

# Supervisor Romaine Speaks to Recyclebank "Green Team" at Moriches Elementary School

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**Farmingville, NY** - Recently, Supervisor Ed Romaine (right) visited the Moriches Elementary School to speak with the student "Green Team" who are leading the schools recycling efforts. The school was selected as a Recyclebank "Green School" as part of a program that awards environmental project grants to schools. They were presented with a check from Recyclebank for \$1068.93 for their efforts. The "Green Schools" program is offered to communities, such as the Town of Brookhaven, that partner with Recyclebank. Brookhaven is the only municipality on Long Island to have this unique opportunity to support environmental education through Recyclebank. Pictured (back row left to right) with Supervisor Romaine and the Moriches Elementary "Green Team" are Principal Eileen Filippone, Samra Brouk from Recyclebank and Assistant Principal Dierdre Redding.

In addition to the Recyclebank "Green Schools" program, the William Floyd School District also agreed to participate in the Town's pilot program that promotes single stream recycling in schools. The Town provided a large container and Curby Cans to the Moriches Elementary School that students use to deposit their recyclables. Once a week, the Town collects them at no charge to the school district. The school districts that are currently participating in the Town's pilot program include William Floyd, Comsewogue, Rocky Point and Center Moriches.

"Children are the key to educating people about the importance of recycling," said Supervisor Romaine. "By starting in the schools, we expect the message will make it back home to get the rest of the family on board. I thank the William Floyd School District, as well as all the others, for joining the Town as we recycle our way to a cleaner, greener Brookhaven."

"Educating our youth about recycling and getting them accustomed to recycling is one of the best ways to get them into good habits for their future," commented Brookhaven Town Councilman Dan Panico. "I commend every student for taking part in this program and thank the William Floyd School District, specifically the Moriches Elementary School, for taking part in the program."

Eileen Filippone, Principal, Moriches Elementary School said, "Thank you to Supervisor Romaine, Councilman Panico, the Town of Brookhaven and the staff from Recyclebank for helping us to get this project off the ground."

Deirdre Redding, Assistant Principal, Moriches Elementary School said, "We are so excited about this project and

appreciate all of the support in our recycling initiative as we work toward our goals of reducing waste, protecting the environment and educating our students about the importance of recycling. We are working to instill these values and practices in our elementary students with the hopes of them continuing this mindset into their future choices regarding recycling."

In January of this year, the Town launched its single stream recycling program, the first on Long Island. Since then, the recycling rate has jumped by 24.6% and as a result, Brookhaven residents have realized a savings of over \$287,000.

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