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Jericho Named One of the Best High Schools For Math and Science

By Denise Nash

U.S. News & World Report recently released their first-ever Best High Schools for Math and Science ranking and Jericho High School was ranked number 40 on the list, placing higher than any other school on Long Island and one of the few open enrollment schools in the Top 40.

To be included in the inaugural ranking, a school first had to be listed as either Gold, Silver or Honorable Mention in the U.S. News Best High School rankings published in December 2009. Nearly 600 high schools from across the country were eligible to be ranked using data from 2008 graduates.

Those eligible schools were next judged nationally on their level of math and science participation and success using Advanced Placement (AP) STEM course test data as the benchmark. Math and science success at the high school level was assessed by computing a Math and Science Achievement Index, based on the proportions of students at each school taking and passing math and science college-level courses.

“What impresses me about this ranking is that achievement is weighted three times as much as participation in Advanced Placement math and science exams,” said Helene Kriegstein, Jericho’s Curriculum Associate for Mathematics. “What I love about Jericho Schools is that all students have access to the most rigorous classes.”

Frank DiMartino, Jericho’s Curriculum Associate for Science and Technology, was proud of his students as well. “Jericho High School's science students compete very well with their counterparts in the most selective magnet and science/engineering academies in the country,” said DiMartino. “They not only consistently win the top prizes in as many as 20 prestigious research competitions such as Siemens, Intel, and the International Science & Engineering Fair (ISEF) each year but they also earn very high grades on the exams given in the five different Advance Placement courses we offer.”