



The Bulletin Board

News from the Hicksville UFSD

Dr. Ted Fulton Named SUPERINTENDENT OF HICKSVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS



The Hicksville School District Board of Education announced the appointment of Theodore (Ted) Fulton, Ed.D., as the next superintendent of schools, effective July 1. He succeeded Ms. Marianne Litzman, who retired at the end of the school year after 35 distinguished years of service in Hicksville.

"Our school community made clear to us," Hicksville Board of Education past President Brenda Judson said, "that our next educational leader needed to have a track record of experience and success in unifying diverse stakeholders around a vision and strategic plan, the ability to communicate effectively with all members of the school community, and the creativity to reimagine what success for all students might look like in our schools of the future. Throughout our interviews, Ted

continually impressed the Board with his energy, thoughtfulness and past success in bringing communities together."

Dr. Fulton joins Hicksville from the Bayport-Blue Point School District, where he has worked since 2017 as the assistant superintendent of curriculum and instruction. Additionally, he has served in leadership roles for several professional organizations, including immediate past president of the New York State Association of Supervision and Curriculum Development and active past president of the Long Island Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development. A former adjunct assistant professor of educational administration, leadership and technology at Dowling College, Dr. Fulton has presented his research at a variety of conferences and forums.

His professional experiences include serving as a social studies teacher, coach, assistant principal and principal in both Nassau and Suffolk counties. Dr. Fulton possesses a doctorate in educational administration from Dowling and master's degrees in both history and educational administration from LIU Post. Before attending LIU, he received a Bachelor of Arts from SUNY Cortland in history\secondary social

studies.

"I am excited and grateful to be appointed the next superintendent of the Hicksville School District," Dr. Fulton said. "I would like to thank Ms. Litzman for her dedication and service to Hicksville and wish her a prosperous retirement with family and friends. I look forward to continuing the traditions of excellence and opportunity in the Hicksville School District and will work tirelessly to serve our learning community."

Dr. Fulton is a former baseball and football coach and currently holds a first-degree black belt in the art of Shaolin Kempo Karate. Dr. Fulton and his wife, Jaime, are both lifelong residents of West Babylon, where they reside and raise their two children.





HICKSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

Class of 2023

Congratulations Graduates



Hicksville High School graduates made their way into the school's gymnasium on June 24 as "Pomp and Circumstance" played and cheers from family and friends filled the air. The commencement ceremony kicked off with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Principal Raymond Williams was the first to welcome the Class of 2023, offering peace and thanks to all. His welcome was followed by graduating senior Khristian Romano's rendition of the national anthem.

After the national anthem, Principal Williams began his remarks by telling the graduates they are resilient, adaptable and persistent. He acknowledged the strength and courage they showed as they persevered throughout their high school years with Hicksville pride.

Principal Williams asked the Class of 2023 to remember

"miracles are possible and miracles manifest when people remain strong and committed to improvement and treat each other well. You will create a better future, you will turn crisis into peace and defeats into successes, you will turn hate into love and will ensure that our nation remains on the right track."

He concluded his remarks by advising the graduates to live a life that is empowering to them, don't compare themselves to others, stay calm and know it's okay not to have everything figured out, and smile because life is short. "Be good to each other, Class of 2023," he said. "Onwards and upwards!"

Other speakers included honored guest Dr. Theodore Goldstein, 2023 Hall of Fame inductee; Board of Education trustees Linda Imbriale and Phil Heckler; and Class of 2023 valedictorian Michael Varghese, salutatorian Isabella

Diaz and student government president Wesley Kong. The students each addressed their classmates directly, reminiscing about fond memories made together, and shared good wishes as they move forward in life.

Valedictorian Michael Varghese told his fellow classmates they are all worthy of this day and the diplomas they were about to receive. "Graduates you have a bright future before you," he said. "Life is so short so there isn't room to waste time; live every day and be purposeful. I will be forever grateful for being part of such an outstanding school, and I will pray for its safety and blessings for generations to come."

When Superintendent of Schools Marianne Litzman spoke, she began with a warm welcome to the students and guests at the morning celebration. She expressed gratitude and appreciation

to all and extended a special mention to the PTA for its steadfast support always. The superintendent continued with words of wisdom for the graduating class and reminded them of all the things they've learned throughout their time in the district from those who taught them.

"Good people are always here; you can rely on them for small and important things," she said. "You are wished nothing but the best." She encouraged them to go in love and peace and bring their whole heart to all their celebrations and to everything they do.

After the speakers, the high point of the ceremony took place. Diplomas were presented to the Class of 2023, and each graduate received applause and cheers from guests as their name was called.



THE HICKSVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Administration Building
200 Division Avenue
Hicksville, NY 11801

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At the Top of Their Class

Valedictorian

Michael Varghese

Teachers and counselors would agree this year's valedictorian Michael Varghese is a very calm, centered and solid student known for his ability to excel without becoming stressed. He is admired for being grounded and comfortable and never swaying in his beliefs and convictions.

Michael was vice president of the Math Honor Society as well as an active member of several other honor societies at Hicksville High School, including the English, National, Social Studies and Spanish honor societies.

He was the president of Hicksville High School Christian Club for four years. Michael is devout in his religious beliefs and his strong faith allows him to be nonjudgmental and kind. Michael has an immense faith and attributes that to his mother, a pastor of their family-run church, First Door of Faith Church in Flushing, Queens.

Michael has been part of his church, which serves a population of older people, for years. He is on the church's leadership board, plays the drums and saxophone at mass, preaches occasionally, handles the church's social media account and designs its visuals. He enjoys volunteering his time for food drives organized and coordinated through the church as well.

After high school, Michael is interested in pursuing a career in computer science. He plans to attend Stony Brook University and hopes to become a product design engineer. Michael also looks forward to continuing supporting his church through acts of dedicated community service.



Salutatorian

Isabella Diaz

Isabella is a well-rounded student with varied interests. One of her passions has been the study of genetics. She was one of nine students who did research in the Partners for the Future Program at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory. Through this experience, she applied theory with hands-on experience in biomedical research and worked with a team that identified determinants of breast cancer initiation, risk and susceptibility. Her goal was to attain the expertise to develop techniques and cures and team up with other scientists across the globe. Her work has been cited and published in formal research papers, and she has presented her findings in a symposium setting.

Isabella was involved in numerous extracurricular activities and took on many leadership positions throughout her high school career, including Science Olympiad, Spanish Club, Science National Honor Society, and a member of Mu Alpha Theta, National English, National, Rho Kappa and Spanish honor societies. She also participated in the Astronomy Club, Equality Club and Frontline Christian Club.

She enjoyed participating in musical activities and was involved in numerous musical groups and ensembles, including Tri-M, the Wind Ensemble, Chamber Singers, orchestra pit, the St. Ignatius Spanish Youth Choir and the Oyster Bay-East Norwich Community Band.

Isabella is very compassionate, cares about others and looked forward to helping others whenever possible. She enjoyed being part of the high school's Natural Helpers Club and volunteered a lot of time as a peer tutor, in a hospital and a church.

She is looking forward to attending the University of Pennsylvania where she will study biochemistry. Her hope is to improve health care for minority and underrepresented communities.

