The 2015 recipient of the NYS AHPERD Adapted Physical Education Teacher of the Year Award is Mike Gibbons. Mike received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Physical Education with a concentration in Adapted Physical Education from the State University of New York at Cortland and his Master’s of Liberal Arts and Sciences from the State University of Stony Brook. He has been a K-12 adapted physical education teacher in the Half Hollow Hills School District for the past eleven years. Working with special needs students has always been his passion. He is a master at managing the needs of students with auditory, visual and other sensory problems. Mike has facilitated social integration and social interaction between special needs children and the general education students in the physical education setting. He is exceptional at modifying units and lessons to accommodate the needs of students with physical and cognitive disabilities. He is the Half Hollows Hills adapted swim instructor and program coordinator, a coach for Special Olympics and a coach for the Empire State Games for the Physically Challenged. Mike is currently the Suffolk Zone vice president for the Recreation/Adventure Education Section. Mike has presented numerous workshops for adapted physical education teachers. His dedication to the profession and teaching children with special needs has not gone unnoticed. He has received the Half Hollow Hills Physical Education Department’s Teacher of the Year Award and the Suffolk Zone’s Adapted Physical Education Teacher of the Year Award. His director of physical education describes Mike as “dynamic, enthusiastic, and an exceptional motivator, not just for the student’s but a true leader among his colleagues. He is a teacher whose curriculum is current and is creative in developing opportunities to ensure his adaptive student’s success. “ President James, it is my honor to present to you the recipient of the 2015 Adapted Physical Education Teacher of the Year Award, Mike Gibbons.