



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Jack M. Martins

## Senator Martins Attends Great Neck PTA Education Forum

JACK M. MARTINS March 11, 2011

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Senator Jack M. Martins and New York State Board of Regents member Roger Tilles were guests of the Great Neck PTA Thursday night for a forum on the future of education in New York State. The forum took place at Great Neck South High School and was moderated by Great Neck School Superintendent Dr. Tom Dolan. The forum was well attended by community members, PTA and educators from throughout the community.

“The education forum sponsored by the PTA was an outstanding format that allowed for a serious discussion on education, our State budget and issues that impact our schools,” said Senator Martins. “I want to thank the Great Neck PTA for hosting the forum and their kind invitation.”

The forum highlighted the current state of education in New York State, its challenges and New York State’s budget. Senator Martins and Regent Tilles answered questions from Dr. Dolan in a give-and-take format that allowed for a free flow of discussion. Audience members were given an opportunity to engage the two leaders as they discussed their concerns with education funding, mandates and pensions. The forum explored mandate relief, special education, foreign language, Regents exams, school district finances, New York State financing, taxes and education funding throughout the state.

“The Great Neck PTA did a great job in bringing education advocates, taxpayers and educators together for an informative discussion. It’s my hope that in the weeks and months ahead, we will be able to continue to team together to address many of the issues addressed this evening,” concluded Senator Martins.