

Harborfields Central School District

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Rory J. Manning, Ed.D. Superintendent of Schools

Danielle DeLorenzo, Ed.D.

Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction

March 25, 2025

Dear Members of the Nomination Committee,

It is with great enthusiasm that I write this letter to nominate Dr. Alison Matthews for the prestigious recognition of LIBTA Teacher of the Year Award. Dr. Matthews serves as the Business Coordinator at Harborfields High School, and I have had the distinct honor of working closely with her over the past four years. Her exceptional leadership, innovative vision, and unwavering dedication to her students and colleagues make her an outstanding candidate for this honor.

Dr. Matthews exemplifies what it means to be an educational leader. Her ability to inspire and motivate both students and staff is unparalleled. She fosters an environment of collaboration, open communication, and mutual respect, creating a culture where everyone feels valued and empowered to achieve their best. Through her leadership, Dr. Matthews cultivates a sense of shared purpose and teamwork, which has significantly contributed to the success of the Business Department and the broader school community.

A hallmark of Dr. Matthews' leadership is her visionary approach to education. Her commitment to the success and growth of the Business Department has resulted in remarkable achievements. She has introduced forward-thinking curriculum enhancements, integrated real-world business scenarios into the classroom, and prioritized the development of critical thinking skills among her students. Furthermore, her innovative use of technology in teaching has prepared students to excel in the rapidly changing digital landscape of the business world.

Equally impressive is Dr. Matthews' dedication to professional growth—both her own and that of her colleagues. She actively mentors and supports her team, encouraging them to pursue continuous learning and stay at the forefront of educational advancements. Her guidance has not only strengthened her department but also created a ripple effect, fostering a culture of lifelong learning throughout the school.

Dr. Matthews' impact extends well beyond her department. She is deeply committed to the Harborfields school community, participating in numerous committees and initiatives that enhance the educational experience for all students. Her efforts to create a positive and inclusive learning environment are evident in the trust and admiration she has earned from students, families, and faculty alike.

Dr. Alison Matthews embodies the qualities of an exemplary educator: visionary leadership, dedication to innovation, and a profound commitment to student success. Her contributions have left an indelible mark on Harborfields High School, and her influence will undoubtedly continue to shape the educational landscape for years to come. I can think of no one more deserving of the title of LIBTA Teacher of the Year.

Thank you for considering this nomination. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or need additional information to support this nomination.

Sincerely,

Danielle DeLorenzo, Ed.D. Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction