

**School For Language and Communication Development
Hosts Their First 1st Town Day
Mayor Ralph Suozzi Joins the Fun**

Glen Cove, NY; August 8, 2011 – School for Language and Communication Development (SLCD) hosted their very first Town Day for their Preschool and Elementary school students on August 5, 2011. The event proved to be a great success for both the students and SLCD. Town Day provided their students, along the autism spectrum, with a fun-filled day of being able to explore different types of stores while at the same time familiarizing them with real life situations and educating them about the tools they will need to succeed in everyday life. City of Glen Cove Mayor Ralph Suozzi was able to join the fun.

“This amazing opportunity allowed students to showcase and apply their skills in and out of the classroom,” says Mayor Suozzi. “The “town” consisted of a wide range of stores such as a jewelry store where students actually purchased and made jewelry, a restaurant with waiters, waitresses, and actual food, and even a movie theater where students were able to purchase movie tickets and popcorn and then sat back and enjoyed a show.”

For the past 25 years SLCD has served the community with autism and special needs. This elite state of the art organization has come a very long way from its start in 1985 providing services to only 36 preschool children to now serving over 400 students over three different campuses. On Town Day, SLCD’s hallways were transformed into streets decorated with trees, stop signs, and traffic lights while each classroom magically became a different type of store. Each classroom offered students a variety of different experiences requiring them to implement the various vocational and socialization skills they have learned and will need.

Town Day enabled students to familiarize themselves with different daily routines and encounters that they will one day come into contact with. This experience helped ease the process by creating a smooth transition for students when they are away from their comfort zone. SLCD was able to successfully create a forum where students demonstrated their progress of what they have been learning by encouraging them to apply it. As displayed by Town Day, SLCD is continuously putting fourth extra efforts to prepare and transition their students for the future by providing them with these amazing opportunities.

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Pictures below:



From Left to Right: Cooper Erichsen, Mayor for the Day won through All Saints Regional School; Curt, Mayor of SLCD; Daniel, Deputy Mayor of SLCD; Mayor Ralph Suozzi, City of Glen Cove