

**NEW YORK STATE SENATOR** 

Elaine Phillips

## State Education Department Permits Westbury School District To Lease Classroom Space At Nassau County Community College

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Yesterday the New York State Education Department announced that the Westbury School District has been granted permission to lease classroom space at the Nassau Community College to alleviate overcrowding at the high school.

"Providing a safe learning environment is paramount to students, faculty and staff and I am extremely pleased that the SED granted Westbury permission for a oneyear lease to utilize Nassau Community College space," Senator Elaine Phillips said.

Earlier this month, Westbury Superintendent Eudes Budhai informed Senator Phillips of spacing issues at the High School and Middle School and the urgent need to lease space to prevent an overcrowding situation during the upcoming school year.

Senator Phillips immediately contacted the State Education Department Commissioner MaryEllen Elia regarding the school's need for additional space. While the original request was denied, Senator Phillips worked with school and SED officials over the last few weeks to remedy the situation in an effort to provide the best learning environment for Westbury students.

"The agreement will send nearly 400 ninth-graders to NCC, a move that is essential to providing a high-quality education in a comfortable learning environment," Senator Phillips said. "I commend the Westbury Central School District for their efforts and NYSED for recognizing the importance of putting students' needs first."