

# The Bulletin Board

News from the Hicksville UFSD

## Top of the Class 2019

Rohil Agarwal and Kate Cimino have maximized all opportunities available to them at Hicksville High School. As a result, they are the academic leaders of the Class of 2019. The district congratulates them and wishes all of our graduates best wishes for a happy, healthy and productive future.

**Rohil Agarwal,**  
*Valedictorian*

Rohil puts his all into every facet of his life, including his academics, his extracurricular activities and his friends and family. Mature, hardworking, focused and forward thinking are adjectives that have been used to describe him. Rohil was accepted into many prestigious colleges, ultimately deciding to attend Olin College of Engineering in Massachusetts.

In ninth grade, he was one of a few select students to attend the BOCES Doshi STEM program, which has inspired him to focus on engineering as his major course of study. He has since advocated for the addition of physics classes, including AP Physics C, a first-time offering at the high school. His interests outside of the classroom include robotics, Math Fair and numerous honor societies, including Math, National and Science. He also won a third-place award in the Long Island Science and Engineering Fair without having a mentor to guide him.

Rohil has volunteered through National Honor Society, assisted in charity events inside and outside of school and even helped a local CYO basketball coach run practices. He enjoys working with others and strives to make a difference in the world.



**ROHIL AGARWAL,**  
**VALEDICTORIAN**

**Kate Cimino,**  
*Salutatorian*

Kate consistently works hard in all areas of her life. Teachers, counselors and peers describe her as mature beyond her years, highly motivated, very talented and goal oriented. She also possesses a high level of personal integrity along with strong moral values and wonderful leadership and interpersonal skills.

In her senior year alone, Kate enrolled and excelled in five AP courses and has been a member of the National Honor Society, as well as Math, Science, Social Studies, English and Tri-M honor societies. An extremely talented musician, Kate is a five-time All-County selection for the clarinet, having played first chair. She also sang for the choir and achieved near-perfect scores at NYSSMA. Additionally, Kate is a natural athlete who achieved All-Conference status in soccer and also played softball, serving as captain of the JV team.

Secretary of the Class of 2019 Club, active member of the Ecology Club and volunteer at St. Ignatius Loyola are a few other titles Kate has embraced to lend a helping hand. She earned a Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation with Honors with Mastery in Math and Science Endorsement and will attend Adelphi University's Levermore Global Scholars program this fall.



**KATE CIMINO,**  
**SALUTATORIAN**

# Congratulations, Class of 2019!



Hicksville High School's 105th graduating class proudly marched onto McCormack Field to the tune of "Pomp and Circumstance," supported by the applause of beaming family and friends, to kick off the school's annual commencement ceremony June 22.

Principal Ray Williams used adjectives such as "talented," "hardworking" and "compassionate" to describe the Class of 2019 and reinforced the importance of upholding qualities such as discipline, pride and respect.

Nassau County Police Commissioner Patrick Ryder served as the keynote speaker, sharing how he served as student body president of his own graduating class and his personal stories of growing up, attending college and later ascending through the ranks of the police department.

"You define who you will be!" he reminded the class.

Salutatorian Kate Cimino applauded her classmates who have identified a career path but reminded others who have yet to decide that it is still early, and advised them to experience all that life has to offer.

"Embrace the uncertainty and explore the plethora of opportunities that are out there waiting for you, and your passion will find you," Kate said.

Superintendent of Schools Marianne Litzman spoke about the little extra "lift" that can make a positive difference in life – how the class members have lifted the spirits of their teachers and support staff through their growth and achievement, and how they have lifted one another.

"Remember to reach back to those who lifted you through childhood and adolescence," Ms. Litzman said. "Reach ahead to those who will lift you to higher levels of learning, working, creating, living and loving. And reach out to those who need a lift in spirit, a helping hand, a kind word ... because we all rise by lifting others."

Board of Education Vice President Brenda Judson advised graduates to combine their powerful intellect with empathy in all future interactions, quoting Theodore Roosevelt: "Nobody cares how much you know, until they know how much you care."

Valedictorian Rohil Agarwal thanked the teachers and support staff for taking the time to not only guide the Class of 2019 throughout their K-12 careers, but to really get to know them. He encouraged his fellow graduates to remain positive through the peaks and valleys that they will encounter on the road ahead.

"You may not be able to predict how things turn out, but trust that they will," Rohil said, "and when the opportunity comes knocking, be ready."

Once Principal Williams confirmed the Class of 2019, he, Superintendent Litzman and Board of Education President Phil Heckler awarded the diplomas and congratulated the graduates. In unison, tassels were turned and caps were hoisted into the air, as members of the Class of 2019 completed their K-12 careers, taking pride in all they had accomplished and setting their sights on the journey that lies before them.

**96.88%** of 2019 graduates with Regents endorsement on their diplomas  
**92.98%** of graduates attending 2- or 4-year colleges  
**7%** of graduates attending military, employment or other plan

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**\$147,267** in total LOCAL scholarships awarded  
**\$14,334,087** in TOTAL scholarships awarded overall

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

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# Moving Up!

Congratulations to all of this year's Hicksville Middle School eighth graders who advanced to the high school. Best of luck in your new schools! Special congratulations to Hicksville Middle School Valedictorian Sara Ashraf and Salutatorian Bhumika Shori.

Additional congratulations and best of luck to all of our fifth graders moving up to the middle school!



## Alumni SPOTLIGHT

**DESIREE VIVIANO**  
CLASS OF 2010

Hicksville High School was not just the culmination of childhood friendships and a place I called home, but the foundation for my future. Throughout the years I had the opportunity to learn from dedicated and innovative teachers and a supportive guidance counselor who all saw such potential in the young adult I was.

A simple online exam I took sitting in Ms. Velez's office as a junior ignited my passion for a career in the health care field. I met with an admissions director from St. John's University and have since graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree as a physician assistant. I am currently practicing in Brooklyn, New York, as head robotic surgery physician assistant. I cover all types of robotic-assisted surgery, including colorectal, general, gynecological and urological.

It is extremely humbling to provide care to those in need. I encourage every student to remain inspired by the teachers, guidance counselors and staff at Hicksville High School; they are there to stimulate your creativity and motivate you to reach your fullest potential. I'm grateful to be a Hicksville High School graduate!



**KATHRYN ANDERSON**  
CLASS OF 2015

I graduated from Hicksville High School in June 2015 and attend Siena College, where I study business marketing and have completed multiple internships as a corporate public relations administrative intern.

One of the highlights of college was studying abroad, where I took several international business and marketing classes. My goal is to work in the products side of corporate marketing, preferably in the beverage industry. More specifically, I want to focus on either B2B marketing or brand marketing.

Hicksville High School gave me a strong academic foundation, especially in English and various mathematics classes. I was able to excel in many of my quantitative business classes thanks to Mr. Cetron's rigorous Algebra II/Calculus course. Also, Mr. Biondi and Ms. Lawlor were instrumental in opening my eyes to the world of literature and refining my writing. Ms. Epstein even took time out of her lunch period to open my SAT scores with me because I was terrified of the results.

I will always say how proud I am of my Hicksville education because the teachers constantly gave me opportunities to succeed and went above and beyond what their jobs entail.