



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Jack M. Martins

## Senator Martins Tours Elmont's Clara H. Carlson School Autism Academy

JACK M. MARTINS October 20, 2011

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State Senator Jack Martins visited the Clara H. Carlson School Autism Academy today as part of his district listening tour throughout the 7th Senate district. The academy is one of the most comprehensive Autism learning programs in New York State. Senator Martins was joined in the tour and session by Clara Carlson School Principal Ken Rosner, School Board President Michael Jaime and Supt. Al Harper.

Ken Rosner, Principal of Clara Carlson school, led the tour showing Senator Martins the different classrooms, program modules and programming the school provides. "This program looks at each student individually. We develop a specific set of goals for each student," Rosner remarked to Martins in the tour.

"This program is truly amazing. The teachers, staff and Clara Carlson School have provided a caring, nurturing and loving environment for the students. The lessons were fun, engaging and are building a foundation for learning," said Senator Martins.

The tour visited classrooms where teachers worked individually and in small groups with students on speech, motor skills, reading and life skills. During one of the classroom visits Senator Martins watched as students performed writing, cognitive and reading skills. The highlight of the tour was a lesson that involved music, and individual participation by each of the students.

"It's clear that the Elmont program works and is making a difference in the lives of children. The patience, love and focus that the staff bring to this program is inspiring," said Senator Martins.

The Autism program at the Elmont school district is divided between the Clara Carlson and Alden Terrace Schools. Students are mainstreamed into classrooms and receive assistance throughout the day in specialized programs.

"The Elmont community should be very proud of this program. The Autism Academy at Clara Carlson School is not only making the grade, it exceeds it and is a model for other institutions of learning. I want to thank Supt. Harper, School Board President Michael Jaime and Ken Rosner for an informative tour that will help me be a better advocate the Autism Academy," Martins concluded.