



Bringing Our Community Together

By cameron augi
staff reporter

On October 27, 2018 our lives were changed forever by yet another senseless act of violence. At the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, a man by the name of Robert D. Bowers opened fire on the congregation screaming anti-Semitic slurs during his rampage.

After this senseless act concluded, the city of Pittsburgh was devastated. Eleven innocent lives were taken by one senseless act. In this time of mourning, the city of Pittsburgh united as one to console each other and provide comfort.

While the city of Pittsburgh was gathered in unity, so was our own community right here in Plainview. On October 30, 2018, there was a service held at the Mid Island Y JCC to remember the eleven lives that were lost. But there was also a greater message that was relayed during the service. That message was love. During the service, multiple religious leaders spoke about spreading love, and loving one another no matter what and not spreading hate.

After the service was held, we spoke with Josh Henkel,

Stephanie Ozner, and Marlie Cohen, who work at the JCC. They all helped plan the event and made sure everything ran smoothly. At the service, nearly 3,000 people were in attendance with multiple religious leaders including rabbis, priests, reverends, and imams making speeches.

After the incident that occurred in Pittsburgh, I wondered if there would be any new security changes in response to the tragic events. According to Stephanie Ozner, Teen Program Supervisor at the JCC, "We are confident in the protocols and procedures we have in place, but we are constantly reviewing our security needs with our security consultants." For the past couple of years, the JCC has been greatly improving its security measures. For example, they have only one point of entrance and exit: the main entrance. Also, they have installed a multitude of security cameras all around the building. These are located in the main areas of the building including the main lobby, hallways where classrooms are located, and the exterior of the building.

Aside from security

and new protocols, I also asked people about their thoughts on the service as a whole. Josh Henkel, Camp Director, responded that he "thought it was very emotional and meaningful, showing the solidarity of our community with everyone coming together for one cause: to stop hate." Marlie Cohen, Director of Agency Programing, believes that "The unity and solidarity the community showed makes me proud. Together, we stand strong." Finally, Stephanie Ozner shared her thoughts on the service. She felt that "It was absolutely necessary. We need to remind everyone that we are one people and we are a community that needs to come together."

Along with talking to officials at the Mid Island Y JCC about the service, I also sat down with our very own principal, Mr. Murray, who was also in attendance. I asked him what his thoughts were about the service and he shared, "It was very well done and most appropriate. They incorporated song into the service as well as having different religious groups represented." As a principal of a modern high school, Mr. Murray "would like to get to know more students on a personal level." Mr.

Murray also said, "Standing in the front of the building and welcoming the students into the building is my favorite part of the day." In addition, I am interested in spreading love in our school. Mr. Murray mentioned that there has been a Kindness Club implemented in our school and they are working really hard to spread love and ensure that students in the school are comfortable within the walls of the school. He also said that a book titled "Happy Teachers Change The World" was given out to all the teachers in our school. The book is meant to encourage and teach teachers how to spread love and happiness to all students. Finally, Mr. Murray wants everyone to be part of the movement to spread love rather than hate.

After speaking with all these people following the tragic events that occurred in Pittsburgh, it is evident that we need to spread as much love as possible and as little hate as possible. With the service that was held, new clubs and programs being initiated in our schools, and with the help of our community, we can keep our community safe.

Kaitlyn Herman: From JFK to Big Brother

By zachary ferretti
staff reporter

The twentieth season of the reality television show "Big Brother" came to a close on September 26, 2018 when Arizona-native Kaycee Clark was named the winner and Tyler Crispin the runner-up. The show featured sixteen houseguests sequestered in a custom-built house under constant surveillance, by which one houseguest was evicted each week. Season 20 boasted a diverse group of houseguests, including a former Miss Missouri winner, a professional football player, a cybersecurity engineer from Boston, and most noticeably—a life coach born and raised in Plainview, New York.

Currently residing in California, Kaitlyn Herman is a 2012 Plainview-Old Bethpage JFK High School alumni and describes herself as personable, intuitive, and dramatic, according to "CBS." Throughout her four years in high school, Kaitlyn was actively involved in Choir and was a member of the acapella group "On A High Note." Her claim to fame began when she entered the Big Brother house on "Day 1" in June 2018 and immediately spearheaded a strong alliance which she termed "FOUTTE," or "Five of us Till The End."

She preceded to win Head of Household, the most powerful

position in the game, and infamously "back-doored" one of her alliance members due to his dwindling loyalty. Unfortunately, such a move put a target on Kaitlyn's back and she found herself up for eviction on "Day 31." Eight days later, Kaitlyn was evicted from the Big Brother House by a vote of 9-1. Yet a twist, called "The Bonus Life," gave Kaitlyn a second chance at the game if she completed a six-piece puzzle within two minutes and thirty seconds. Unluckily, the heat of the moment got the better of her and she failed to complete the puzzle, officiating her eviction. Kaitlyn continues to joke on social media about her newfound hatred of puzzles and she eventually reunited with the entire Big Brother cast on Finale Night.



SOURCE: CBS.COM/BIGBROTHER

Ever since, Kaitlyn's fan base has grown tremendously, earning her over 100,000 followers on Instagram and a countless number of sponsorships. Ultimately, Kaitlyn's notorious backdoor of "Swaggy C" and her failure to complete the puzzle will remain ingrained as some the best moments of Big Brother 20. It is for those reasons that I can speak on behalf of the entire student body when I say that we are proud to call Kaitlyn a Plainview alumni.

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WELCOME!

The Hawk Eye is
always accepting new
members and entries!
Please listen to the
announcements for the
time and locations of our
weekly meetings!
Thank you for reading!

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Homecoming 2018 Recap

By Atul gera
Opinion Editor
On Saturday, October 20, the Plainview Hawks Varsity football team defeated Long Beach with the score 22-0. Connor Healy ran for 92 yards and scored two touchdowns; Joey Pizutto ran for 127 yards and also scored a touchdown. These incredible efforts along with an interception by Aidan Shwom in the second quarter contributed to the victory.

At halftime, the crowd witnessed remarkable performances by the Plainview cheerleaders, the kickline team, and the marching band. All of their hard work and dedication paid off and the groups radiated their skill, talent, and Plainview pride on the field. This year, the marching band played "Immigrant Song" by Led Zeppelin, "Bicycle Race" by Queen, and "Eleanor Rigby" by the Beatles. Coming out of the 56th Annual Newsday Marching Band Festival, the band continued to play their best at Homecoming. "Those four-hour practices every Saturday really helped us to look and sound great in front of the crowd. I think our overall performance was amazing," said James Bak, a senior

in the band who played the marching snare drum.

Aside from the performances at halftime, winners for a raffle and a competition were announced. Spanish Honor Society raffled off 2 \$20 gift cards: one for Moes and

are all extremely knowledgeable about their inventory and can tell you the perfect gift for a child any age. Mr. Schumacher, the AP Human Geography teacher, won the MJ Beanz gift card.

Additionally, every year each

did Rice Krispies, and the Freshman Class chose Frosted Flakes. On Friday, October 19, the boards were displayed in the school lobby for faculty to vote for their favorite board. At halftime, the winners were announced as follows: Freshman were in first, Seniors in second, Sophomores in third, and Juniors in last.

Off the field, the Homecoming Village had a few changes from last year. First off, the parade started across Washington Avenue at the Plainview pool and then went around Mattlin Middle School to the track. Second, the village was set up right outside of the football field contrary to last year when all of the booths were either on the plateau or the soccer field for Mattlin Middle School.

Overall, Homecoming was a huge community success. Hundreds turned up to watch the Hawks take on Long Beach and to have fun with their friends and family. The village is definitely a POB tradition that will last for years to come and I can only imagine how many people will turn up next year.



Photo Credit- Mrs. Baum, the junior class of 2020 advisor.

another for MJ Beanz. MJ Beanz is a whimsical toy store, located in the Plainview Center, filled with games, toys, stuffed animals, and knick knacks for every age group. They have an amazing staff who

grade at the high school designs a homecoming board which they carry in the parade. This year, the theme was cereals. The Seniors chose Lucky Charms, the Juniors took Apple Jacks, the Sophomores

A New Way Of Tutoring

By emily chertoff
Co- Editor-In-Chief
Most times when you think about high school seniors tutoring, an image of a student sitting with another student reviewing for a test comes to mind. This year, The Plainview- Old Bethpage National Honor Society has implemented a new way of tutoring aimed at senior citizens: Senior To Senior Tutoring. This intergenerational tutoring program is linked with The Atria Senior Living in Plainview. Students have the opportunity to engage in learning with senior citizens of the community. This program has become a huge hit for our high school students and seniors at Atria.

Senior To Senior Tutoring was founded by Christina De Angelis, a senior at JFK and board member of National Honor Society. She felt that high school seniors can use their knowledge to help others outside of the high school. Christina participated in Grandpals in middle school and loved the idea of working with senior citizens. The Atria has had other intergenerational programs with middle and high school students, but this is the first tutoring program. Senior To Senior Tutoring began in September, with two successful sessions at the senior living center since its start. There is a session twice a month on the first two Monday's. Each session focuses on a different subject. The first session was math. It was evident that the seniors loved to test how much they remember about multiplying. Tutors and senior citizens completed a coloring worksheet together and after a group discussion was held. However, this program is not just about teaching Seniors. It also is about offering companionship and talking with the Seniors about their past experiences. The residents at Atria enjoy reflecting on their experiences and learning about the students who tutor them.

The other topics that are discussed are English, Social Studies, and Technology. For the English tutoring session there will be poems that residents can create and share with others. The Technology session will consist of using phones and setting up online accounts. The second Senior To Senior Tutoring program lesson was Social Studies. The session included more residents than the first, about 15 participated as well as 15 students. It began with reading articles related to current

events. It was followed by a group discussion about everyone's opinions about the topic discussed. Then, the residents were tested by a Kahoot on the tutor's phones. They were shocked by some of the answers and left the session feeling more knowledgeable.

I had the opportunity to speak with Nancy Wedlock, Senior Engage Life Director at Atria Senior Living. She has heard great feedback from the senior citizens who have attended the program lessons. Ms. Wedlock shared that "the residents really enjoy it. The posters and banners that [Christina De Angelis] has created are wonderful, the worksheets are great too." Christina De Angelis agrees that "this program is a great way to interact with the community. The high school seniors and senior citizens look forward to the tutoring sessions." Since this is a new program with only two sessions thus far, there is always room for improvement. Splitting the session between group activities and one on one tutoring may be beneficial. Some residents prefer one on one and some do not, so Ms. Wedlock feels that "splitting a session into both is terrific."

In addition to Senior To Senior Tutoring, Ms. Wedlock has other ideas that can be helpful to the residents. According to her, "it would be wonderful if the National Honor Society also had a once a month program called a "Lecture Series." It's endless what you can lecture on.... different topics, biographies on famous and historical people of the past, and also biography lectures on the game changers of today's times. The lectures could be on life-changing inventions, both current and in history. A lecture series is advantageous to both our residents and the students. Obviously learning new things is a great benefit to our residents. But for the students, the benefit is to exercise your skills in giving a presentation, public speaking, and speaking about things that you're passionate about." In the future, this may be a new program for the seniors. The National Honor Society welcomes any students interested in participating. Students can contact Christina De Angelis via pobtutoring@gmail.com. Senior To Senior Tutoring is just getting started!



Source: <https://www.atriaseniorliving.com>



Stepping up Security at POB JFK

By Miranda Cohen
Managing Editor

It's no secret that the school environment in our country has drastically changed and that our own Plainview Old-Bethpage JFK High School can easily be the next school to be shook by a school shooting. Schools across the country are seriously stepping up their security in order to ensure that their school isn't a victim of a terrifying violent act and our school is no exception. Mrs. Vanessa Barbone, one of our school's assistant principals, makes this clear when she says, "The fact that there's active shooters in the news regularly shows us that it's time to tighten things up." She continues to say, "In addition, we're working in consultation with Nassau County Police Dept. and responding to their recommendations on how to strengthen our security protocols." After sitting down with Mrs. Barbone, I was very impressed to see the hard work our school district's administration has put into making sure that each school building is as safe and secure as possible. According to Mrs. Barbone, our district has allocated several millions of dollars toward security enhancements.

From new additional security cameras placed around our school, Smart ID cards, one button lockdown notification and blue light system, NCPD daily school visits, and a RAVE Panic Button on designated staff member's phones, our school is definitely taking the safety of our students very seriously for this year and all future years. Recently, I was lucky enough to get the chance to sit down face-to-face with Mrs. Barbone and hear first-hand about all of these new updates to our school's security system. Here's what she had to say about this important topic after consulting with our Assistant Superintendent for Student Services and Safety, Mr. Donarummo.

Q: What new security measures has our school put into place this year?

A: At this point, we have upgraded and added additional security cameras with clearer pictures with the ability to zoom in. We have also added additional security personnel, increased lockdown drills, and a Health and Safety command center located in Mattlin which will be monitoring all security cameras in all the schools throughout the day, nights and weekends. Designated staff members have downloaded a specialized security app on their smartphones which has the RAVE Panic Button. When you open the app, you simply select which emergency is occurring. This was implemented in case a life or death emergency and provides direct communication with emergency personnel. Also, as a precautionary measure, the Nassau County Police Department will be visiting all of the district's schools every day to check in and make sure everything is as it should be. New Scholar Chip Smart ID cards were provided for students last week. The ID cards, worn during school hours, have the ability to monitor who leaves and comes into our building, student's attendance and off-campus privileges. Juniors and seniors who have off-campus privileges will use a "tap in and tap out" system when they come in and out of the school during lunch/off periods. If a student doesn't have off during the period that they want to leave the building, the system's device will turn red and make a loud noise. This month, the one button lockdown notification, and blue light system will be put into action. The buttons are located in large group areas and locations outside of the building to notify the public. When the blue button is pressed, an automated announcement announcing a lockdown is made over the loudspeaker, blue strobe lights go off in large areas and outside the building. It limits access to the building as well as contacts Nassau County Police Department. Eventually, new door locks will be installed in the high school that automatically lock after a set amount of time goes by, giving kids time to get back to their classrooms from the bathroom.

Q: Are there any security measures that will be put into place/installed later this year? If so, what are they?

A: Doors throughout the building will be replaced with keyless entry, connected to the one-button lockdown system. Windows will be replaced with a protective film that can withstand blunt forces and is shatter proof. A visitor entrance vestibule will be built that will require a screening prior to entering the building and relieve unnecessary visitations, like lunch drop offs and deliveries,

or parents dropping off forgotten items, like instruments or homework. The vestibule will be built at the current main entrance of the high school and will be an extra checkpoint, allowing parents to drop off things without having to actually enter the building. Finally, students will be able to download an Anonymous Reporting App: Say Something, so that everyone has eyes and ears around the school. This encourages everyone to say something if you see something.

Q: Does the new security initiative include installing any security devices in the school?

A: Yes, when we initiate the one button lock down, which we'll use when we drill, the automated announcement will sound, the blue lights will strobe, and card access will be disabled. We installed additional cameras, a new notification button on walls, and the blue light devices that communicate in and out of the building. For example, if students are outside for gym class, they will see the blue lights in case they can't hear the announcement from their location. Staff will be able to communicate through radios in these cases as well.

Q: What is the school's order of operations when a student is caught vaping in class?

A: Just like anything that violates our school's code of conduct, there are consequences. Vaping is considered an inhalant and drug paraphernalia. Our code of conduct states on page 21, #12, that "possessing, consuming, selling, distributing, or exchanging alcoholic beverages or illegal substances, or being under the influence of either..." "Illegal substances" include, but are not limited to, inhalants, marijuana, cocaine, LSD, PCP, amphetamines, heroin, steroids, look-alike drugs, and any substances commonly referred to as "designer drugs." All in all, no matter what toxic substance exists inside of a vape pen, it violates our code of conduct and the student will be given consequences from the Principal, Mr. Murray.

Q: What security measures has our school had over the years?

A: Three years ago, the front door of the high school remained unlocked during the school day. Fast forward to today, we have implemented locked front doors, added additional technology at front desks so visitors can be monitored, implemented new radio systems, and added additional security staff and security rounds. Our new radios can connect directly to central offices in Mattlin where Dr. Lewis is located. There, they can see security cameras from all of the schools in the district. Also, the radios can connect directly to whom you are trying to communicate with using various stations. This ensures that not all stations can hear everything. Our security system has changed tremendously.

Q: What do you think the future looks like for our school's security?

A: We are going to strengthen and reduce access to our entry points to the building, which means building the entry vestibules. We will also install wireless lock system on classroom doors, where an administrator can press one button and all classroom doors will lock. This will further automate a lockdown process. Lastly, we will also look to install the security film on the outside of windows. This film will be shatterproof.

Q: Who is heading up the new security initiative?

A: Many are involved. This is a community conversation with involvement from the board, administrators, community members, the police department, students, and staff.



Photo Credit: Miranda Cohen

National Merit Semifinalists

By: Eshwin Varghese and Ben pollard
co-editor-in-Chief and news editor

In late September, four POBJFK students were recognized for their outstanding performance on the Preliminary Student Aptitude Test (PSAT), and were titled as semifinalists in the National Merit Competition. Saurav Bhasin, Gabby Calderon, Avery Girsky, and Mitchell Indek were semifinalists among the 1.6 million students across the country who also tried to achieve this prestigious honor. In order to become semifinalists, students must have taken the 2017 PSAT, which includes a reading, writing, and mathematics component, similar to the SAT. The PSAT is practically a carbon copy of the SAT which is why it is vitally important to take the PSAT. Semifinalist Avery Girsky said, "It means a lot to me in two ways. First I am really happy that I have the chance to be awarded a scholarship for college, even at a small value, because any amount of money can help. Second, it feels great to be recognized for my efforts!"

It is to be noted that the PSAT is not only offered to juniors, but also to sophomores. Although eligibility for the National Merit Competition is only awarded to juniors, it is still highly encouraged that sophomores take the PSAT as well. There are numerous benefits to taking the PSAT sophomore year. For example, taking the PSAT during sophomore year will lead you one step closer to qualifying for the National Merit Competition in your senior year. The score you receive on the PSAT in 10th grade can determine where you are in the world of the College Board and can help outline your strengths and weaknesses to do better on APs, the PSAT during junior year, and the SAT itself. Personally, after taking the exam in my sophomore year, I feel more assured and prepared for the SAT exam. In addition,

semifinalist Gabrielle Calderon emphasizes the advantage it had for her: "My experience is that the PSAT is more important than people assume. It gives many an incredible opportunity for scholarships and an outstanding award to add to one's resume. The score from the PSAT can give students a baseline on which skills need improvement. Every sophomore or junior should take the PSAT." Even though the PSAT is not a determining factor in the college admission process, it may be something that current sophomores and juniors want to consider.

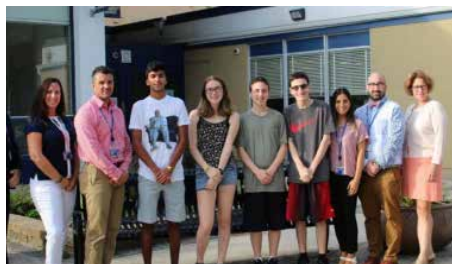


Photo Credit: Pobschools.org

Plainview Old-Bethpage JFK Kickline Team

By jordana luther
staff reporter

Plainview Old-Bethpage John F. Kennedy High School's Varsity Kickline team has greatly improved since its start two years ago. Coached by Mrs. SanFelippo, the team of seventeen girls made their school debut at the pep rally on Friday, October 19. They worked hard and practiced five days a week since the beginning of school to create a dance routine that would wow the crowd. The dance included a series of kicks, a section using pom-poms, and complex choreography.

This is the first year that the team is doing a fall and winter season. They did this so that they would have more time to practice and perfect their routines in the fall before the kickline competitions begin in the winter. In the previous years, the team had started in the winter, performed at Boys' Varsity Basketball games, and competed in multiple competitions. Last year, the team attended the Scholastic Kickline Competitions at Nassau Community College and another competition at Valley Stream North High School. They have taken

home the first place trophy once, the second place prize twice, and third place. The team plans on taking home more trophies this coming season. This winter, the team plans on attending the Scholastic competitions again.



Source: Aya Karimealaoui, Yearbook Photographer

Mrs. SanFelippo tries her best to reserve the gym for the team to practice their spacing and routine. The hard work and dedication that the team has put in has most certainly paid off. After their performances at pep rally and homecoming, everyone was talking about how impressive their dance routine was. The kicks were in sync, the girls' turns were smooth, and the energy was high. This is why many girls have already made clear that they are interested in joining the team for the winter season. The

team is expected to continue to grow and improve each year and the student body can't wait to see more of the POB Hawkettes!

Freshmen Guide To High School

By alyssa iryami
Advertising representative

Dear Freshmen,
Welcome to high school! I know, I'm a few months late, but late is better than never. Hopefully, the first two months of adjusting have gone smoothly and I'm sure you already feel like a pro, but here's some high school advice, from a senior:

Get involved: Join any club you find relatively interesting, attend the meetings, and see if it is for you! I have always loved to write and the only club that offered a creative outlet for writing my freshman year was the school newspaper. I have been writing in each issue ever since and always enjoy coming up with new article ideas. Sorry for that shameless plug.

Regret nothing: These are some of the four best years of your life. I know you may doubt me but trust me, you will find close friends and everything that happens during these four years will have a significant impact on your life. Don't regret any classes, friendships, nights out, etc.

Manage your Time: No I'm not talking about procrastination (that's later). It's important to have a balance of academics and so-

cializing. You should dedicate time to studying and doing well in your classes, but also make sure you leave time for your friends and take breaks from working.

Procrastination: Everyone procrastinates. You're not alone. It took me years to figure out a way to stop... or at least to procrastinate less. For me, I go home and go straight to a place to work, that is not my room, put on some good music, grab a snack, and do my homework. The worst thing you can do is put on one episode of your favorite TV show, because we all know how that turns out. Good luck! If you start trying now it'll be easier to continue later.

That's all I have for today. I hope this helped! Cherish high school because it goes by faster than you think.

Losing Faith in the Fairness of the SAT

By: alison chertoff
staff reporter

An important part of the college admissions process is a student's SAT score. Students study for months often spending hundreds of dollars for tutors and review classes. College acceptance is extremely competitive and your score on the SAT can determine your future. The SAT is created by The College Board. This is a non-profit organization that takes responsibility for the integrity of the SAT. However, the August 25, 2018 exam left many students uneasy about the fairness of the exam.

Apparently, the August 2018 exam was the same one administered last year in China and South Korea. Versions of the test were available on the internet for months and some students had seen the questions and answers prior to the August test date. According to The College Board, some tests are released as practice exams and some are kept secret for future use. Unfortunately, a test that was not supposed to be re-released was given again. The College Board has not admitted that the test was a repeat citing "security reasons." There is no way to calculate how many people saw the test in advance. In addition, there is no way to determine how many students were cheating by searching for the exam on the internet and those honestly searching for practice questions. The burden should not be placed on students, but rather, College Board should take responsibility for the equity of the

exam given to all test takers.

What's more concerning is that this is the second time in recent months that the fairness of the SAT has come into question. In the June 2018 exam, questions were so easy that the grading had to be adjusted so that even getting one or two questions wrong caused students to lose many points. Believe it or not, it has become a trend for colleges to eliminate the SAT or ACT requirement. According to FairTest, 1,116 degree granting institutions nationwide are "test optional" or "test-flexible." This may gain more popularity as the integrity of standardized tests become questionable.

A petition to invalidate the August exam was started by students who believed that the scores of the students who had seen the test will lower their scores due to an imposed curve. No information was reported on the final determination of the August 2018 exam.

The College Board needs to stop reusing test questions or have better security, so this does not happen again. The college admissions process is already stressful enough. Students should not have to worry that the person taking the exam next to them may have already seen the test questions and potentially take their spot at the college of their dreams.

The Kavanaugh Hearing

By: michael de angelis
staff reporter

The Kavanaugh/Ford hearing conducted the Senate was available to the public so that the entire country could review the accusations of sexual misconduct by a federal official. Brett Kavanaugh was accused by Christine Ford of sexual assault that allegedly occurred approximately 35 years ago when they were teenagers in high school. Ms. Ford reported that she was plagued for many years with the memories of this assault.

Ms. Ford went to Senator Feinstein with her allegations because she did not want a judge with a history of sexual misconduct to become a Supreme Court Justice. However, Senator Feinstein did not immediately report this information to the FBI for an investigation. The delay in reporting this alleged wrongdoing prevented the potential for a full investigation. Information that was provided by Ms. Ford was not verifiable. She was unable to provide certain information regarding the alleged incident. For instance, she could not remember an exact date, time, or location. Nevertheless, when questioned with the use of a polygraph, she truthfully identified Ka-

vanaugh as the assailant. It was believed by supporters that Ms. Ford suffered from a post-



Photo Credit: www.theglobeandmail.com

traumatic stress disorder and this prevented her from being able to recall specific details. When the story about Mr. Kavanaugh became available to the public, other women came forward accusing Mr. Kavanaugh of also sexually assaulting them. There were also stories of Mr. Kavanaugh excessively drinking alcohol. That being said, these alleged incidents were not substantiated.

Mr. Kavanaugh adamantly denied Ms. Ford's story of alleged misconduct. Moreover, witnesses that Ms. Ford said were present during the proposed incident could not verify her

recollections. This rendered the Senate and the general population incapable of accurately deciding on a verdict. The Democrats in the Senate requested an FBI investigation. Despite opposition by the Republicans in the Senate, President Trump ordered the FBI to investigate. The investigation had a time limit and was limited to only the alleged sexual assault that Ms. Ford said occurred over 35 years ago. After approximately a one week investigation, the FBI was unable to dis-over any sexual misconduct on the behalf of Mr. Kavanaugh.

In the end, the findings and recollections were not sufficient enough to prohibit Mr. Kavanaugh from joining the Supreme Court. Ultimately, Mr. Kavanaugh was confirmed by the Senate to become a Supreme Court Justice despite much resistance from democratic constituents and widespread demonstrations. This public display of fighting, ridicule, and hatred only served as an example of how divided this country is. I am uncertain if the word "united" is synonymous with our country.

Plainview Welcomes its New Starbucks

By: Brianna Rogers and Maria Nicolaou

A new Starbucks opened in August, 2018 in Country Pointe Plainview. This new Starbucks is only about a five-minute drive from the high school which would seem to be great for those who have an off period. But is the new Starbucks as great as you may think?

Studies have shown that 83.2% of teenagers drink caffeine daily. Teens think that this helps them stay awake and focus during school hours, but is this really true? Drinking caffeine before school may keep students awake, but the side effects keep them from paying attention and performing well on exams. Side effects include anxiety, jitteriness, sleep problems, nervousness, increased heart rate, gastrointestinal disturbances, and sometimes even death. A reasonable amount of caffeine intake per day is about 24 oz., or 250 mg. Starbucks' largest size, known as the trenta, exceeds this amount of caffeine. Even though most people don't order this size and therefore don't exceed this amount of caffeine in their one drink, it's the fact that students and the general public choose to go to Starbucks (or other coffee serving shops) multiple times a day. This is where drinking caffeine can become

dangerous. Starbucks said that they are not allowed to give interviews, so we decided to email the company. We emailed once to the help center and they directed us to the press section of their company. It took a total of three tries to stop getting automated responses from Starbucks. They wrote back to us stating, "Starbucks is always looking for great locations to better meet the needs of our customers, and we are happy to confirm that we opened a new location on 1401 Old Country Road in Plainview, NY, in August." Since we were not able to get an interview or any of our questions answered via email, we decided to go there ourselves to see it for the first time.



<https://www.yelp.com/biz/starbucks-plainview-3>

As we walked into the location we noticed how clean it was as well as the music that was playing throughout the store. In addition, the location seems pretty big with large tables that students can study from if they choose. In the first ten minutes, about ten people from the Plainview School District entered Starbucks. It was here where we sat down to write this article. Starbucks welcomes everyone to enjoy their holiday drinks, but remember to be conscious of your caffeine intake!

Benefits of Chess Club, New in POBJFK

By Michael Khalfin
Staff Reporter

Tournament chess is made up of three major characteristics. First of all, tournament chess is timed with a clock, so that each player has X amount of time to make all their moves. Sometimes, players gain extra time after they reach a certain amount of moves, or each move starts with an extra X seconds bonus. Secondly, tournament chess is touch-move, meaning that players have to move a piece after touching it; additionally, the move ends after players put their pieces down. Third, in tournament chess, the games are notated by each of the players so that officiators can look back at the games in case there is some sort of discrepancy. Generally, players also keep track of their games and review them afterward using online software, books, or they review their games with other players.

Chess club meets every Tuesday and Thursday in the cafeteria. If chess interests you, stop by and check it out. Even if you have never played chess before, you can learn and play new people at your level; or your friends can come and you can play together.

Score is kept in one big document that can be accessed by joining the google classroom. Students can play their games during the day if they want, and then record their scores there. Come and check out the club for more information!

1. Chess activates the right side of your brain, sparking creativity and strengthening problem-solving skills.
2. It has been known to prevent Alzheimer's disease and treat schizophrenia.
3. Supposedly, chess optimizes memory improvement and raises one's IQ. We all know how that can be helpful in school.



Photo Credit: <https://www.caspercollege.edu>

Introducing The POB Discovery Lab

By Ryan Kim
Staff reporter

At the start of the 2018-19 school year, the Plainview-Old Bethpage school district introduced the POB Discovery Lab. This new and interactive system in the elementary schools allows young students to gain insight through collaborative, hands-on experiences.

Located in the Stratford Elementary school, this lab is open to all Plainview elementary schools. The POB Discovery Lab is also open on Thursdays and Fridays, of which classes from each elementary school, alongside their teachers, are given an assigned date to explore twice a year. Mrs. Stephanie Yohe, the advisor of the program, states that the lab provides students with an "interactive lesson" that very much equates to that of the field trip experience, but with our own resources. Therefore, students are given the opportunity to conduct hands-on, course related labs within an exciting, new academic environment, providing deeper and more interactive understanding of what they learn in their regular classrooms.

Since the Discovery Lab first opened last month, more than 30 classes have visited the program. This indicates that over 700 students have begun their educational journey, which combines education and demonstration. Not only is this beneficial for the students, but also for the future, as the POB Discovery Lab is

anticipated to proceed for years to come. The students are not only provided with a new educational system, but are also more thoroughly equipped to take on middle school and high school.



Photo Credit: Pobschools.org

The MLB's Final Stretch

By ben diamond
staff reporter

The season is in its final stretch and there's no surprise that the final games are between the Boston Red Sox and Los Angeles Dodgers. Since day one, the respective teams have been dominating the league due in part and to their outstanding lineups and amazing pitching staff. At the beginning of the season, the Dodgers didn't look great. They started off a bit shaky. As the trade deadline approached the Dodgers made better and better trades, eventually picking up two key players along the way, Manny Machado and Brian Dozier. After the Dodgers acquired these two players, it was pretty clear that they would make it all the way to the World Series.

Fast forward to October 23. Game 1 of the World Series. Dodgers vs. Red Sox. Game one was more offensively

heavy, for the Red Sox who managed to pull out an 8-4 victory. Sale didn't have his stuff but neither did Kershaw, and the Dodgers lineup couldn't hit the Red Sox bullpen. Game two played out in a similar fashion with the Red Sox emerging victoriously.

When the Red Sox took to the west coast, the World Series remained intense. Game three took a whopping 18 innings and over seven hours to complete with the Dodgers gaining the victory. Unfortunately, this would be the only victory the Dodgers would achieve. Two days after the 18 inning marathon, the Red Sox won game five by a score of 5-1. They took the World Series title with them.



The New York Knicks Bright Future

By Jake Feldman
Sports editor & treasurer

POBJFK Knick fans are more optimistic about the upcoming basketball season when compared to past seasons. With the new additions of rookies Mitchell Robinson, Allonzo Trier, and Kevin Knox, the Knicks appear to be in the contention for making the playoffs. The team also added Mario Hezonja as a free agent with the hope that he may help contribute to the Knicks' new roster of young core athletes. During the summer league, Kevin Knox was the fourth highest scorer averaging 21.3 points per game. Mitchell Robinson led the summer league in defensive blocks by averaging four per game. In addition to adding all of these great young players to the team, the Knicks office hired a new coach, David Fizdale, who many analysts and students believe could help lead the Knicks to victory. David Fizdale earned praise from many other top coaches and players in the league, such as LeBron James and Steve Kerr. Fans are hopeful that he will help to modernize and rejuvenate the entire franchise. Many POBJFK students are eager for the start of the season and are pepped to wear Knicks apparel to school. It will be exciting to see how the

Knicks perform when star player Kristaps Porzingis returns from his injury. Basketball can be an unpredictable sport and you never know what may happen to players on the other top opposing teams. With the team possibly signing a star player next summer, the team's prospects of winning in the future appear to be quite realistic.



Photo Credit: NY Post Charles Wenzelberg

Badminton Team

By brody girksy
staff reporter

In their second year, the POBJFK Boys Varsity Badminton team has caught the eye of almost everyone in the school. This is of no surprise as the team, led by senior captains Josh Martin, Dennis Wang, and Daniel Dossie, went undefeated and are conference champions! How could they have done so well in only their second year?

Well, Mason Garvey, a freshman on the team, says that "The team has put in a lot of hard work and dedication. We're doing a great job and there is not a single player who contributes to the team's success, it's everyone. We win as a team and lose as a team." The team practices for two hours Monday through Saturday. The first hour of their practice is devoted to building up stamina with a 1-mile run followed by wall-sits, and conditioning on the court with

drills to perfect the team's footwork, technique, and skill. The second hour is when the team plays practice matches not only to test freshly learned skills but also to see what needs more work. The badminton team has one of the most challenging practices in the high school, which has definitely contributed to their success.



photo credit: @pobbadminton twitter

Coming off a 6-1 win against Long Beach on October 22 certainly feels good. After a grand tournament on October 26 at Bellmore JFK, seniors Daniel Dossie and Matt Coleman were awarded All-County Doubles Players. Unfortunately, they were defeated in the playoffs but will come back stronger than ever in their third year.