

WEST ISLIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Paul Romanelli

March 25, 2026

Dear LIBTA Selection Committee,

I am pleased to nominate Ms. Trish Hinchman for recognition as “New Business Education Teacher of the Year”. Although she is new to the classroom in this role, Ms. Hinchman has already made a remarkable impact through her dedication, innovation, and commitment to student success.

Ms. Hinchman recently earned her Business certification and transitioned from her previous role as a Technology Integration Specialist. In that position, she led professional development for teachers and taught community courses, demonstrating both leadership and a strong foundation in instructional practices. She has successfully brought that expertise into her classroom.

Ms. Hinchman develops her own lessons, ensuring that her instruction is both relevant and engaging. She has taught students valuable, real-world skills, including lessons on Excel that build practical business and technology competencies. In her Building Your Tomorrow course, she has gone beyond traditional instruction by teaching students life skills such as cooking, helping them build independence and confidence. She also incorporates career exploration and contributes to high school orientation, helping students make meaningful connections to their future goals.

One of her most impressive initiatives has been launching a Hot Chocolate pop-up shop with her students. This hands-on project allowed students to apply business concepts in a real-world setting, fostering entrepreneurship, teamwork, and problem-solving skills.

In the classroom, Ms. Hinchman creates a welcoming and engaging environment where students feel supported and motivated to learn. She is approachable, enthusiastic, and deeply committed to helping all students succeed. Her positive attitude and willingness to go above and beyond are evident in everything she does.

Ms. Hinchman’s classroom excellence, innovative teaching, professional background, and devotion to the West Islip students and community make her highly deserving of this recognition. I strongly recommend her for this nomination.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Patricia Stack

Business Education Teacher
West Islip Public Schools
