stony Brook University

Nikolaos Galanopoulos: Queensborough CC, Borough of Manhattan CC, LaGuardia CC, City Tech

Jhostyn Gallardo: SUNY Buffalo, City College, Queens College, SUNY Albany

Miguel Gallardo: LaGuardia CC, Bronx CC, Hostos CC, Queensborough CC, Queens College

Alex Garcia: LaGuardia CC, Kingsborough CC

Noe Garcia: Borough of Manhattan CC, LaGuardia CC, Queensborough CC, York College

Yesenia Garzon: Queens College, Brooklyn College, Hunter College, Lehman College

Thalia Genao: Borough of Manhattan CC

Edgar Gomez: City Tech

Serenity Gonzalez: LaGuardia CC

Lena Grala: Medgar Evers College

Maria Luisa Grijalva Salaza: Queensborough CC, Borough of Manhattan CC, LaGuardia CC

Christian Guachichulca: City College, Dutchess CC, Farmingdale State College, Lehman College, Queens College, Queensborough CC, York College

David Hader: Queensborough CC, Borough of Manhattan CC, Kingsborough CC, LaGuardia CC

Marc Hallinger: Borough of Manhattan CC

Thomas Hallinger: City Tech, Borough of Manhattan CC

Mohammad Haseeb: Pratt Institute, City College, City Tech

Kevin Henao: St. John’s, Hunter College, NYIT

Brianna Hernandez: John Jay College, Borough of Manhattan CC, LaGuardia CC, St. John’s, Queensborough CC

Bryan Hernandez: SUNY Buffalo

Jessica Herrera: St. Francis College, Fordham University, Hofstra University, LIU, Queens College, Queensborough CC, York College

Amanda Hess: Make-Up Designory

Lizbeth Huitzil Paleta: LaGuardia CC, Borough of Manhattan CC, Queensborough CC

Mian Humza: Baruch College, Queens College, SUNY Buffalo

Valentin Iancu: Queens College, Borough of Manhattan CC, LaGuardia CC

Anika Isaac: Queensborough CC, Baruch College, Borough of Manhattan CC, Kingsborough CC, LaGuardia CC

Shaikh Islam: York College, City Tech

Galal Issa: Borough of Manhattan CC, Lehman College, Queensborough CC, York College

Davaughn James: LaGuardia CC, Borough of Manhattan CC, Bronx CC, Kingsborough CC

Brandon Jimenez: Queensborough CC

Guadalupe Juarez: Borough of Manhattan CC, York College

Constantine Kaltsas: LaGuardia CC, City Tech, York College

Michael Kammerer: Borough of Manhattan CC, LaGuardia CC, City Tech, Queensborough CC

Brian Kazi: City College, Baruch College, Brooklyn College, Hunter College, SUNY Buffalo, SUNY Polytechnic Institute, Queens College, Buffalo State

Adham Kenawy: NYU, Brooklyn College, Hunter College, Lehman College, City Tech, Queens College, RPI, RIT, SUNY Buffalo

Vasiki Konneh: Colby College, City College, SUNY New Paltz

Pawel Kowal: City College, John Jay College, City Tech

Disorn Kwunchaithanya: SUNY Buffalo, RIT, SUNY Oswego

Rafael Lagos: Queensborough CC, Kingsborough CC



Class of 2016 College Acceptances



Singhe Lama: LaGuardia CC

Carlos Lojano: LaGuardia CC,
Queensborough CC

Karla Loor: Queensborough CC,
Borough of Manhattan CC,
LaGuardia CC,

Alicia Lucero: John Jay College,
Borough of Manhattan CC,
Lehman College, York College

Jessica Lucero: Borough of Manhattan CC,
Medgar Evers College, Queensborough CC

Patricia Magan: Queensborough CC,
Borough of Manhattan CC, Kingsborough CC

Miguel Marrero: Borough of Manhattan CC

Amanda Marte: Borough of Manhattan CC

Jhun Rhenz Martinez: City College,
Farmingdale State College, Queens College

Miguel Martinez: Borough of Manhattan CC,
Kingsborough CC, LaGuardia CC

Gerardo Meija: Queensborough CC

Yatziri Mendoza: The City College,
Brooklyn College, Queensborough CC, Queens College, York College

Michael Mensah: Queensborough CC

Mateusz Mielcarek: LaGuardia CC

Gabriel Miller: Queensborough CC

Luis Miranda: City Tech,
Borough of CC, Guttman CC, Kingsborough CC, Queensborough CC

Diego Morales: LaGuardia CC

Anthony Moran: Queens College,
John Jay College, LaGuardia CC, City Tech, York College

Sujey Morelos: LaGuardia CC,
City Tech, Queensborough CC

Christopher Morocho: NYIT,
Ithaca College, Utica College

Jacek Mrozek: SUNY Buffalo,
Buffalo State, SUNY Oswego, SUNY Polytechnic Institute, The College at Brockport

Daisy Muniz: Queensborough CC,
Borough of Manhattan CC

Valentina Muriel: Baruch College,
Queens College, RIT, Stony Brook University, St. John’s, York College

Omar Nooristani: City Tech
Thiaralyn Obijo: City Tech,

Baruch College, College of Staten Island, Lehman College, SUNY Buffalo

Samuel Obregon: City Tech,
City College, York College

Melissa Ortega: LaGuardia CC

Michael Ortega: Queensborough CC,
Dutchess CC, City Tech, SUNY Oswego

Michelleaguay: Hunter College,
Brooklyn College, Fairfield University, John Jay College, Lehman College, Queens College, SUNY New Paltz, Syracuse University, City College

Jason Paige: Queensborough CC

Nehal Patel: City College,
Lehman College, NYIT, Queens College, RIT

Gabriella Paz: LaGuardia CC,
Borough of Manhattan CC, Kingsborough CC

Emely Peralta: Queensborough CC,
Borough of Manhattan CC, LaGuardia CC, City Tech, York College

Erick Peralta: LaGuardia CC

Samantha Perez: College of Staten Island,
LaGuardia CC, Queensborough CC, York College

Yoana Perez: Queensborough CC,
Borough of Manhattan CC, LaGuardia CC

Jessica Pichardo: LaGuardia CC

Traecy Pillcorema: LaGuardia CC,
Borough of Manhattan CC, Queensborough CC

Josue Pina: City College,
Brooklyn College, Hunter College, Lehman College, NYIT, Queens College, York College

Samantha Pineda: Queensorough CC,
Borough of Manhattan CC, Kingsborough CC

Anthony Pippis: Pennsylvania State University,
Stony Brook University, SUNY Oswego, SUNY Buffalo

Katherine Polanco: NYIT,
Borough of Manhattan CC

Bayron Quillay: Edinboro University of Pennsylvania,
Bloomberg University of Pennsylvania, College of Staten Island, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania

Maria Quintanila: Queensborough CC,
LaGuardia CC, York College

Kevin Quintero: Queensborough CC,
Borough of Manhattan CC

Cassandra Quito: LaGuardia CC

Kelvin Quizphe: Queensborough CC,
Borough of Manhattan CC, LaGuardia CC

Melissa Quizphe: Borough of Manhattan CC,
Medgar Evers College

Johnny Quizphe: City Tech,
Borough of Manhattan CC, Queensborough CC

Deepan Rajau: Manhattan College,
Stony Brook University, City College

Evelyn Ramos: SUNY Cobleskill,
Alfred State College, Morrisville State College

Daisy Rendon: York College,
Borough of Manhattan CC

Hillary Rios: Institute of Culinary Education

Alissa Rivera: Fordham University,
John Jay College, City Tech, NYIT, Queens College

Jossy Rodriguez: Queensborough CC,
LIU, St. John’s

Keyli Rodriguez: Borough of Manhattan CC,
LaGuardia CC

Eryk Rogulski: LaGuardia CC,
Queens College, York College

Omar Rojas: LaGuardia CC

Pamela Rojas: Queensborough CC,
Medgar Evers College

Malcolm Romero: Kingsborough CC

Bryan Rousseau: Queensborough CC

Mukta Roy: Brooklyn College,
Borough of Manhattan CC, City Tech, Queens College, City College

Seamus Ryan: SUNY Fredonia,
SUNY Buffalo

Anthony Sagaury: LaGuardia CC,
Borough of Manhattan CC, Medgar Evers College, York College

Chelsea Sanchez: LaGuardia CC

Kimberlin Sanchez: Queensborough CC,
College of Staten Island Lehman College, City Tech, York College

Dylan Sankarsingh: LaGuardia CC,
Medgar Evers College, Queensborough CC

Katelynn Santiago: Barry University,
Borough of Manhattan CC, College of State Island, Queensborough CC, The College at Brockport

Jennifer Sarmiento: Borough of Manhattan CC,
Johnson and Wales University, Queensborough CC

Travis Savino: Queensborough CC

Fabiam Segarra: NYIT,
LaGuardia CC, Medgar Evers College

Jason Seino: Borough of Manhattan CC,
LaGuardia CC

Masoud Shairzadeh: LaGuardia CC

Tysain Shand: LaGuardia CC,
John Jay College

Anthony Shi: St. John’s,
Brooklyn College, Queens College, SUNY New Paltz, SUNY Polytechnic Institute, University at Albany, SUNY Buffalo

Paulina Siavichay: Queens College,
LaGuardia CC, Queensborough CC, City College

Davier Simmons: RIT,
City Tech, Queensborough CC, Vaughn College

Tia Singh: City College,
RIT, SUNY Buffalo, Vaughn College

Bruce Sorrosa: SUNY Buffalo,
Alfred State University, Farmingdale State College, NYIT, Stony Brook University St. John’s, Buffalo State, SUNY Cobleskill, SUNY Oswego, SUNY Polytechnic Institute, Utica College

Pamela Tavarez: Queens College,
Lehman College, Queensborough CC

Clariza Tejada : Fashion Institute of Technology,
Berkeley College, Borough of Manhattan CC, Kingsborough CC, LIM College, City Tech, York College

Cosme Tellez: Baruch College,
Brooklyn College, City Tech, Queensborough CC, Queens College

Malcom Tenia: Queens College,
City Tech, Queensborough CC

Michael Tenia: LaGuardia CC,
Borough of Manhattan CC, Queensborough CC, Medgar Evers College, Mount Ida College

Derek Toohey: St. John’s,
SUNY Farmingdale, Marist College

Luis Toro: Queens College,
John Jay College, LaGuardia CC, City Tech, University at Albany, York College

Cheyanne Traill: City College,
Baruch College, Borough of Manhattan CC, Hunter College, Queens College,

Franco Trelles: City Tech,
Pennsylvania State University, Queens College, University of Hamburg

Shih Bin Tsao: Stony Brook University,
Queens College, Raman Research Institute, RIT, City College, SUNY Buffalo

Kevin Tufino: City Tech,
Kingsborough CC

Annabel Urena: Queensborough CC,
Bronx CC, LaGuardia CC

Mabel Urena: Queensborough CC,
Borough of Manhattan CC, LaGuardia CC, York College

Vanessa Urrutia: York College

David Valenzuela: Johnson and Wales University,
St. John’s, Syracuse University

Yulia Valerio: St. John’s,
Baruch College, Hofstra University, LIU, SUNY Old Westbury

Jaelene Valladolid: Baruch College,
Borough of Manhattan CC, Queensborough CC

Dante Vanderpool: NYIT

Jonathan Vargas: Queens College,
John Jay College

Juni Vazquez: Queensborough CC

Andy Velez: Queens College,
LaGuardia CC, Lehman College, Queensborough CC, York College

Sanjidah Wahid: City College,
Brooklyn College, Fordham University, City Tech, NYIT, Queens College

David Wojtowicz: NYIT,
LIU, Queensborough CC, York College

Pedro Woss: College of Staten Island,
LaGuardia CC, Queensborough CC

Anafi Yasin: Queensborough CC,
Baruch College, Borough of Manhattan CC, LaGuardia CC

Joseline Yauri: Queensborough CC,
LaGuardia CC, City Tech

Andrea Zaavedra: University at Albany,
Elmira College

Rukhsana Zafer: Brooklyn College,
Adelphi University, SUNY Buffalo

Xi Zheng: Hunter College,
Brooklyn College, Queens College, City College, SUNY Farmingdale, SUNY Buffalo, York College

Nyimin Zin: Queensborough CC,
LaGuardia CC, City Tech

Congratulations to the graduating class of 2016!

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Restaurant Reviews

by Mauricio Bustamante

Mario’s Restaurant



Located on 43rd Street and 47th Avenue in Sunnyside, Mario’s Restaurant features Italian cuisine such as chicken parmesan, veal cutlet milanese, and fettucine alfredo. Its quiet atmosphere provides a serene and enjoyable time with the people you are with. The meals

could be a bit pricey for the portion, but the food has an excellent taste!

Las Margaritas



Located on 38th Street and Broadway in Astoria, Las Margaritas delivers a wide selection of appealing Mexican dishes. For starters, complimentary chips and salsa are served once you are

seated. The waitresses are attentive and check up on the customers often, making sure they enjoy their time, even if the restaurant is filled with people. To top it all off, the prices are great for the amount of food they serve!

El Basurero



Located on Steinway Street near Broadway in Astoria,

El Basurero, or “The Garbage Dump,” is decorated with items that would be found in a garbage dump, hence, the name. The restaurant has a festive atmosphere and serves typical Colombian dishes such as the bandeja paisa, picada, and calentado. The plates contain large portions of food that are sure to fill you up, and the prices are decent!

WilliamsBurger



Located on 37th Street and Greenpoint Avenue, WilliamsBurger offers delicious burgers and shakes that will encourage you to return again and again. The vidalia onion & gorgonzola bleu cheese burger is flavorful and will make your taste buds come alive. The Sunnyside burger is served with a “cage free fried egg” and american cheese, an unusual, yet tasteful combination. The milkshakes are sweet and delicious, and serve as a great way to end a good meal.

Final Thoughts of Graduating Seniors

compiled by Betsy Flores

We asked some seniors for their final thoughts at Queens Voc. This is what they said:

“It was enjoyable while it lasted but it’s time for it to end and move on. I’m excited to see what life has to offer.”

- Mauricio Gomez

“Queens Voc is a great school. It is a school filled with opportunities but not everyone takes advantage of them. Overall, high school has

been one of the best experiences I’ve had.”

- Guadalupe Nahuacatl

“I’m excited to be leaving Queens Voc. I’ve made many friends and many memories but it’s time for high school to end.”

- Jennifer Sarmiento

“Being at this school was probably one of the best decisions I could have made. I appreciate all that my teachers have done for me and I am grateful for the friends I gained. I’ve earned knowledge

that’ll contribute to my success in college, skills that’ll help me in the work force, and friendships that’ll last a lifetime.”

- Nelson Bellido

“Once you’ve learned about yourself, only then you can take on the world. After the four years of high school, if you learned more about yourself, then you are ready to go on and achieve greater things in life.”

- Deepan Rajau

“I’m going to miss the school, my

teachers, and my friends I spent the last four years I was here.”

- Jenny Wong

“I wish I didn’t mess up as much as I did.”

- Jacek Mrozek

“I wish I would’ve enjoyed senior year as much as I could have.”

- Luis Bruno

“Time passes by fast so enjoy your youth and have fun while you can.”

- Wilfrido Villalba

“Don’t mess up your freshman year, it will impact you in the future.”

- Valentina Muriel

“Don’t stress a lot in high school because after you graduate, you’ll realize that all of that stress was literally nothing.”

- Tyrek Rollings

“It was a great experience to have been in QV, but I’m looking forward to see what the future holds for me.”

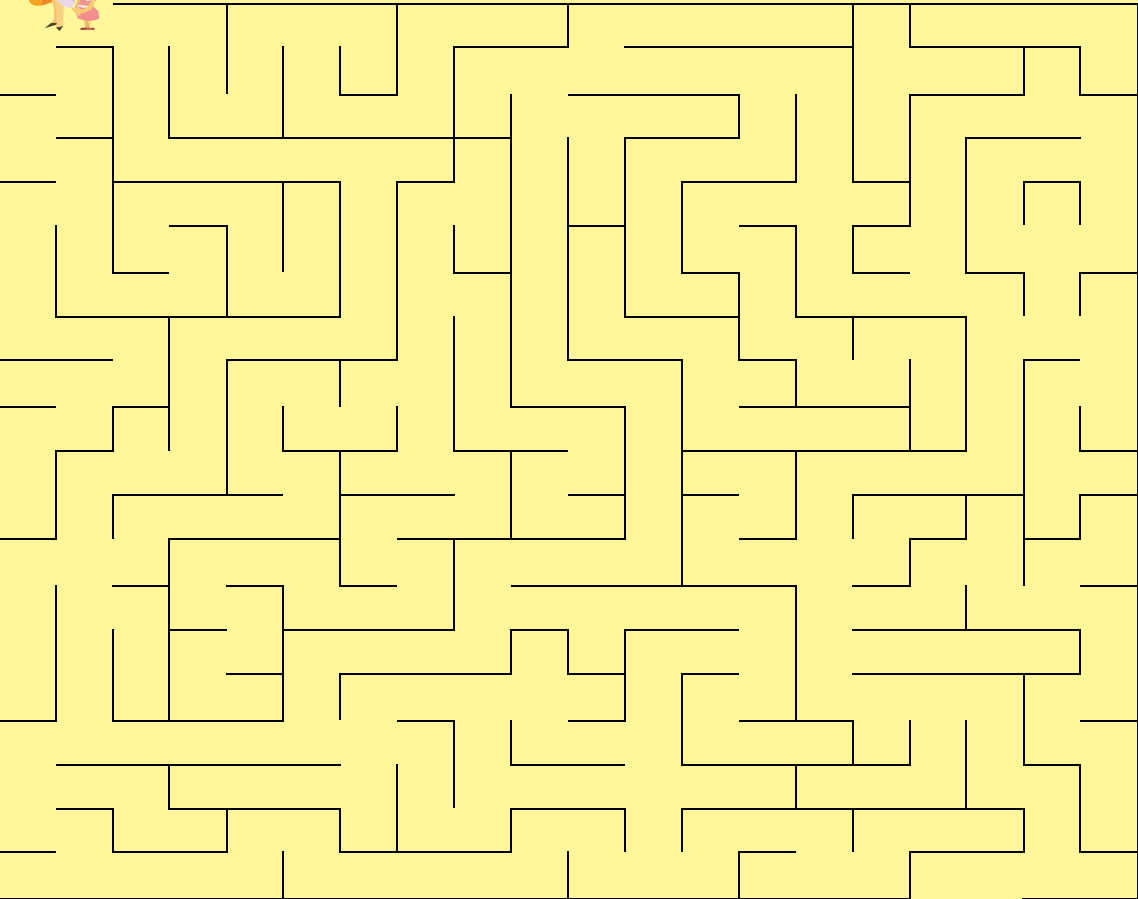
- Catherine Coj Tahay

The A“MAZE”ing Trip

by Cindy Carangui



This family wants to buy school supplies for the new school year. Help them get to Staples.



Challenge:

Can you solve the maze in 30 seconds?



Good Eats

by Helen Eng

Edamame Chicken Stir Fry

Edamame beans are young soybeans that are found in the cuisine of China, Japan, Korea, and Hawaii. These beans are full of vitamins and are gluten-free, a perfect addition to any dish. Preparation Time: 10 minutes Cooking Time: 20 minutes Serves 8

Ingredients:

- 1 16oz pack of frozen edamame beans
- 1 8oz can of pickled cabbage
- 1 teaspoon of salt
- 1/2 a chicken breast
- 1 tablespoon of vegetable oil

Directions:

- 1) Cut the chicken into cubes.
- 2) Place a nonstick pan on low heat on the stove and add in the oil.
- 3) Then add the cubed pieces of chicken to the pan.
- 4) Once the chicken has changed in color, add in the beans and salt.
- 5) Stir. Pour in the whole can of pickled cabbage to the pan.
- 6) Let the flavors simmer together for 10 minutes on high heat.
- 7) Enjoy!

Cook’s Tips:

This dish can be vegetarian or the chicken can be substituted for any type of meat. The pickled cabbage can be substituted for fresh vegetables or even mushrooms. Edamame beans are the stars of this dish. They are even delicious on their own. Don’t knock it, till you tried it!

Calories per serving: 106

Strawberry Banana flavored Green Tea

Green tea is loaded with antioxidants and nutrients, bananas are a good source of potassium, and strawberries are a good source of vitamin C. Put all these ingredients together and a healthy drink is formed.

Preparation Time: 10 minutes Serves 1

Ingredients:

- 8 strawberries
- 1 banana
- 1 cup of ice cubes
- 1 cup of steeped green tea
- 1 tsp of sugar

Directions:

- 1) Start off with a fresh cup of steeped tea. Throw in two ice cubes to the cup of green tea.
- 2) Break the banana into pieces and add it into the blender. Add in strawberries.
- 3) Pour in the sugar into the cup of green tea and then pour the tea into the blender. Blend on medium speed.
- 4) Put the rest of the ice into a glass and pour in the mixture from the blender.

Cook’s Tips:

When you are out of milk to make a strawberry banana smoothie, green tea will just have to do. While not everyone loves green tea, it has EGCG (Epigallocatechin Gallate), which improves health. It also contains caffeine and other compounds that improve brain function. The fruits in this drink mask the taste of the tea, while still holding all the vitamins and nutrients of all the ingredients.

Calories per serving: 155

Junior Shop Profiles

by Jhostyn Gallardo

We asked CTE teachers to choose their best juniors, and then interviewed those stars in the class.

The students were asked the following questions:

1. Why did you choose this major?
2. What do you like most about it?
3. What have you done in class that has been the most challenging to you?
4. How have you overcome the challenge?
5. Why do you think your teacher chose you?
6. Do you see yourself pursuing this career in the future? Why or why not?

Marlin Astudillo

EI - Mr. Vega



1. I chose this major because my dad works as an electrician. He helps me out with the service jobs.
2. Everything is hard and you never have a day off.
3. Service jobs have been challenging because the equipment is heavy and it's more like real-life jobs.
4. I have overcome it by receiving help from my classmates.
5. I'm really good at completing the jobs.
6. I really do see myself pursuing this in the future, I already have experience working in the field so I will be used to the work.

Ana Victorino

EI - Mr. Maloney



1. I chose it because I like it and it's a lot of work. Not many girls choose this shop.
2. I gain knowledge about electrical circuits, which helps me to do my own electrical work and be independent.
3. The lighting fixtures and holding the sheetrock was difficult.
4. By getting it done.

5. Because I do my work and it is well done.

6. No, because I want to be a dentist. But I can use the skills at home.

Richard Martinez

EI - Mr. Mendez



1. I naturally gravitated towards EI.
2. I like seeing how a job works after it is completed.
3. Bending the electrical metallic tubing was laborious.
4. I just practiced bending many times until I improved.
5. I think I am an outstanding student.
6. I think I do because I naturally like EI. I plan on joining the union after high school.

Angel Rodriguez

Plumbing - Mr. Rivera



1. I like working with my hands.
2. It challenges me. The jobs and measurements are like a puzzle.
3. Getting the accurate measurements for jobs.
4. Through consistent practice.
5. I try my hardest in class.
6. Yes because it's challenging for me and I enjoy a challenge.

Victoria Guerrero

Cosmetology (Afternoon) - Ms. D'Onofrio



1. I have always been interested in fashion. Cosmetology and

fashion go hand in hand.

2. I love everything about it. My favorite thing about cosmo is having three periods of doing what I like most. I love seeing the expressions on my clients' faces after I finish doing their hair.

3. Finger waving took me the longest to learn. Another challenge was memorizing the many rules, procedures, and mixing ratios of permanent hair coloring.

4. I overcame this challenge though practicing on clients and mannequins.

5. I have a passion for cosmo. I'm always eager to learn new things, help out my peers, and ask questions in class.

6. I do see myself in the cosmetology industry but I want to pursue a career in fashion advertising. Hopefully, I can also own a beauty business to support my career goals.

Austin Nelson

Plumbing - Mr. McCarthy



1. I chose this major because I enjoy it and many of my family members work in the plumbing industry.

2. I enjoy hands-on work. Getting dirty and working with pipes was something I didn't mind doing.

3. What challenged me the most was the math when building triple 45-degree offset pipe jobs.

4. By improving in academics, specifically math. Now I love math.

5. I'm always on task and focused. I make sure to have all jobs completed before it's due.

6. Definitely, I enjoy working in this field. I plan to take a year off to gain experience at a construction company.

Jordalin Ortega

C-Tech - Ms. Zagada



1. I've been interested in computer technology since I was five. I was exposed to the subject in JHS 757. That's why I chose C-Tech as my

major.

2. I love the hands-on and group work that we get to do. I enjoy researching printer technology.

3. Using critical thinking skills to determine the purposes of computer components has been a challenge. Memorizing the technical acronyms has also been a challenge.

4. Through asking many questions and conducting research during and out of class. Ms. Zagada has been very helpful.

5. I think she chose me because I work hard and am determined to learn as much as I can in class. I try to help out my peers and my attendance is punctual.

6. Yes, I see myself pursuing computers. There are so many fields I can pursue as technology advances everyday.

Lesly Pavon

Cosmetology - Ms. Lingstuyt



1. I found it the most interesting compared to other shops. I enjoy working with hair.

2. I like that we can do hands-on work and do different hairstyles. We learn how to work with different hair textures and types.

3. Working with hair dyes. We are dying the hair of mannequins and seeing results.

4. I followed my teacher's instructions and did as she told us.

5. I feel like I'm ahead in class and I always follow her directions.

6. I do because I'm able to meet people, make them look how they want to look, and help them feel better about themselves.

Kate Sosa

Business - (Period 5)
Ms. Morgan Thomas



1. Business is a versatile major that can be applied to other careers.

2. I like that you can be your own

boss and run your own business.

3. The business plans were challenging because I had to target the right audience for my product.

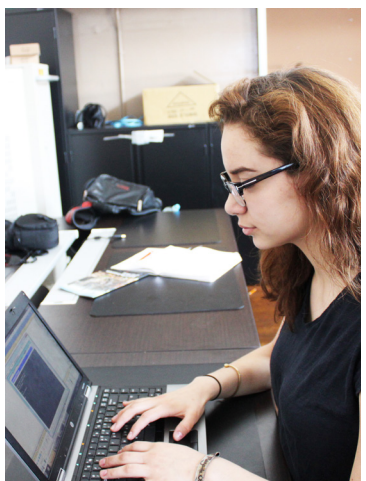
4. We learned how to analyze statistics dealing with people in targeted locations.

5. I think I have the highest grade in class. I also do my work well.

6. Yes because I plan to intern at a consulting firm during the summer.

Jacqueline Serrano

C-Tech - Mr. Valdez



1. I like the concept of how computers work. The idea of how computers communicate interested me.

2. I like that the work is virtual and you get to customize your own network.

3. Learning the whole concept of subnetting and IPv6.

4. I practiced it for a while and it became easier.

5. Because I have an interest in this class and show that I care.

6. No, I will probably work in the field during college but I want to become a doctor.

Pinki Chumber

Cosmetology (Morning) - Ms. D'Onofrio



1. I like doing hair and nails.
2. I get to learn different hair styling techniques and learn the science and background behind them.

3. Finger waves have been challenging. Making sure the waves are even has been difficult.

4. Through a lot of practice.

5. I'm eager to learn more things and I get my jobs done quickly.

6. Yeah because I'm really passionate about doing hair and nails. I like providing the services to other people.

continued on next page

Junior Shop Profiles

continued from page 13

Minwoo Lee
Graphic Design - Mr. Petrilli



1. When I came to QV I didn't know what to choose. I expected the class to be more fun than it really is.
2. I get to express myself freely through art without getting in trouble.
3. The Bauhaus poster project has been the most difficult.
4. I spent more time on it and asked friends for advice about it.
5. Because I'm a good student.
6. No, I want to do engineering in college.

Bartlomiej Zabrocki
Electronics - Ms. Ramdeo



1. Visiting the electronics shop while attending the CTE night last year influenced me to pursue engineering.
2. The challenges Ms. Ramdeo gives me every day keeps me on my toes.
3. Without a doubt, crimping F-Type connectors during our copper certification.
4. Practice makes perfect.
5. I am passionate about learning and enjoy a challenge.
6. Yes, I see myself becoming a mechanical engineer so I can influence the future with projects that I will perfect when I enter the field after college.

Luis Vasquez
Business - Ms. Morgan Thomas (Period 7)



1. I was always interested in managing my own money and my mother owns a business, which is why I chose this major.
2. Learning how to manage my money is a skill that will help me in the future.
3. Creating a business plan.
4. A lot of hard work and research were necessary to create my business plan.
5. Since freshman year Ms. Gross, another business teacher, saw my potential.
6. Yes, but as a minor not a major.

Marcin Swaltek
EI - Mr. Abreu



1. I liked EI the most during exploratory because of the hands-on work.
2. I enjoy the hands-on work. I get a sense of pride after accomplishing the jobs.
3. I've been physically and mentally challenged with the work.
4. Through perseverance I overcame these challenges.
5. I've improved since freshman year and I have the most jobs done in the classroom.
6. Yes, definitely. I see myself working for the MTA and getting into the union. I want to pursue a career with my EI skills.

Vasiki's College Prep Advice

by Vasiki Konneh

1. Do your best to follow all of this advice. I was in your position last year and I received the same type of advice. I followed some and ignored some, but all of this is to your benefit. Avoiding the stress early senior year is a great way to get through the college application process.

2. Study for the SAT/ACT exams. Don't focus on different strategies too much. Just take practice exam after practice exam. Questions are repeated; familiarizing yourself with the exam is key to receiving an above average score. You do not have to spend any kind of money on test prep classes. Every resource you could possibly need is online.

3. Don't let your SAT/ACT scores stop you from applying to a school, scholarship, or program. It's only a part of your application. Don't let anyone tell you that you won't get into a certain school because of your test scores. Study hard to get the highest score you can get in order to be a competitive applicant, but make sure to exert your energy on other parts of your application, such as essays, supplements, extracurricular activities, and volunteerism.

4. Take SAT subject exams. A lot of top schools require or recommend that applicants take SAT subject exams. Subject exams are one hour long exams that focus on specific subjects. They range from physics to molecular or ecological biology to world and United States history. They are easier to study for and a high score will play to your benefit. Deciding which exam to take may depend on whichever major you're interested in for a college. Students interested in engineering will typically be required or encouraged to take Math Level 1 or 2 and Physics, Chemistry, or Molecular or Ecological Biology.

5. You don't have to pay for these exams if you get free or reduced-priced lunch. You get two waivers for the ACT, two waivers for the SAT, and an additional two waivers for the SAT Subject exams. Each SAT Subject exam waiver allows you to register for up to three subject exams. If you get free lunch, you are entitled to these fee waivers. Don't let anyone tell you otherwise.

6. It costs \$11.25 to send your SAT and SAT subject score to each college, and \$12 for the ACT. When you register for and take the SAT exam for the first

time, you receive four free score reports. This means that you can report your scores to eight colleges for free. Four of these don't expire, the other four expire nine days after you take your first exam. That means that if you want to take advantage of those four, you need to send your scores before you know them.

7. A lot of schools will accept the scores your guidance counselor sends. Usually they will accept them mailed, faxed, or e-mailed. These scores will be "unofficial," but acceptable. In most cases, however, once you are accepted into a school, you will be required to send your "official" scores to the schools, directly from the College Board or ACT. This allows you to save money and score reports for schools that strictly require them directly from the testing agencies.

8. Apply for fly-ins. This is one of the most critical pieces of advice I can give. A fly-in is a special program hosted by many colleges and universities. You apply and, if selected, the school will pay for you to visit the campus for two to three days. Housing, food, and transportation will all be paid for by the school. You'll get to explore the campus, interact with current students, explore the student life, and make connections with professors and admissions officers, which may help you in the long run; it did for me. Many top schools offer fly-ins: Amherst, Swarthmore, Williams, Pomona, Pitzer, Haverford, Johns Hopkins, MIT, Columbia, and Colby are just some of the schools that offer this opportunity.

9. Apply for scholarships. It does not matter which school you want to attend. Scholarships are critical. Not only are they money, but they are also amazing network opportunities. There are a few you should look up and apply to starting early August: Horatio Alger Scholarship, Ronald McDonald House of Charity Scholarship, Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Scholarship, Coca-Cola Scholarship, and Burger King Scholarship are some to note.

10. Start in the summer. Do you understand? START IN THE SUMMER! Do not wait until the school year starts to begin these applications. A majority of them become available in August. Start then. I'm talking about your list of colleges you want to apply to, personal statement for colleges, college supplemental essays and short responses,, scholarships, and scholarship essay responses. Google Sheets is your best friend.

Trust me when I say that being organized during the summer will keep you ahead of the game.

11. Make your personal essays personal or goal oriented. Don't feed colleges a sob story. If you've faced any kind of difficulty, focus on what you've done to grow from the experience. Make sure you show instead of simply telling. Be descriptive, but avoid fluffy language. This isn't an essay for creative writing class. There's always a word limit, so make every single word count. Make your essays meaningful and proofread, proofread, proofread. Edit, cut down, add, but make sure your essay is still your voice. If you need help revising, ask your English teachers. Ask early so you don't swamp them with work.

12. I can assure you, teacher recommendations hold far more weight than your test scores. They are important. Get along with your teachers and do well in their class. They're here to help you in any way they can, don't lose out on the opportunity. It's a great idea to get a recommendation from an English or history teacher and a math or science teacher. You'll need from one and three recommendations for nearly everything you apply to. You'll need them for colleges and scholarships, summer programs, internships, and even some fly-ins. Think about the teachers you'll want a recommendation from. Ask them about it before you finish your junior year. Don't wait until you start next year, that's when everyone else will start asking. It gets stressful for them, so ask now. They can put their best effort into it without having to rush.

13. Check out questbridge.org. Apply to the National College Match. In short, it's an opportunity to get a full ride to some of the top schools in the country such as Swarthmore, Rice, Vassar, University of Chicago, Columbia, and MIT. It all may sound out of reach and unrealistic, but it is isn't. QuestBridge is all about convincing you that you are capable of attending schools such as those listed, no matter what you've been told in the past.

National College Match applications will open in June and close September 27. I have far more information, so contact me. You can ask me questions regarding any of the thirteen points, and any other questions that pertain to the college and scholarship application process;

I will also be available to revise and edit your essays. You can contact me at vaskkon@gmail.com.

Big Turnout But Few Soccer Spots

by Kevin Henao

Boys' soccer team tryouts started in the first week of May and ended on June 8. There were 12 tryouts overall. Approximately 65 boys participated in tryouts, said Coach Ali, but there are only 25 spots available, 22 for players and 3 for goalies.

"I hold three spots open for freshmen because some freshmen may play really well," said Coach Ali. "Many students are trying out for the team. Even past players are trying out for positions again," the coach added.

Tryouts were held for six weeks, every Tuesday and Wednesday, according to Coach Ali. On Tuesdays, tryouts were

held in Astoria Park and on Wednesdays they were held in the Queens Voc gymnasium.

The official practice season will start on Aug. 18 and the official season will start on Sept. 8 or 9, according to the coach.

Unofficial practice will begin in the summer. Coach Ali said the team will be doing ball control, endurance, and passing drills.

They will also be scrimmaging to practice and build team chemistry according to Coach Ali.

While boys of any grade can be on the team, Mr. Ali said, "It would be nice to have a JV team because of the amount of students, but PSAL does not have boys JV soccer teams."

"Last season was disappointing. Some players

were not in condition and got tired easily. They also didn't communicate much with each other. They had good chemistry but they did not call anything," said Coach Ali. The team had an overall record of 5-6 with 1 tie, according to psal.org. "Playing in Division A is so much different and harder than playing in Division B," he said.

Senior Shop Profiles

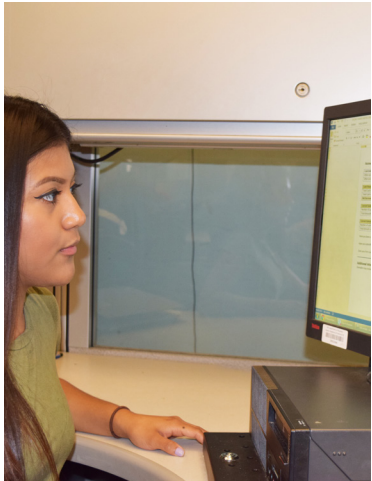
by Cosme Tellez

Teachers of senior CTE classes were asked to pick one student from their class who they thought was a hard worker, dedicated, and deserved to be recognized. The selected students were asked the following questions:

1. Why did you choose to pursue this specific major?
2. What stands out about this major compared to other majors?
3. What are some of the obstacles you have faced in your major?
4. Why do you think that your CTE teacher chose you?
5. Do you see yourself doing this in the future? Why or why not?

Alicia Lucero

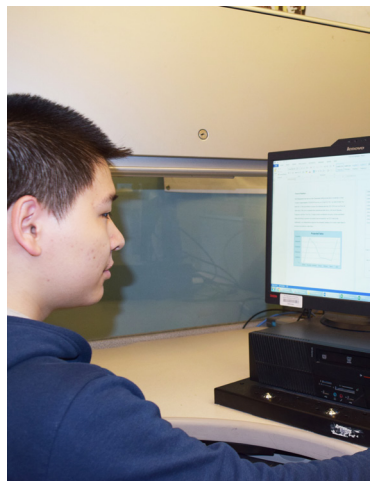
Business - Ms. Mitchell (afternoon)



1. I didn't like cosmetology and business is something that I will need in real life.
2. The information we get to learn like entrepreneurship and accounting skills that we can apply to our lives.
3. The accounting part of this major. It was a really confusing subject.
4. Because I am always on task and meet deadlines.
5. No I do not. I am not a business person, but it is useful.

Saite Chen

Business - Ms. Mitchell (morning)



1. I picked business because there are great opportunities in the business sector.
2. I like how Virtual Enterprise uses all my business skills and gives me real world experiences.
3. I have faced a lot of public speaking issues because I am shy and usually don't do well publicly speaking.
4. I got picked because I finish all my work on time and I show initiative.
5. Maybe or maybe not because

nobody knows the future.

John Ulloa

Business - Mr. Mugan



1. I was really into business and I thought it was a cool major to pursue.
2. You learn more in business like how to start your own business.
3. Accounting class was one issue because it involved a lot of numbers.
4. Because I carry the VE class a lot.
5. No I don't because I found it very stressful and I had struggles in accounting.

Caitlyn Padilla

Graphic Arts - Mr. Petrilli



1. I was interested in drawing since I was young.
2. The programs we work with such as Adobe, Photoshop, and InDesign.
3. Trying to pass the certifications. It took me a lot of tries to pass them.
4. Because my teacher thinks that I am a hard worker and put in a lot of effort.
5. Yes, I plan to work in the graphic design advertisement field in the future.

Edwin Diaz

Electrical Installation - Mr. Abreu



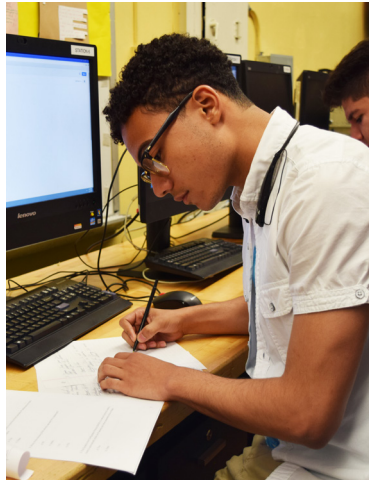
1. When I was in exploratory, EI

interested me the most.

2. It stands out because we get the chance to earn a lot of certifications to use when we go work in the field.
3. Not understanding certain topics because of the complexity such as EMT measurements.
4. Because I have the highest average in the class.
5. Yes, I plan to join Local 3 after high school.

Kevin Payano

C-Tech - Mr. David



1. I was really interested knowing how technology keeps advancing.
2. Getting to know the technology but in specific aspects like how we use our phones to text each other. Aspects like that spark my curiosity.
3. I have faced many problems like having to explain why components do what they do and having to find solutions to them, however I learned to face these obstacles thanks to my teachers.
4. My teacher chose me because of my professionalism, conduct, and attendance, and because I am determined to solve problems when they come about.
5. Of course yes, because even though technology is a generalized aspect, it's a very interesting path to follow.

Cindy Carangui

Cosmetology - Ms. Quartuccio (morning)



1. When I was applying to high schools I saw that Queens Voc had a cosmetology program, and the description interested me.
2. We have the chance to acquire a temporary license and can then apply for a permanent license that lasts for four years.
3. Taking in a lot of information like bacteriology, infection control, chemical services, etc.; it

required me to study a lot.

4. Because of the effort that I put into the theory of the cosmetology we learned and my effort into the practical work that prepared me for the NOCTI exams.
5. Perhaps as a temporary job, however, I don't think I would pursue a career in cosmetology, but cosmetology does help me with the career I do want, which is interior design.

Adalid Enriquez

Electrical Installation - Mr. Bowen



1. In my exploratory year, EI really interested me. Working on projects, when the light turned on it made me feel good because I know that I made something work.
2. We learn a lot of hard skills, and we have to be very precise with measurements and knowing where to put light fixtures. The feeling that I get from making a light turn on also stands out for me.
3. Bending pipe was challenging because if you didn't bend the pipe at the right angle, you would have to start the project all over again.
4. I believe that I am punctual, stay on task, and put in all of my effort into my work.
5. Yes definitely, I want to go into Local 3 and be an electrician

Ashley Cena

Cosmetology - Ms. Quartuccio (afternoon)



1. I thought Cosmo was creative and it sounded interesting and cool.
2. You meet some really cool and interesting people in the business that have all sorts of different styles.
3. Expressing myself doing hairstyles. I'll have something in mind but later I find out that I cannot execute it like I thought.
4. I believe that I am attentive and I take the class and all of my work serious.

5. Cosmo would be like a side thing that I would like to do later in life because you can start your own business.

Derek Toohey

Cisco - Mr. David



1. I picked Cisco because I wanted a challenge, and Cisco has really pushed me as a student. The more challenging, the more rewarding.
2. Nobody knows what we really do. We work behind the scenes and I like that mysteriousness.
3. If somebody has an issue connecting to the Internet, they tell us vague things about the issue, which makes it hard for us to troubleshoot.
4. I am a hard worker. I've had Mr. David for two years and I believe that I have shown great progress in that two year span.
5. Absolutely, what I want to do in college is cyber security and hope to become either a networker security engineer or a hacker.

Rene Espiritu

Pre-Engineering - Mr. Ali



1. I was planning to go to Cisco, but after learning what this shop had to offer, I decided to stay because it will help with my career in the future.
2. The certifications that we complete stand out. Mr. Ali also stands out because he is a great teacher and we aren't sitting around taking notes all the time. It feels like a college setting.
3. When Ali does lecture, getting the information is tough because there is so much information to be learned in pre-engineering.
4. Because I do all of my work and I'm not afraid to ask questions when I don't understand something. I also always look forward to what is next.

continued on next page

SUMMER FUN WORD SEARCH

SUMMER
by Andrea Zaavedra

V I S B D W B K Q K W Q I A I R F L U J V
M O N L F O A M O Z J Q H I F O C E A N I M
L K W Y L V U T C H S W R P Q V Y T V B C M
U S A G I C A H E P M C W X X R W P I X I X
D D C E P W N C B R O P W S Q X T F N M B U
N U O D F S W V A N M Q F N H A O R U W I
R F L W L B Z S D T I E V C L I L Z A Q U D
I K U A O O E I K Q I P L H L C I N C I P U
C B Q N P A T V B N O O Y O G C A M P I N G
G G N L S I S A M O I O N I N F B N Y S M W
Y H Y H O H S Z R N E V M L Z V J G E U L D C
C V O N W S Z R N E V M L Z V T U M U S U C
E R I J M I S G N G R S P Q C M Y M Q L J
E N X N M F N R N L V W E E G B T D F
G O T I U Q S O M W I A O B R O R P R P T E
A T H K S T I K M E T G R I C E C R E A M Z
A K N E S G M G E I M A N Z B H U Y L T U I
E N V U E N U J G H B O B I R O B L O K G
H A G Z M I Y A B R T D F I O T E V A W T B
W U H E G V L B J L I M X P A L K H J E U N
A J L U N I L J K M B Y E R C N X B L I I
U U H S C D C Y X W K P R N A R H K S Y O

AIR-CONDITIONING
AUGUST
BARBECUE
BEACH
CAMPING
CARNIVAL
DIVING
FISH
FLIP-FLOPS

GELATO
HOT
ICE-CREAM
JULY
JUNE
LOUNGING
MOSQUITO
OCEAN
PICNIC

POOL
SEASHORE
SUMMER
SUN
TOWELS
UMBRELLA
VACATION
WATERMELON
WAVES

Senior Shop Profiles

continued from page 15

5. Yes, I want to major in computer science or mechanical engineering. Pre-engineering is the basis for computer science and I am glad I chose it.

Thiaralyn Objio
C-Tech - Mr. Rodriguez



1. I was originally in graphic arts, but I realized that it wasn't my thing and I found interest in computers. It is something that always challenges me.
2. It is a major that is always advancing. It is always challenging you so you don't get bored with this major.
3. There is a lot of reading and a need of deeper understanding of the context.
4. My drive and dedication to this major are what makes me stand out in my class.
5. Yes, it is something I am good at and it really interests me. I am also interested in pursuing the cyber security field.

Jason Pineda
Electrical Installation - Mr. Maloney



1. My uncle suggested that it would be a good trade that would always stick with me.
2. You have to think a lot to figure out complicated electrical systems. A lot of math is also involved.
3. Studying for exams like GPRO, OSHA 30, and Copper certifications.
4. I push myself the most. I am constantly working inside and outside the classroom and I feel like I am a hard worker.
5. I see myself in the construction field, more specifically in plumbing. I want to have plumbing along with electrical installation under my belt.

Mr. Rivera, the senior plumbing teacher, declined to be interviewed for this article.

Congratulations
to all those students
selected by their
teachers for our shop
profiles articles!

Horoscopes

by Alissa Rivera

Gemini
(May 21- June 20)

As the school year is drawing to a close you are focusing more and more on what you want to spend the summer doing. You may want to work or get involved in your community. The important thing is to relax over the summer and try not to stress. You also want to make sure that you are still exercising your mind and trying new activities.

Cancer
(June 21- July 22)

Now is not a time to be all over the place. You need to keep a level head and think logically. Take a little extra time to think over the best course of action for a particular situation. Not thinking situations through can and will get you into trouble.

Leo
(July 23- Aug. 22)

Everything you do you do with your whole heart. This can cause you to overstress. Now is a good time to start winding down, take a step back, and take some time to focus on yourself. Remember you still have responsibilities and tasks that you need to accomplish. Make sure to use your time wisely, but also enjoy yourself.

Virgo
(Aug. 23- Sept. 22)

Lately you find yourself struggling to find motivation. Getting yourself to do what you need to do for school or work is hard. What you need to keep in

mind right now is how important it is to finish everything you start. Stay calm and remember there is a light at the end of the tunnel.

Libra
(Sept. 23- Oct. 22)

You recently made a big decision, but you have not been able to stop thinking about it. Now is not the time to second guess yourself. Go with your gut and remember everything can turn out the way you want it to.

Scorpio
(Oct. 23- Nov.21)

You will come into great fortune in the near future. Because of this you will be faced with tough decisions. Even though you will want to splurge on unnecessary materials, you should take the future into account. Keep in mind that good fortune can help you later in life.

Sagittarius
(Nov. 22- Dec.21)

This is a stressful time for you. You may not know how to handle it, but make sure that you don't let it overwhelm you. Take care of your spiritual and physical health. Remember to enjoy the weather and spend time doing the things that are important to you.

Capricorn
(Dec. 22- Jan. 19)

It is time to learn a new skill. New knowledge has the potential to present new opportunities. Take advantage of every new opportunity that comes your way. Remember to always see the possibilities and enjoy new experiences.

Aquarius
(Jan. 20- Feb. 18)

You recently made a mistake and you are trying to make amends with yourself and those around you. It is important to realize that you cannot please everyone. Take time to figure out what makes you happy before you focus on other people. Then maybe you can help those around you.

Pisces
(Feb. 19- March 20)

You have been focused a lot lately on physical appearance. Your stunning good looks will not get you ahead. You will soon discover that the most important thing in life is what lies below the surface. Be friendly and honest to those around you and you will prosper.

Aries
(March 21- April 19)

Lately you feel as though you are in a rush, unable to sit still. Maybe this is caused by a big event at work or school. Maybe you are just anxious. Whatever the case may be, now is a good time to take a deep breath and slow down. It is important to enjoy what is happening now and not worry so much about what is coming.

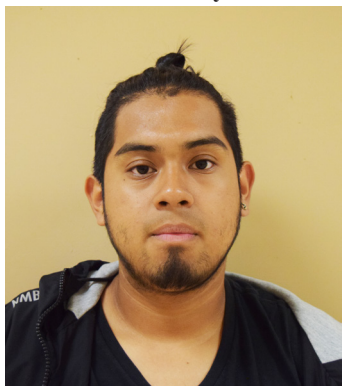
Taurus
(April 20- May 20)

The hardest thing in your life is breaking from the routine. You are tired of always doing the same thing. Routines are great for keeping your life organized but if you feel like you are in a rut, change it. Change the time you wake up or go to bed, or change the order in which you get ready for your daily activities. A change, no matter how small, can have substantial consequences.

SENIOR SPORTS PROFILES

compiled by Betsy Flores

Leivi Anaya



Boys' Varsity Handball
Years on team: 1

"Leivi is an amazing player and I wish he would've been on the team longer."
- Luis Bruno

"He has the most wins on the team this year. I wish he would have played on the team the last few years. He has great control of the ball."
-Coach Devaux

Wilfredo Villalba



Boys' Varsity Handball
Years on team: 1

"Wilfredo is a dedicated player and even when he loses a game, he comes back after failure."
-Johnny Tsao

"Wilfredo is on second doubles team. He's a very consistent player and he knows how to use the other team's weakness to his advantage."
-Coach Devaux

Juan Juarez



Boys' Varsity Handball
Years on team: 2

"Juan is a great asset to the team and a great motivator."
- David Romero

"Juan is a member of the first singles. He has really improved this year."
-Coach Devaux

Johnny Tsao



Boys' Varsity Handball
Years on team: 3

"Johnny is an excellent player. He motivates the rest of the team to play our best, just like he does."
-Juan Juarez

"He is the first singles player and one of the leaders of the team. He has great control of the ball."
-Coach Devaux

Luis Bruno



Boys' Varsity Handball
Years on team: 2

"Luis is a really good partner and player. When I start slacking, Luis makes sure I get back on my game."
-Wilfredo Villalba

"He is part of the doubles team that has been the key to the team's success this year."
-Coach Devaux

Jeffrey Varel



Boys' Varsity Handball
Years on team: 2

"Jeffrey has a lot of potential. He started off really strong in the beginning of the season and could possibly be one of the best handball players I know."
- Mauricio Valencia

"Jeffrey plays second singles and he is definitely the motivational leader of the team. He has great power and great court coverage."
-Coach Devaux

Mauricio Valencia



Boys' Varsity Handball
Years on team: 2

"Mauricio is a great player and could adapt to play with every player on the team."
-Eric Cabarcas

"Mauricio has really improved since last year. I wish I had him since the beginning of the season but he was inactive. He came back at the end of the season and helped us in the playoffs."
-Coach Devaux

Mauricio Bustamante (Captain)



Boys' Varsity Baseball
Years on team: 3

"Mauricio is a good captain. He works hard and without him the baseball team wouldn't function properly."
-Andy Velez

"Mauricio has been captain for three years. He's run all of our team's community service activities and he's made sure that we are prepared for practices and games. Mauricio has been a very dedicated team member and a good leader. And he smiled through it all."
-Coach Schimenz

Girls' Soccer Tryouts Start Early



Mr. Yu demonstrating how to dribble.

by Kevin Henao

tryouts was June 10.

Girls' soccer team tryouts started in the first week of May. There have been twelve tryouts since then. According to Coach Yu, approximately 50 girls have participated in tryouts for the 25-30 spots available.

Tryouts were held two times a week, every Friday and one other day in the week. The last day of

There were a lot of girls hoping to join the team next year, but there are not enough spots, according to Coach Yu. "I would like to have a bigger roster because of the enthusiasm but unfortunately there are not enough spots to allow many of the girls to join," Coach Yu said. "We also have a big group of returning players who will be seniors next year but they are not guaranteed spots on the team. They have to earn their spots just like everybody else," he added. Some of the returning players are Odalis Espinoza, Jackeline Guillen, Carol Morelos, Lesly Ramirez, Heidi Saquipulla, Kate Sosa, and Maria Vazquez.

Currently there is only a varsity team and girls of any grade are eligible. "It would be advantage to have a junior varsity for the younger girls. It would give them experience so they can join the varsity team later on," the coach said.

"When the practice season starts on Aug. 19, we will be training almost daily," said Mr. Yu. They will be doing drills, cardio, and playing scrimmages, he said.

"Last year was the team's first year and they performed pretty well," said Coach Yu. The team had an overall record of 5-2 including non-league games and one game not listed on the psal.org.

"This year's expectations are high with the goal of taking the division title and making the playoffs," added the coach.

Softball Finishes in 2nd



Arlyne sets her sights on the ball.

by Angelica Campos

The girls' softball team made it to playoffs with a record of six wins and six losses, in second place in their division.

The Lady Tigers were defeated in the first round of the playoffs by Queens High School Complex 19-13, on Monday, May 23, ending their season.

Ms. Poltawsky, the softball coach, said that it was disappointing to lose the game especially since she believed she had a winning team. With members who have been on the team for three to four years, she was confident she had a strong lineup, she said.

Coach Poltawsky said the Lady Tigers could have beaten their opponents because they were

familiar with the way that team played both teams were in the same division last year. "The opposing team had two strong hitters, they also had a strong offense and defense. From the jump we knew that it wasn't going to be a blowout game, it was a good game."

Senior Alicia Lucero said, "Both teams were at an equal stance and had an equal opportunity to win, unfortunately they were a better team at the end of that game."

Sophomore Arlyne Alfaro said the season, "was an exciting experience. The team did well through hard work and dedication. In our first game it became clear to the team that we could make it to playoffs and we did." Arlyne also said that the hardest game for her was against Newtown. She said that the team struggled because Newtown's pitcher was really fast. "If the whole team had been there for all the games and practices, we could have gotten further in the

playoffs," said Arlyne.

Coach Poltawsky said that the team faced a constant challenge throughout the season: absences of team members due to academics. "Without a full team at practice and games the team is not at its full capacity," she said. Captain Katelynn Santiago agreed, saying that the team's performance would have been better if there were no absences at games and practices.

Coach Poltawsky said, "We've grown together, the team is like a family."

Coach Poltawsky said that a challenge the team faces for the upcoming season is the loss of five seniors. "The seniors are the core of the team," said Coach Poltawsky. The lowerclassmen will have to step up their game. She also said that has considered the forming of a softball club prior to the season in order to get more students acquainted with the sport.



Flag Football Team Goes to Playoffs Finishes Regular Season 7 and 3



Flag football team poses with the mascot in spring pep rally.

by Jhostyn Gallardo

Queens Voc’s flag football team went to Randall’s Island on April 24, to play Graphics Campus in the first round of the playoffs. The Lady Tigers lost 19-6.

“Although we lost to a tough team, we gave it our best and that’s all one could ask for,” said Gabriela Sanchez.

Mr. Maloney, the athletic

director, coached for Mr. Garofano, who was out of state at an anti-bullying conference and could not attend the playoffs.

The team had record of 7-3 and placed 3rd in the league for the regular season, according to PSAL. “The two toughest opponents that we faced this year have been Queens Complex and Maspeth High School,” said Coach Garofano.

According to Mr. Garofano, “A team needs to finish with a record of .500 or above to qualify for playoffs. We ended up getting the 24th seed out of the 30 teams.”

According to the coach, the Lady Tigers worked hard this season through many scrimmages against each other in order to keep the girls competitive. Jennifer Cosme said “We had scrimmages almost every single practice, which

prepared us for the competition.” Kimberly Maldonado said, “We tried to schedule scrimmages against other teams but many teammates had jobs or school work to manage.”

Prior to start of games, practices were held in the school gym four times a week. Jordalin Ortega said, “I think many of the team members would have preferred practice on a field.” Kimberly agreed, she said, “We would get a better feel for how far we would need to move for plays to be executed correctly.”

Coach Garofano said, “My expectations for the Lady Tigers were for them to be competitive, advance, and make it to playoffs. They fulfilled those expectations and I am proud how far we got this year.”

According to Coach Garofano, “The two standout players this year were Xi Zheng and Dana Johnson. They provided strong offense throughout the year. They played a majority of the offense by catching most balls thrown to them and by scoring touchdowns.”

“Besides Xi and Dana, Paulette Baque also stepped up her performance,” said Andrea Zaavdera.

Xi agrees. “The most improved veteran was Paulette. I felt she was timid last year and now she became such an aggressive player

on the team,” she said.

Captains Andrea Zaavedra and Xi Zheng said they enjoyed their last season as captains. “The best part about being captain this year is having the opportunity to bond with the girls on the team and help each other work as one,” said Andrea. Taking up a leadership position was not easy for the captains. “One of the harder parts of being captains was attendance. Having the girls come to practice consistently and on time was difficult,” said Xi Zheng.

The seniors who will be leaving this year are: Paulette Baque, Beatriz Castro, Jennifer Cosme, Isabel Flores, Lizbeth Huitzil, Dana Johnson, Andrea Zaavedra, and Xi Zheng. The rest of the members expected to return next season are: Krismary Arorryo, Kate Lesli Canlobo, Beatriz Castro, Kimberly Maldonado, Vanessa Myroniuk, Jordalin Ortega, Gabriela Sanchez, and Ana Victorino.

According to Garofano, “Next year no-cut tryouts will be February. This will be an opportunity to assess players, collect parent consent forms, and collect medical forms. Regular tryouts will be in March.” The coach’s expectations for returning players and new players for next season are for them to be competitive.

Despite Loss of Players and Games Baseball Season Ends with Winning Record



Team members look sharp for their home opener.

by Anthony Chauca

The boys’ baseball team ended their regular season with a 9-7 record and they lost their only playoff game 4-3 against Metropolitan Campus.

After a six-game winning streak early in their season, the Tigers’ success rapidly declined when five players failed off as a result of the second marking period report cards. The team ended the season losing six games in a row and dropping from first to third place.

The third edition of the Voc Voice reported the tigers had a 6-1 record. Since then, the Tigers defeated Robert F. Wagner 6-2 and 13-1. Then they defeated

Chelsea CTE 5-0. The Tigers began a losing streak after their 12-6 defeat by Institute For Collaborative Education. They continued the streak, losing to Maspeth 14-4 and 11-1, Murry Bergtraum 7-5, Washington Irving 10-0, and Seward Park Campus 12-5.

“We started losing our games after five of our players, including our lead pitcher and catcher, failed off the team,” said Mr. Schimenz, the Tigers’ coach. “These kids were not the whole team, but their absence did impact the teamwork on the field,” he said.

“We went from a winning streak to a losing streak because the games we played got much harder as the schedule progressed.

We also took our winning record for granted and started to slack off during practice and on the field,” said Andy Velez, a senior who played as first baseman before failing off the team.

But success on the field—or the lack of success—wasn’t all the team could look back on. According to Mr. Schimenz, Mauricio Bustamante, a 3-year captain, received a \$2,000 scholarship from the Action Team, rewarding him for his service to the community. “I think what made me stand out the most was the baseball clinic that I helped organize. The clinic was for little kids and it became the basis for an Action Team public service announcement,” said Mauricio. The veteran baseball captain also coordinated the team’s participation in numerous Park Days and at the Poppenhusen Institute.

Continuing their community service work the team, along with the RoboTigers, took part in the spring It’s My Park Day on May 15, where they painted trash cans and helped prepare a meadow for the summer.

“Overall, we had a good season despite the second marking period fail-offs that doomed us. Maybe, just maybe, the boys learned the importance of keeping focused on school and the importance of doing what’s right for the team,” said Mr. Schimenz.

Varsity Handball Finishes in Second, Goes to Playoffs

by Xi Zheng

The boys’ varsity handball team faced Forest Hills in the first round of the playoffs on Thursday, May 12, and lost in a close match.

“We lost three matches to two matches,” said Coach Devaux. “We lost in the fifth and deciding match, 21 to 17.”

This was Coach Devaux’s first year taking the team to the playoffs as a coach.

“I didn’t know what to expect in respect to the other teams in other divisions. It was not only my first time but also the team’s first time in the playoffs. I could notice that they were a little bit nervous at the beginning. Once they started playing, they got better and played like their usual selves,” he said.

Senior Mauricio Valencia said, “The team did better than what was expected. I felt that we all surpassed Coach Devaux’s expectations for us.”

The handball team, ended the season with eight wins and two losses, in second place in

their division. The two losses came from their biggest rivals, Aviation. The rest of the teams in the division were Bryant, Arts and Business, LIC, and Newcomers.

“There were no captains of the team this year, however, I would say seniors Johnny Tsao and Jeffrey Torres were definitely the team leaders. They’re the veterans and have great leadership qualities,” said Coach Mr. Devaux.

The team consisted of 13 players: Leivi Anaya, Luis Bruno, Eric Cabarcas, Luis Guerrero, Juan Juarez, David Romero, Christian Tapia, Jeffrey Torres, Johnny Tsao, Jose Tufino, Mauricio Valencia, Michael Vasquez, and Wilfrido Villalba.

“Next year we will have only two returning players. Unfortunately, the team will not be able to feed off of the playoff experience this year.

I’m hoping that I learned a little bit so I can help the players be better prepared for next season,” said Coach Devaux, adding “next year, will be a rebuilding year with new players.”

***Tigers Sports
Continued Inside***