

P-OB SCHOOLS' Director of Technology Named "2005 OUTSTANDING NEW YORK STATE TECHNOLOGIST"



Guy A. Lodico, *Director of Technology* for Plainview-Old Bethpage School District,

will be honored for his statewide body of work and leadership spanning seventeen years in Educational Technology at this year's *40th Annual Conference of The New York State Association for Computers and Technologies in Education* in Albany. "Derived from the term's Greek lineage, 'technology' by translation is the 'art of communication' and that has become my signature mantra and foundation for everything that I do and have accomplished. I've had the privilege to practice this 'art' to exploit technology's intrinsic multi-sensory attributes to help engender 'communication' with diverse populations of children, teachers, administrators, and parent/community members to enable student achievement," explained Lodico. He attributes the root of his success to his parents. "From my earliest memories of my Dad patiently teaching me how to adjust the magical green recording level light on his first-on-the-block German made SAJA-EXPORT MK-5 reel-to-reel audio recorder...splicing and threading film on his trusty old SUPER-8 Bell & Howell film projector on home movie night...to my Mom lending her gentle

hand teaching me how to operate my sister Loretta's first phonograph as we sang and danced to a vintage 45rpm recording of 'Sh-Boom-Sh-Boom' until the vinyl wore out—the technology, music, art, dance, poetry, and moral compass that had always been a treasured part of our household culture and values has made me who I am as a man and where I am as an educator today," he added.

Lodico's formal education includes a **B.S. in Communication Arts** from **St. John's University**; **MS.Ed.** with a **Specialization in Reading**, and a **P.D. in School Administration & Supervision**, consecutively awarded with honors from **Queens College**. He began his career in education at a N.Y.C. public school located in one of the most ethnically diverse communities in the nation—**P.S. 102, Queens**. Faced with a multicultural student population comprised of over sixty languages, he became an early pioneer in the research and development of integrated teaching/learning strategies based on the efficacy of the arts and technology. His vision was to create seamless child-centered learning environments supportive of classroom instruction, professional development, and parent/community involvement to enable student achievement. Subsequently, his design and implementation of the "**Classroom of the 21st Century**" and "**Reading Through Music & Technology**" literacy development program, which provided students with a multi-sensory pathway to learning via an "**Electronic Chalkboard**," earned him accolades for innovation from **N.Y.C. Mayor Rudolph Giuliani** and **Chancellor Rudy Crew** and led to his district's award of the prestigious "**National John Glenn Award for Innovation & Technology**." His students' work gained national attention with the development of three multimedia health/drug awareness instructional learning kits produced in collaboration with the **American Cancer Society, Heart & Lung Associations'** media acclaimed "**Smoke-Free Class of 2000**" and **Perdue's "First Facts About Food."** Each kit became part of the health curriculum in over 72,000 schools nationally. His creation of a student/teacher produced educational programming series, broadcast weekly via **Time-Warner** and **Cablevision's** public access television networks, served as a vital community information link designed to help "communicate" more effectively with parents/community members; reinforce school pride, student self-esteem, and academic achievement.

As *District Technology Instructional Specialist for Community School District 24*, Lodico served on the *N.Y.C. Board of Education's* planning team for the research and development of its "**Strategic Five-Year Technology Plan**" and coordinated the implementation of *City Council Grant* awarded computer classroom/labs and instructional technology professional development workshops for *twenty-seven public schools*. He spearheaded the vision, design, and implementation of N.Y.C.'s first model LAN and PBX installation integrating data, voice, and bi-directional CCTV/Videoconferencing capabilities to facilitate distance learning, professional development, and grade articulation opportunities from virtually any classroom location and co-developed a "**Fine Arts Core Curriculum**," which was awarded a prestigious **\$350,000 N.Y.C. Partnership for Arts & Education Annenberg Grant**. Subsequently, the *American Association of School Administrators* recognized the fruit of these innovations as being among the nations best "**Gravity Breaking Schools**."

Presently serving as *Director of Technology for Plainview-Old Bethpage Central School District*—faced with the challenge of re-building the district's entire network/hardware/software technology infrastructure and support model—Lodico continues to oversee the district-wide design and implementation of instructional and administrative technology-based plans and initiatives aimed at enhancing student achievement. "From classroom to Board Room, in collaboration with my dedicated staff and district-wide technology teams, my passion for cultivating the critical 'triangle of success' between teacher/staff, student, and parent/community, keeps me focused on my bottom line—how technology affects the life, education, and safety of children." explained Lodico.

Mr. Lodico is currently **Chairman** of the *Nassau Association of School Technologists*; served as **Co-chairman** of *The New York State Association for Computers & Technologies in Education Technical Support Committee* for the past five consecutive years, and as **Vice-chairman** of the *Long Island Chapter of the Association of Computer Machinery's SIGGRAPH* organization. For his exemplary record of leadership and excellence in education, in 2005 Lodico was awarded a citation from the *Nassau County Legislature* and bestowed lifetime achievement/membership in the *National PTA* as the *Plainview-Old Bethpage PTA Council's "Founder's Day"* award recipient. In 2001, he was awarded a citation from the *Nassau County Executive's Office* and designated *The Association of Italian American Educators "Educator of the Year."* Lodico is most proud of his multiple-year national recognition in *Who's Who Among America's Teachers*, nominations that came from his former high school students.