With proud parents, siblings, friends, teachers, administrators and members of the Board of Education in attendance, the 207 members of the Shoreham-Wading River High School Class of 2018 received their diplomas during the 42nd commencement exercises on June 23rd.

Words of wisdom and congratulatory remarks on the accomplishments of the students were offered by Superintendent of Schools Mr. Gerard Poole, Principal Mr. Frank Pugliese and Wildcat Athletic Club President Mr. Ed Troyano and set a tone of pride for all the graduates.

Valedictorian Christian Wesselborg and salutatorian Calvin Schmalzle also addressed their fellow classmates with inspirational words of encouragement and gratitude for family and the close-knit school community.

Special moments during the ceremony included graduates Jack Flatley singing the national anthem and Victoria Holden signing the lyrics for the audience, and Alexandra Meli’s final song of her high school career – her exceptional rendition of the “Hercules” anthem, “I Can Go the Distance.” Special recognition was also given to band teacher Mr. David Minelli for his years of working with the students in the District, and those in attendance wished him well in his retirement.

Before conferring the diplomas on the students, Mr. Pugliese left them with H. Jackson Brown Jr.’s inspirational quote: “Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things you didn’t do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails.”

From the entire Shoreham-Wading River school community, congratulations and best wishes to the Class of 2018.
Calvin Baddeley

Salutatorian
Headed to: Clark University
In pursuit of: a degree in mechanical engineering

Calvin is both an exceptional student who represents the high-level student achievement and outstanding preparation. Congratulations to the following college-bound student-athletes:

Ethan Bostick - SUNY Buffalo
John Bichler - SUNY New Paltz
Caleigh Capik - SUNY Purchase
Rick Cavatorta - SUNY Old Westbury
Copper Cummings - SUNY Old Westbury
Sasha Dry - SUNY Orange
Jenna Friedman - SUNY Orange
Valarie Facini - SUNY Orange
Jillian Kohlhaas - SUNY Orange
Ryan Ledda - SUNY Orange
Dana Lombardo - SUNY Orange
Matt Moran - SUNY Orange
John Pardini - SUNY Orange
Wesley Fong - SUNY Orange
Matt Ross - Adelphi

NextstepsforSWRAthletes This District is proud to recognize 17 senior student-athletes who were honored in the High School’s 2018 College Commitment ceremony for continuing their academic and athletic accomplishments at the collegiate level in the fall. Surrounded by proud parents, coaches, and friends, the festive celebration highlighted the District’s high level of student achievement and outstanding preparation. Congratulations to the following college-bound student-athletes:

Ethan Bostick - SUNY Buffalo
John Bichler - SUNY New Paltz
Caleigh Capik - SUNY Purchase
Rick Cavatorta - SUNY Old Westbury
Copper Cummings - SUNY Old Westbury
Sasha Dry - SUNY Orange
Jenna Friedman - SUNY Orange
Valarie Facini - SUNY Orange
Jillian Kohlhaas - SUNY Orange
Ryan Ledda - SUNY Orange
Dana Lombardo - SUNY Orange
Matt Moran - SUNY Orange
John Pardini - SUNY Orange
Wesley Fong - SUNY Orange
Matt Ross - Adelphi

Top Moment for Top 10 Percent This year, in addition to the two top students in the Class of 2018, High School Principal Frank Pugliese named the top 10 percent of the graduating class. This is an honor, based on academic performance by his hard work and dedication, honored by Mr. Pugliese, Superintendent of Schools Gerald Poole and the Board of Education.

Mr. Pugliese noted that often a difference of a few hundredths of a point is what defines the top students, and he wanted to be able to confirm this for their families. This year, in addition to the two top students in the Class of 2018, High School Principal Frank Pugliese named the top 10 percent of the graduating class.
Prodell Middle School’s graduation was an evening to celebrate the achievements of the eighth-graders who will enter the High School in September.

The moving up ceremony was packed with proud family members, teachers, administrators and members of the Board of Education. After a welcome by Principal Mr. Kevin Vann, dozens of students were recognized with Outstanding Achievement Awards in subject areas, Principal’s Awards and Presidential Awards for Educational Excellence. The students were then presented with middle school certificates, marking their transition to high school.

The ceremony also included a slideshow of student highlights. After the acknowledgements and words of wisdom, the festive evening for the students continued in the elaborately decorated gymnasium for a Paris-themed dance to celebrate their success.

Notable Scholars

33 students were named Advanced Placement Scholars.

181 scholarships and awards were presented to graduating seniors.

176 students will continue their studies at some of the nation’s top colleges and universities.

4 students will serve our country in the military: one in the Air Force, one in the Marine Corps and two in the Navy.

A Celebration of Achievements

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181 scholarships and awards were presented to graduating seniors.

176 students will continue their studies at some of the nation’s top colleges and universities.

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Notable Scholars

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The ceremony also included a slideshow of student highlights. After the acknowledgements and words of wisdom, the festive evening for the students continued in the elaborately decorated gymnasium for a Paris-themed dance to celebrate their success.
**Message from the Superintendent**

Dear Shoreham-Wading River Community,

On behalf of the Board of Education, I would like to congratulate the students and families of the Class of 2018! This is an amazing class and I know they will accomplish great things in their lives due to the foundation provided to them by our wonderful community and schools.

Our District’s history and tradition of academic and athletic success, commitment to creativity in music and the arts, and educating the whole child were again fully realized this academic year. At the helm are our committed Board of Education whose members wholeheartedly grasp the importance of persevering and collaborating for a common goal: the intellectual, physical, emotional and social development of our students. Academically, our students have excelled across all content areas, our fine arts program continued to thrive, and our student-athletes have all shown us their commitment to our outstanding programs and offerings.

As we forge ahead in this new school year, we will continue to enhance the stellar, enriching educational program that serves as the foundation of all our future graduates. Our 2018-19 budget will enable our District to maintain all current programming and enhance student offerings, including such initiatives as seven new High School electives, expanded extracurricular clubs and a new math program for our younger students. Our bond projects at both the Middle School and High School will continue over the summer – updates can be found on the Bond Update page of the website and to the right – and a five-year strategic planning process that emphasizes the learning needs of all students will also commence in August.

The future is surely bright for Shoreham-Wading River and I wish you all a happy summer!

Sincerely,

Gerard W. Poole, Superintendent of Schools

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**Progressing Along With Renewal Projects**

As the Shoreham-Wading River bond work progresses, the District is pleased to report on finished projects, including roof reconstruction, additions and alterations at our elementary schools, athletic field lights, construction of the synthetic turf field, tennis courts, corridor lockers and the Middle School track.

The summer months will include replacement of the Districtwide phone system, and window and door replacement at both the High School and Middle School. Additional work is underway at Prodoll Middle School including interior alterations and additions such as a new cafeteria, library renovations, additional parking and office renovations. The High School auditorium is scheduled to have new seating installed and the High School locker rooms and gym bleachers are being replaced.

Please be sure to visit our webpage to see updates and photos of the work progressing.

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**Virtual Backpack**

For information on extracurricular events, local happenings, nature and sports camps, contests, fundraisers, outings, support groups and more, please visit the Virtual Backpack on the left side of the homepage.

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**Like Us on Facebook**

To keep up to date on District news, events and announcements, please be sure to visit our website regularly and “Like” us on Facebook. The District’s official Facebook account is discoverable @SWRSchools.