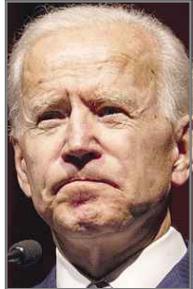


# ABOUT TO LAUNCH

## Possible 2020 candidates



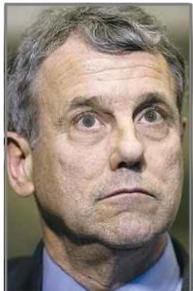
Joe Biden



M. Bloomberg



Cory Booker



Sherrod Brown



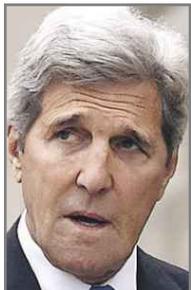
Kristen Gillibrand



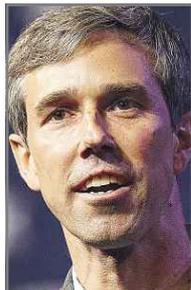
Kamala Harris



John Hickenlooper



John Kerry



Beto O'Rourke



Bernie Sanders



Tom Steyer



Elizabeth Warren

pearances this weekend in New Hampshire, which traditionally hosts the nation's first presidential primary election.

Other ambitious Democrats are actively discussing potential White House bids with their friends.

Former Virginia Gov. Terry McAuliffe and Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti are among those reaching out to experienced political operatives across the country for feedback. Former Obama administration Cabinet member Julian Castro has already indicated he's likely to run.

Montana Gov. Steve Bullock is weighing a possible presidential bid. Some Democrats have sought to recruit him to run for the Senate in 2020, but his chief of staff, Tom Lopach, said, "Bullock is not interested" in that campaign.

Among the Democrats not ruling out a run is John Kerry, the former secretary of state and Massachusetts senator who lost the 2004 presidential race. Democrats close to Kerry say he's done little to start building a campaign infrastructure, but he's happy to keep his name in the discussion, particularly in the event other elder statesmanlike figures — namely Biden — decide not to run.

As the field takes shape, DNC chairman Tom Perez is working to craft what he says must be a fair process that doesn't leave the eventual nominee facing internal criticisms of favoritism like those that dogged Clinton in 2016.

A group of DNC officials and advisers, led by Mary Beth Cahill, who managed Kerry's presidential campaign, is months into private discussions with television networks, previous presidential campaign officials and state party leaders as they craft a plan for Perez.

Several people involved say the party wants the earliest debates to have generous qualifications thresholds, so that long-shot-but-legitimate candidates aren't shut out. Later in the campaign, the thresholds — everything from polling and fundraising to the breadth of a candidate's campaign operation in early primary states — could be much higher.

to raise money.

Booker, who says he will consider his decision over the holidays, has been among the most aggressive prospects.

In addition to aggressively courting activists and prospective staff, the New Jersey Democrat is making a series of ap-

close relationship they forged in the White House.

But there are few Democratic competitors concerned about Biden's 2020 plans. Would-be challengers note he fared badly in the only two presidential campaigns he ran on his own and generally struggles



Malverne High School and Commack High School.

DANIELLE SILVERMAN

## 2 LI schools recognized for AP enrollment

BY JOIE TYRRELL

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Malverne High School and Commack High School are among 373 schools in the United States and Canada recognized by College Board for maintaining and increasing students' participation in Advanced Placement courses and performance on AP exams.

The two schools were the only ones on Long Island on the ninth annual AP District Honor Roll. Malverne made the list for the third time in recent years, while it was Commack's second recognition since 2010. Statewide, 14 schools were named.

"We were very proud of the fact that not only have we received this award three different times in the last five years, but . . . that we have been cited for all the criteria they measure," Malverne Superintendent James Hunderfud said Friday.

College Board, the Manhattan-based sponsor of the Advanced Placement program and the SAT admissions exam, said inclusion on the AP District Honor Roll was based on examination of three years of AP data, from 2016 to 2018.

Criteria included more participation overall and maintenance or increased participation and performance among minority students.

Another benchmark was

improved performance when comparing the percentage of students in 2018 who scored a 3 or higher, out of 5, on AP exams with the percentage achieving those levels in 2016. That criterion applied unless more than 70 percent of a district's AP students already scored a 3 or higher.

Malverne officials said the high school, which has about 550 students, showed a 23 percent increase in enrollment in AP courses and a 15 percent increase in the percentage of students scoring 3 or higher. It offers 17 AP classes, with 175 students currently taking those courses.

Vincent Romano, principal of Malverne High School, said students enrolled in the classes "are really taking college-level courses in a small environment" and have the benefit of additional support.

Commack High School has more than 2,100 students and offers nine Advanced Placement courses. This year, 350 students are enrolled those classes, whereas 193 took AP courses in 2016. Those scoring a 3 or better on AP exams jumped 31 percent from 2016 to June 2018.

"This is another testament to our dedication and commitment to our 'Access and Opportunity' philosophy, which allows all students to access higher-level courses of interest," Commack Superintendent Donald James said.