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WestHELP deal deserves praise

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It saddens me to see all the negative press the last couple of weeks in your paper regarding the WestHELP Partnership agreement between the Town of Greenburgh and the Valhalla school district. The negativity is strictly coming from individuals with way too much time on their hands, who only try to find any wrongdoing, misuse of funds, improprieties, etc. with a deal that took so much hard work and dedication to get it where it is today.

So many schoolchildren in our district have benefited beyond belief in the short time this grant from WestHELP has been in existence. Anyone from kindergarten age to high school seniors take advantage. To name a few, we now have brand new Mac computers in all schools, a newly built high school physics lab, enriched libraries with hundreds of updated selections, and database catalogs for research and development. Not to mention the trips to performance arts and science museums that all our students would not ordinarily be able to afford to go with their parents or guardians. Just think how much we could get accomplished year after year with new ideas and implemented programs by these "critics" if they spent positive energies instead of fighting and accusing.

I am proud of our district, the Valhalla Schools Committee, our school board, superintendent, teachers, the parents who put themselves out on a limb to make our district a better place and, most of all, our children who try really hard every day to overcome the mediocrity these critics place upon them.

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