

SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE



DuWayne Gregory, Presiding Officer

Press Release

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PRESIDING OFFICER GREGORY CONGRATULATES WEST BABYLON STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN YOUTH GOVERNMENT PROGRAM



Suffolk County Legislature Presiding Officer DuWayne Gregory with attendees of the American Legion's Boys State/Girls State recognition ceremony on Oct. 20 in West Babylon.

Amityville, NY – Suffolk County Legislature Presiding Officer DuWayne Gregory recently presented proclamations to West Babylon High School students participating in the American Legion's Boys State/Girls State during a recognition ceremony at American Legion Post 1634 in West Babylon.

The goal of the American Legion Boys State and American Legion Auxiliary Girls State is to help high school students across the country gain an understanding of how government works while developing leadership skills and an appreciation of the rights and responsibilities of citizenship. Students enrolled in the program learn public speaking skills, draft and debate legislation, and actively participate in all phases of creating and running a working government. The program is open to high school juniors and participants are selected by local American Legion Posts.

"I am a proud supporter of the American Legion and this program is just another example of the work that this great organization is committed to year after year," said Presiding Officer Gregory. "Their Boys State

and Girls State programs give students unprecedented access to government on both a local and national level and help nurture the growth of our future political leaders. I want to commend all of the young people who took the opportunity to participate in this impressive program.”

The Boys/Girls State is one of the nation’s most respected educational programs of government instruction, with many colleges and universities offering scholarships or admission preference to participants. Two members are selected from each Boys State and Girls State program to attend a national government training workshop in Washington, D.C. where they plan mock political campaigns, lobby for the passage of legislation, and meet with U.S. representatives and senators.

Caption for Photo: Suffolk County Legislature Presiding Officer DuWayne Gregory with attendees of the American Legion’s Boys State/Girls State recognition ceremony on Oct. 20 in West Babylon.

Standing (from left): Stephen Dombo, West Babylon High School Guidance Dept.; Honorable Gaetan B. Lozito, Suffolk County District Court Judge; New York State Assemblywoman Kimberly Jean-Pierre; Carol-Lynn O’Pray, American Legion Ladies Auxiliary Unit 1634; Suffolk County Legislature Presiding Officer DuWayne Gregory; Joe Regina, Sgt. John Sardiello Post 1634; Charles O’Pray, Commander, Sgt. John Sardiello Post 1634; New York State Senator Phil Boyle; Tony Martinez, Deputy Supervisor/Councilman, Town of Babylon; Suffolk County Legislator Kevin McCaffery; New York State Assemblyman Joseph Saladino; Mike Devane, Assistant Principal, West Babylon High School.

Seated (from left): Boys/Girls State participants Gage Finn, Michael Valenti and Rebecca Sposito. (Participant Erin Ehrichs not pictured.)

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