Farmingville, NY - On July 18, Brookhaven Town Councilman Dan Panico ditched the suit and tie, traded his dress shoes for Nikes, and teamed up with Senator Lee Zeldin to participate in his 3rd Annual Basketball Challenge during the Town's Safe Summer Youth Program at the Mastic Athletic Complex.

A weeklong heat wave with temperatures near 100 degrees couldn't melt the enthusiasm and excitement of those who came down to participate. Each youth team played a three-on-three half-court basketball game against Councilman Panico's team. After nearly three hours of play, Team Panico ended up with a final score of five wins and five loses in ten consecutive games against ten different teams.

"I am glad that so many young people came down to participate in this year's Basketball Challenge," commented Brookhaven Town Councilman Dan Panico. "I thank everyone who helped make this event a success from the Brookhaven Town Youth Bureau, Parks Department, JVC Broadcasting, as well as my teammates. This is a great way for the young people in the community to interact with two elected officials who graduated from William Floyd High School and grew up in the area."

"The 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament was a huge success. The turnout was great despite the record heat. The program achieved its projected outcome by giving teens a safe place to have fun, free of drugs/alcohol and violence. Participants enjoyed bridging the gap between the Elected Officials and the youth in Brookhaven." Said Commissioner of Housing and Human Services Diana Weir.

Councilman Dan Panico is a '96 William Floyd graduate and Senator Lee Zeldin is a '98 graduate.