

BETHPAGE

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SUMMER 2011

Union Free School District

NEWSLETTER

Congratulations, Class of 2011!



Bethpage High School held its 56th Annual Commencement Ceremony on Friday, June 24, 2011, honoring the Class of 2011 graduates for many years of learning, growing, and achieving. Despite weather circumstances, which required the ceremony to be moved indoors to the high school auditorium, the event was a traditional Bethpage graduation: a cheerful gathering of family members and guests of seniors, celebrating this defining moment in their lives that marks the beginning of bright, successful futures.

The graduates entered the auditorium to "Pomp and Circumstance," performed by the High School Band, and Principal Michael Spence welcomed them along with their guests. Kelly Ryan sang the national anthem, and Student Council President Jillian Skuza addressed her fellow class members.

Valedictorian Lauren Piulson and Salutatorian Jasdeep Singh each presented their speeches, reflecting on their years in Bethpage and sharing inspiring messages. "We have passed the biggest test of our lives so far, and we can take on the next challenges that come our way," Jasdeep stated. Lauren advised, "Don't stop here. Don't be content with your accomplishments, but push harder. It is not so much what you do in your life, but to what degree you do it."

The graduates also received encouragement from a special guest -- Senator Charles Schumer. Senator Schumer remarked that this generation has an advantage in graduating in the midst of so much technological development. He shared anecdotes from his own experiences in graduating high school and college and making goals become reality. He summarized his points by stating, "Go for it!" and congratulating the Class of 2011.

Superintendent of Schools Terrence Clark provided remarks as well. He thanked the graduates for their dedication and achievements, stating, "The Class of 2011 has taken us on many paths and we have been the beneficiaries in many ways." Mr. Clark shared some of the many accomplishments that the Class of 2011, and more generally, Bethpage High School, has earned this year, particularly emphasizing that this year's graduates have attained a 98 percent Regents diploma rate, among the highest in Nassau County. "I wish the Class of 2011 all the best in college, the workplace, and serving in the armed forces. Thank you for all that you have done to make Bethpage High School a better place."

Mr. Spence shared his final thoughts and memories of the Class of 2011 and described one individual who stood out as an example of living life to the fullest -- Simon Jambrone, a Bethpage High School senior who passed away earlier in the school year and is greatly missed. Mr. Spence explained that Simon served others, enjoyed laughing, took risks, pushed himself, and learned from failure, living an impressive life. "Challenge yourselves, laugh often, love your families," he suggested. "So much good will come to the world because of your ethics."

Mr. Clark, Mr. Spence, Board of Education President Joel Dauman, Board Vice President Sandra Watson, and Assistant Principals Kevin Healy and Ralph Tocco presented diplomas to the graduating seniors. A diploma granted to Simon Jambrone was accepted by his two brothers.

Before the ceremony came to a close, the Class of 2011 tossed their caps in the air, celebrating an important day in their lives and representing a much-enjoyed school experience.



Bethpage Union Free School District
Bethpage, New York 11714

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For more information on the Class of 2011, see pages 2 and 6.

MESSAGE

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

I hope everyone is having a great summer!

This has been a busy summer so far in the School District. Students have been attending the BOCES Elementary Summer School Program, the Discovery Program, Tech Camp, SAT Camp, Exploratory Camp, and the many athletic camps being offered at Bethpage High School. It is great to see such a high level of participation.

Each summer poses different challenges. This summer we are concentrating on the new teacher and principal evaluation process mandated by New York State. Teachers and administrators have had good conversations about how to recognize and cultivate good instructional practices. Together we are designing a system that will improve the learning environment for all students.

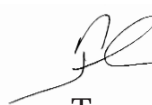
In addition, we are busy installing SmartBoards in the elementary schools and new

computers in areas throughout the District. We are also working on curriculum updates focused on the new Common Core Standards recently adopted by 46 states, including New York. Once these new standards are in place, the state will adopt a new series of assessments.

As many of you are aware, the tax levy cap recently passed the Legislature and was signed into law by the Governor. That will pose some challenges for funding programs as we move forward. The Board of Education is determined to preserve the outstanding academic, artistic and athletic programs they have nurtured over these many years. They are rightfully proud of the 98 percent Regents Diploma rate achieved by the Class of 2011, as well as the high percentage of students deemed "college and career ready" under the newest measurement devised by the State Education Department.

There is a great deal happening in education these days - new standards, new evaluation systems, new assessments, a tax cap, and declining aid from both the state and federal governments. We appreciate how supportive the entire Bethpage community has been and ask you to stay involved as we navigate these new challenges. Everyone should know that we will do whatever it takes to provide a first-rate education and learning environment for the children of Bethpage.

Sincerely,



Terrence Clark
Superintendent of Schools

Leaders of Tomorrow: BHS Seniors Attain Excellence

The Class of 2011 is indeed on the road to a bright future. Bethpage High School is proud to congratulate these high-achieving seniors, who have attained excellence through their hard work, love of learning, enthusiasm, and community service. Pictured below are students who have garnered awards and scholarships for their accomplishments.



Valedictorian Lauren Piulson (left) has also captured the Nassau County Executive Award, and Salutatorian Jasdeep Singh (right) was also named a National Merit Finalist.



Principal's Award winners are Lauren Piulson and Julianne Tierney.



Nassau County Legislative Citizenship Award winner is Jillian Skuza.



National Honor Society Scholarship winners are (left to right) Amy Gaines, Julianne Tierney, and Lauren Piulson.



Commended Students in the National Merit Competition are (left to right) Daniel Alanko, Amy Gaines, Joseph Mastanduno, and Samin Syed.



New York State Scholarship for Academic Excellence winners are (left to right) Amy Gaines, Pulkit Singh, Lauren Piulson, Jasdeep Singh, Kevin Lopez, Daniel Alanko, Michael Ganz, and Matthew Lippertshauser.



National Hispanic Recognition Program-College Board winner is Ryan Rivera.



Senior Class Officers, pictured with their advisors Jackie Keane and Nancy Reich, are (left to right) Stephanie Ross, Christopher Sola, Nick DeStefano, Kyle Brown, Mike Ganz, Sabrina Levy, Caitlyn LoGiudice, Lauren Piulson, Julianne Tierney, and Jenny Park.



Student Council members, pictured with their advisors Wendy Way and AnneMarie Sestak, are Jillian Skuza, Amy Gaines, Mark Han, Erin Fowler, and Alex Mangano.

Movin' on up to Middle School

Central Boulevard, Kramer Lane, and Charles Campagne Elementary Schools held their annual fifth-grade moving up ceremonies on Thursday, June 23. The students, dressed in their finest clothing, marched into their respective all-purpose rooms to the sounds of Edward Elgar's "Pomp and Circumstance."

Each of the building principals offered congratulations to the students for completing another excellent school year, and then provided words of encouragement as they prepared to enter their next phase – middle school. After the presentation of awards, musical performances, and conferral of the last diploma, the students and their families began their individual celebrations. Congratulations to the Class of 2018!



Excelling Onward: JFK Students Celebrate Promotion to High School

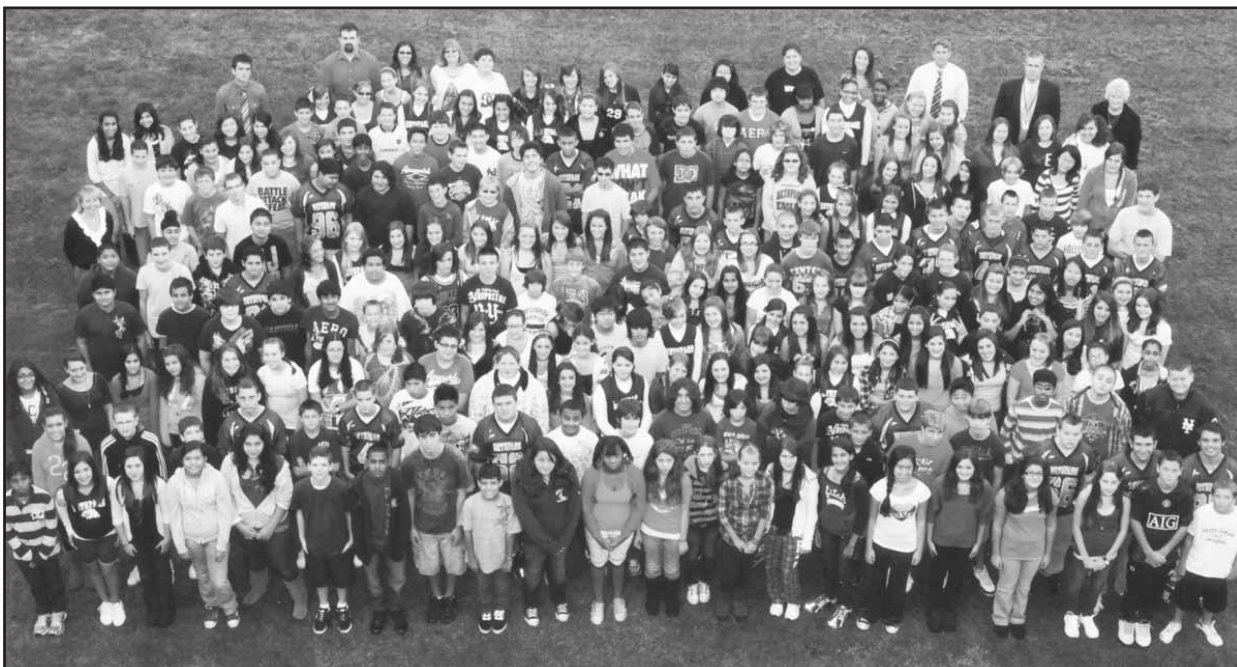
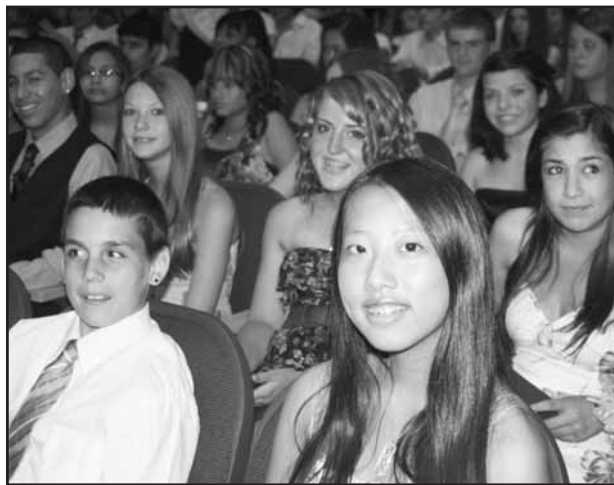
John F. Kennedy Middle School held its annual moving up ceremony, a culmination of diligent study and hard work, at the Bethpage High School Center for the Performing Arts. It was a terrific ceremony – one that was filled with warm memories, especially for outgoing principal Kerri McCarthy. Ms. McCarthy bid the graduates congratulations and farewell by saying, "I will remember this experience with great fondness. Thank you all."

Superintendent of Schools Terrence Clark recalled the many accomplishments in academics and music, stating, "I am delighted

that so many of our students have participated in the 21st Century Scholars Program. I thank each of you for being such great students at JFK. Congratulations on your success!"

The presentation of certificates was made by Principal McCarthy and Assistant Principal Fullerton, followed by a musical selection of Avril Lavigne's "Keep Holding On," performed by the Select Eighth-Grade Music Students.

The Class of 2015 processed out of the auditorium and were later joined by their parents in the high school courtyard for refreshments.



Bethpage High School Senior Jenny Park Named Scholar-Artist

The District is pleased to announce that high school senior Jenny Park has been named a Scholar-Artist by the Long Island Arts Alliance. Jenny was honored with 20 other seniors from around Long Island at a ceremony at the Tilles Center, with Mr. Roger Tilles himself there to present the award.

Jenny was joined by her parents, her mentor and art teacher Linda Candela, Principal Michael Spence, and Superintendent of Schools Terrence Clark. Congratulations to Jenny on this very prestigious award!



Pictured is Bethpage High School Scholar-Artist Jenny Park.

CBS Students CARE About the Rainforest

Third-grade students in Patricia Tierney's and Christina Pace's classes at Central Boulevard Elementary School have created a "Rainforest Bulletin Board," which can be seen outside of their classrooms.



Pictured are the third-grade students in front of their Rainforest Bulletin Board.

The project came about after conducting individual research on animals of the rainforest. After the research portion of the project was completed, the students got together in groups of two or three to brainstorm five interesting facts about each animal. They then created their animals out of various craft materials.

Some of the animals researched were anacondas, armadillos, kinkajous, giant otters, sloths, toucans, and poison dart frogs. The animals were arranged on a bulletin board among colorful plant life along with the students' individual research papers.

LET'S GO TO THE GAZEBO!

Charles Campagne Elementary School Dedicates New Gazebo

This spring, Charles Campagne Elementary School held a ribbon-cutting ceremony for a new gazebo in memory of reading specialist Robert J. Kohlhagen.

Through fundraisers by the PTA, students and their families, the Bethpage community, and the generosity of Michael Kohlhagen (brother of Robert), the dream of having a gazebo on the school grounds became a reality.

Family, friends, administration, staff, and students gathered around the new structure and sang "Let's Go to the Gazebo" to the tune of "Take Me Out to the Ball Game," accompanied on guitar by general music teacher Brian O'Connor.

Principal Angelita Cintado welcomed all in attendance and stated, "We did it! The Charles Campagne family worked very hard and we did it. Thank you to our colleagues, teachers, PTA, and students. This was an amazing journey. Thank you Mr. Michael Kohlhagen for your generosity."

The inscription over the entrance of the new gazebo reads: "In Memory of Robert J. Kohlhagen. 'The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go (Dr. Seuss).'"



The gazebo at Charles Campagne Elementary School.



Superintendent of Schools Terrence Clark greets Michael Kohlhagen.

GODS, GODDESSES, AND HEROES: The Legend of Zeus' Replacement

Sixth-grade students in Monica Klein's social studies classes at JFK Middle School researched and studied ancient Greek deities, culminating in a unique persuasive speech and debate project. They took on the roles of ancient Greek gods, goddesses, and heroes to try to become the eternal ruler of Olympus.

This came about when Zeus announced that he was tired of all of the family bickering on Mount Olympus and decided to retire to Florida. Naturally, Zeus needed a successor to rule, but alas, he decided not to name one. Instead, he decreed that each of the gods, goddesses, and heroes should use their persuasive abilities and powers (in the classic Greek tradition) to convince the mortals as to whom their new ruler should be. That divine being would then be awarded Zeus' thunderbolts and powers to rule over the universe for eternity.

Each student prepared and memorized a full one-page, typed speech in the voice of their chosen character to convince others of their qualifications. They delivered that speech dressed as the god, goddess, or hero they were representing. They also created campaign posters explaining why they deserved to be the next ruler of Olympus. The students then debated by challenging that character with questions and accusations that had to be defended. Throughout the project, students expanded their writing, research, public speaking and creative skills.

Students in the audience were required to judge their peers based on costume, speech, and persuasiveness. Some of the deities represented were Poseidon, Aphrodite, Athena, Apollo, Themis, Artemis, Hades, and Hermes.

In the end, all had agreed that Hermes would be the next ruler of Olympus!



Monica Klein (front right) and her students gathered around Zeus (Mrs. Klein's father, back row, center) for a family photo.



Zeus is pictured with his successor, Hermes.

Bethpage High School Students ACE Food Services Workshop

Nicole Albergo and Stevie Clinco, two of seven students currently in the ACE (Academic and Career Experience) program at Bethpage High School, were selected to take part in a new initiative by working in the school cafeteria for Aramark Food Services. Their responsibilities were in the areas of food preparation and set-up.

Nicole and Stevie attended a workshop facilitated by Assistant Superintendent for Business Joseph Marchesiello, Executive Director of Pupil Personnel and Special Education Patricia Hantzidiamantis, District Manager for Aramark Education Rick Cenicola, Aramark Food Service Director Ryan Curran, Senior Account Clerk Maria Karambatsakis, and teacher Ida Barry, and then continued their orientation by getting acquainted with the kitchen staff and its environs.

Bethpage High School's ACE (Academic and Career Experience) program is comprised of students in grades 9 through 12 and is facilitated by the Pupil Personnel Services (PPS) Department and overseen by Executive Director of PPS and Special Education Patricia Hantzidiamantis. The program involves a full year of job site training. Students volunteer at various local eateries and shops, as well as the Bethpage School District Offices. It offers students an assortment of opportunities for building life skills and preparing for future jobs.

At the end of the school year, Nicole and Stevie were joined by their classmates Emma Coletta, Christopher McLean, Philip Formica, Emily Buffa, and Philip Mamos (absent), business office staff members, Superintendent of Schools Terrence Clark, Assistant Superintendent for Business Joseph Marchesiello, teacher Ida Barry, and student mentor Jennifer Karasik for a special celebration at which they all received the "Star of Excellence Award" and enjoyed light refreshments.



ACE students Stevie Clinco and Nicole Albergo are joined for a photo by Bethpage High School's head cook Yolanda Caso.



ACE students are pictured with business office staff, Superintendent of Schools Terrence Clark, and Assistant Superintendent for Business Joseph Marchesiello.

JFK Art Students Work Side-by-Side with Artist-in-Residence

Dan Christoffel, former art teacher from the Bellmore-Merrick School District and artist-in-residence for three weeks at JFK Middle School, worked side-by-side with Courtney Young's seventh and eighth-grade art students.

Mr. Christoffel shared his expertise by teaching the students about the artistic styles of portraiture and cubism (abstract art). "It really teaches them that abstraction comes from the object itself. It's how the artist views the reality of the object and how the object takes on a new reality," stated Mr. Christoffel.

In addition to learning about various art forms and creating their own art, the students were provided with slide shows of artists such as Pablo Picasso and Georges Braque, and learned a lot of art vocabulary in the process.



JFK Middle School students in Courtney Young's art class benefitted from the talents of artist-in-residence Dan Christoffel. Pictured is Mr. Christoffel demonstrating how to "fragment" or break up a picture using straight lines with a ruler.

LI Blood Services Presents "Little Doctors" to CBS Fifth Graders

Fifth-grade students at Central Boulevard Elementary School (CBS) participated in a program from Long Island Blood Services entitled "Little Doctors," just prior to the school's Blood Drive.

This District-sponsored program, presently in its third year, is presented to fifth-grade students in all three of Bethpage's elementary schools. It has two goals: first, it provides a grade and age-appropriate health lesson on the circulatory system, blood, and blood components; and second, it makes students aware of the great need for blood donors.

The "Little Doctors" program is an attempt to change the mindset of not donating blood and helps to instill in younger people the desire to donate blood when they get older. (Fact: you must be 16 years of age and weigh at least 110 pounds to donate a pint of blood.) "Little Doctors" also provides the students with factual information on the process of giving blood and the need for donations. (Fact: only two people out of 100 are willing to donate blood, and every three seconds someone needs a pint of blood.)



Maria Messina from Long Island Blood Services presented the "Little Doctors" program to fifth graders in Melissa Ostrom's class.

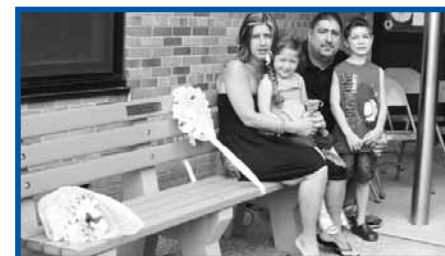
REMEMBERING LEXIE

On June 20, Kramer Lane Elementary School remembered their dear friend Alexandra "Lexie" Falabella at a ceremony attended by hundreds of people including her parents LeaAnn and Joseph, siblings Anthony and Ava, and grandmother Kay Cestaro, as well as classmates, teachers, Superintendent of Schools Terrence Clark, and Principal Rowena Costa.

A bench in Lexie's honor was dedicated at the front entrance of Kramer Lane. In addition, a garden in the shape of a heart was planted with perennials, which were selected by the PTA and Mrs. Falabella.

Lexie's family has started the Lexiebean Foundation to assist families and children battling cancer. The Foundation's mission is to help ease the financial and emotional burdens that childhood cancer places upon a family while providing comfort to children as they cope with extended hospital stays often associated with their illness.

Lexie was a special person who touched the lives of many people.



The Falabella family sits on the bench that was dedicated in Lexie's honor.

First-Grade Author Celebration at Charles Campagne



Superintendent of Schools Terrence Clark listens to first-grade students as they read their non-fiction books to each other.

First-grade students and their teachers at Charles Campagne Elementary School celebrated the culmination of a three-week writing project by sharing their non-fiction books. Reading specialist Sandi Saltzman coordinated the event.

After studying the genre of non-fiction, hearing many non-fiction books read by their teachers, learning the features of

non-fiction, and being able to distinguish non-fiction from fiction, the students set out to write, as a whole class, a non-fiction book of their own. But the fun didn't stop there – after the class books were authored, the students selected a topic of interest and thanks to the school's extensive library, went on to author their own books. Each work of non-fiction contained a table of contents, chapters, a glossary, fun facts, charts, and captions.

They shared their non-fiction books with students in their reading group, Principal Angelita Cintado, Superintendent of Schools Terrence Clark, and Assistant Superintendent for Instruction and Technology John DeTommaso.

Everyone was very impressed by the wonderful work produced by the students!

⑥ POSTSECONDARY PLANS

Below is a list of some of the prestigious colleges and universities the Bethpage Class of 2011 will be attending in the fall:

Class of 2011 College Acceptances

Adelphi University
Alvernia University
Auburn University
Bard College
Boston College
Boston University
Bryant University
Carnegie Mellon University
Case Western Reserve
College of New Jersey
College of William and Mary
Columbia College Chicago
Columbia University
Cornell University
C.W. Post College
CUNY Baruch
CUNY Hunter College
CUNY John Jay College
CUNY Macaulay Honors College
CUNY LaGuardia Community College
CUNY Queens College
Dartmouth College
Drexel University
Duke University
East Stroudsburg University
Emory University
Fairfield University
Fairleigh Dickenson University
Fordham University
George Washington University

Georgetown University
Hartwick College
Hofstra University
Houston Baptist University
Indiana University
Iona College
Ithaca College
James Madison University
Laboratory Institute of Merchandising
Louisiana University
Loyola University Maryland
Marist College
Marymount University
Molloy College
Mount Saint Mary College
Nassau Community College
New York Institute of Technology
New York University
Niagara County Community College
Northeastern University
Ohio University
Pace University
Penn State University
Polytechnic Institute of NYU
Pratt Institute
Providence College
Quinnipiac University
Rensselaer Polytechnic University
Rhode Island School of Design
Rochester Institute of Technology
Rutgers University

Sacred Heart University
Siena College
Southern Connecticut University
St. John's University
St. Joseph's College
Seton Hall University
Stanford University
Stonehill College
SUNY Albany
SUNY Binghamton
SUNY Buffalo
SUNY Cortland
SUNY Delhi
SUNY Farmingdale
SUNY Fashion Institute of Technology
SUNY Geneseo
SUNY Maritime
SUNY Morrisville
SUNY New Paltz
SUNY Oneonta
SUNY Plattsburgh
SUNY Potsdam
SUNY Purchase
SUNY Stony Brook
Syracuse University
Temple University
The Citadel
Tompkins Cortland Community College
Towson University
Union College
University of Alabama

University of California, Berkeley
University of Connecticut
University of Delaware
University of Hartford
University of Massachusetts Amherst
University of Miami
University of New Haven
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
University of Pennsylvania
University of Pittsburgh
University of Rhode Island
University of Richmond
University of Rochester
University of San Diego
University of Scranton
University of Southern California
University of Tampa
University of Vermont
University of Virginia
Vassar College
Villanova University
Virginia Polytechnic Institute

Military
United States Air Force
United States Marines
West Point Military Academy

BHS PHILOSOPHY IS HAVING THE BEST YEAR EVER!



Philosophy finalists Chang Jeong and Anthony Saya are pictured with Principal Michael Spence and advisor Wendy Way.

Are we becoming too politically correct? Is the media a blessing or a curse? Does a person have the right to be ignorant? So begins a typical philosophy club meeting or Friday discussion circle in philosophy class. Since the creation of the class and club ten years ago, philosophy has earned Bethpage High School a number of awards and accolades culminating with the title of "Most Philosophical School in America for 2011," from the National Kids Philosophy Slam. Bethpage beat out 150 schools in the country for this award, and it is the fifth time in ten years that Bethpage has claimed that title.

The National Kids Philosophy Slam is an essay contest that challenges students to think about a major philosophical topic. For this year's competition, the essay question was "Does the end justify the means?" Sophomore Chang Jeong was chosen as the fourth place national finalist, and freshman Anthony Saya took fifth place from the 5,000 essays that were submitted nationwide. Chang and Anthony are just two of the six national finalists that Bethpage has produced over the last ten years.

The Kids Philosophy Slam was created by John Davis to provide a powerful opportunity to help students grapple with life's big issues in an accessible format. The essay contest asks kids to answer a philosophical question such as "What is the meaning of life?" Depending on their age, kids can express themselves in words, artwork, poetry or song. Each K-8 grade level has its own national winner, and the winner of the grade 9-12 category earns the title of "The Most Philosophical Student in America."

What Will Bethpage Look Like in the Year 2020? *BHS 21st Century Scholars Ponder the Big Question*

On June 17, fifteen senior students at Bethpage High School participating in the 21st Century Scholars Program met for the last time as a group. Accompanying the students was Superintendent of Schools Terrence Clark, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Technology John DeTommaso, Principal Michael Spence, and Bethpage Educational Foundation Treasurer Marc Seiben.

The culminating project for the students was to answer the question, "What will Bethpage look like in the year 2020?" Some of the students responded by stating that they hoped it would not be much different, they were happy with the way it is now. Others thought that iPad-type devices would replace textbooks so they wouldn't have to lug books to school, and all agreed that technology would play a much bigger role in the future, with online courses factoring into the future as well. The students were also quite adamant about the District becoming "greener" than it already is.

Superintendent of Schools Terrence Clark commented, "We are grateful that the Bethpage Educational Foundation was able to provide a scholarship to each of these deserving students. The discussion we had with them was fascinating. They were contemplative and reflective of what the future would look like, and I would say we learned a great deal from them during this two-hour conversation."



“Battle at Bethpage” Duke vs. Denver Game Raises \$40,000 for Bethpage Educational Foundation



The NCAA Men’s Lacrosse game between Duke University and the University of Denver, dubbed “Battle at Bethpage,” was a great success. Over 6,000 spectators came out to watch the sold-out game, which was held on Bethpage High School’s state-of-the-art athletic facility. Denver won the game with a 12-9 victory over Duke.

The “Battle at Bethpage” was the result of a collaboration between the Bethpage Educational Foundation, the Town of Oyster Bay, and the Bethpage School District. Over \$40,000 in proceeds from the game went to the Bethpage Educational Foundation to be used for educational purposes.

The game brought the two teams’ coaches, who are known throughout the nation, back home. Duke Blue Devils Coach John Danowski and Denver Pioneers Coach Bill Tierney are both Long Island natives who were happy to support the event’s efforts to benefit local students.

Before the game started, Superintendent of Schools Terrence Clark welcomed attendees. Joining him were other School District officials, members of the Educational Foundation, and officials from the County and Town, including Town of Oyster Bay Supervisor John Venditto, Nassau County Executive Edward Mangano, and Legislator Rose Walker. Bethpage High School student Kelly Ryan sang the national anthem, and Boy Scout Troop 604 led a Color Guard ceremony.

A big thanks goes out to the event’s sponsors: Modell’s, Verizon, Met Life, Bethpage Federal Credit Union, and Warrior Lacrosse, as well as all who came out to watch the game and support education in the community.

STUDENTS FEEDING STUDENTS: Bethpage High School Takes the Challenge

Congratulations are in order to Bethpage High School for coming in third place (out of 16 participating schools) on Long Island for food donations in Island Harvest’s “Students Feeding Students” Spring Food Drive. This generous achievement is due to the efforts of teachers, dedicated students, community members, and the PTSA, who collectively donated 1,890 pounds of non-perishable food, which will provide 1,477 meals to the hungry on Long Island.

Student Civic Association members who helped to organize the drive were Carley Okula, Laura Coletta, Holly Josephs, Joe Mastanduno, Jillian Skuza, and Dessiree Pendleton. Island Harvest Program Coordinator Doreen Principe honored these students and awarded them certificates on May 26. “I invite you to continue doing what you are doing. You are the leaders of the future,” stated Ms. Principe.

Senior student Simon Jambrone was also instrumental in organizing this food drive. Simon helped Civic advisor Jacqueline Jill-Rito to plan and publicize this event. Simon recently passed away from his struggle with cancer, leaving a gaping emptiness in the lives of so many that knew him well.

French teacher Ronny Ciarniello had 100 percent participation



Students, teachers Jacqueline Jill-Rito and Ronny Ciarniello, and Principal Michael Spence at Bethpage High School were honored by Island Harvest Program Coordinator Doreen Principe (standing, left) for going above and beyond by participating in Island Harvest’s Spring Food Drive.

of donations by all three of her French classes at the high school, and students of Christopher DeStefano secured donations during the drama productions for the food drive.

Kramer Lane Reaches Out to Japan with Helping Hands



Pictured is the Japanese flag, created by Student Council members at Kramer Lane.

Student Council members at Kramer Lane Elementary School raised \$305, which was donated to the American Red Cross for Japan relief. The members traced and cut out “hands” that had students’ and staff members’ names on them, and then fashioned the hands into a flag of the United States and a flag of Japan.

On the American flag, names on the hands of the Kramer Lane staff were the “stars,” and names on the hands of the students were the “stripes.” The Student Council members gave up their lunch and recess time to create these flags.



Pictured in front of the American flag crafted of hands are fifth-grade members of Kramer Lane's Student Council: (left to right) Jason Steier, Class Representative; Matt Groom, President; Mrs. Rowena Costa, Principal; Mikayla Moerler, Treasurer; and Sabrina Johnson, Secretary.

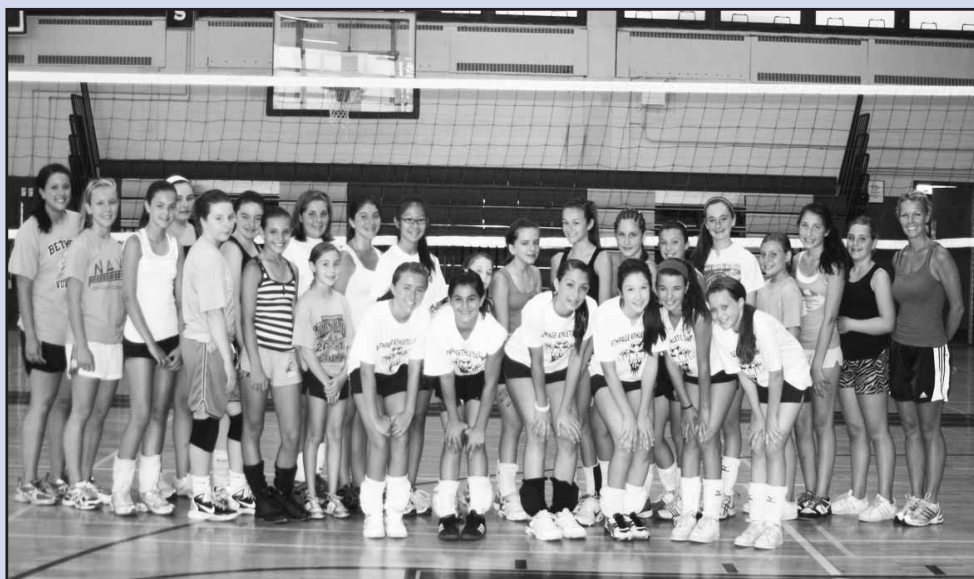
SUMMER LEARNING CONTINUES IN BETHPAGE

The opportunity to keep on learning throughout the summer months in the Bethpage School District was extended to students again this year, with a variety of camps that provided learning as well as fun.

Technology Camp, housed in the advanced computer and science labs at Bethpage High School, was a week-long camp for students in grades four through ten. The camp's programs included graphic design and Photoshop, video game programming and design, digital media application, digital music production, Google sketchup and design, physics and engineering, and introduction to robotics.

SAT Camp took place from July 11-14 and was designed for ninth and tenth graders who wished to get an early start preparing for the SAT verbal section. The SAT is one of the most important criteria used in the college admissions process.

Exploratory Camp, also a week-long camp, was geared towards middle school students in grades five through eight, who spent a portion of the morning session in an educational environment preparing for the day's thematic experience, which included field trips. It afforded the students the opportunity to participate, experience, and learn about dynamic topics such as sports science, fishing science, survivor skills, and Long Island history and art.



The Girls Volleyball campers took time out of their game to pose for a photo.

Athletic Camp, a six-week camp for students in kindergarten through twelfth grade, was an opportunity for kids to stay active, healthy, and learn new skills while getting them interested in a sport to participate in this fall. Some of the sports taught were basketball, softball, volleyball, tennis, kickline, football, cheerleading, soccer, ice hockey, lacrosse, and more.

The students and staff had a wonderful time at camp this summer!