

Bethpage Union Free School District

BETHPAGE

NEWSLETTER

Men's NCAA Lacrosse



Duke vs. Boston University

SUNDAY MAY 7, 2017 - 1 P.M.
AT BETHPAGE HIGH SCHOOL

TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED:

- At any Long Island Modell's Store/Long Island Athletics/Amity Sports
- At the Bethpage Administration Building on April 1 and 22
- By calling 516-644-4005

Tickets are \$10 for Adults/\$5 for Children under the age of 12

**** PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE BETHPAGE EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION AND THE FARMINGDALE EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION ****

A crowd of 6,000 spectators is anticipated
Co-sponsored by the Town of Oyster Bay

LONG ISLAND SPECIAL OLYMPICS 2017



Saturday May 20, 2017 • Bethpage High School

600 ATHLETES PARTICIPATING IN THE FOLLOWING EVENTS:

- Track and Field
- Weightlifting
- Aquatics
- Tennis

FEATURING:

- Opening Ceremony
- Mike Brannigan, 1500-Meter Rio Paralympic Gold Medalist to Carry Torch
- Olympic Village of Vendors
- Marching Band

DISTRICT HOSTS GoogleEDU Event

Bethpage High School hosted Google's ExploreEDU, an event designed to highlight Google technology as an educational tool in the schools. As one of only six Google events in the nation last fall, Bethpage was chosen for its exemplary implementation and utilization of Google Chromebooks in the classrooms.

To be selected as a host site, Bethpage had to provide information on its use of Google tools (Chromebooks, Apps for Education, applications/extensions, etc.) to support teaching and learning. Administrators had the opportunity to share the district's successful journey with Google products and precisely how they were rolled out with students and staff.

More than 60 educators from the region participated in the event, which gave them a firsthand look



at experiencing how technology makes a difference in students' lives. Visitors toured classrooms at BHS to witness the use of Chromebooks, questioned a panel of BHS students and teachers on its instructional benefits and abilities, and received insight on products from Google.

"It was an honor to be chosen as a host site and to work with Google so closely on this event," said the district's technology director, Andrew Choi. "Given that technology is integral to much of what we do in Bethpage, this is a nice feather in our cap."



Bethpage Union Free School District
Bethpage, New York 11714

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② Adding Up to a CHALLENGE



Sophomore Soham Maiti is participating in the Creative Institute of Problem Solving at SUNY Old Westbury. Chosen based upon his application, recommendations and test results, he and 30 other students from Long Island attend the program every Saturday from September through May.

The program offers a challenge to students with an interest in and understanding of mathematics. In a typical class, the instructor covers

a broad subject in higher-order math and advocates for applying it to real life. As an example, one session may focus on the concept of infinity and how it applies and presents itself in the world.

“I really enjoy the class,” Soham said. “It’s for students who love math and want to take it to a new level.”

At the end of the course, Soham will have the option to participate in a math research program at the college.

Senior SCHOLAR

Congratulations to Anthony Hernandez, a senior at Bethpage High School, on being named a 2017 National Hispanic Recognition Program Scholar. Initiated in 1983, the NHRP identifies nearly 5,000 outstanding Hispanic students each year.

The honor is an important academic recognition, as Anthony’s name will appear on a list of outstanding scholars sent to subscribing colleges and universities. He was also named an Advanced Placement Scholar with Distinction by the College Board this year.



The World of Virtual Enterprise

A new business offering this year, the Virtual Enterprise class taught by Danielle Molé at Bethpage High School, has students creating and running their own virtual business.

In the six-credit class through SUNY Farmingdale, students had to determine a service or product to sell and then interact in a virtual economy with other high school students who are also taking the course nationwide. As part of the class, students created resumes, went through

an interview process, and were hired for various positions within the company including CEO, human resources, sales and accounting. In return, they receive virtual paychecks, which they can choose to invest or save in their virtual economy.

“For 42 minutes every day, these students are actually reporting to work,” Ms. Molé said. “The kids do everything themselves and have to work through business issues. It’s giving them a real-world experience in high school. I’m merely there to provide guidance and support.”

For the facilitator position, Ms. Molé attended a weeklong training seminar at LIU Post. This year, there are two sections with approximately 35 juniors and seniors. Her period 3 class chose to sell heated clothing and her period 9 class launched an all-inclusive pet shop.

“It teaches real-world deadlines and how to work as a group, as well as individually,



on a task,” Ms. Molé said. “The students are really taking ownership of their work and having fun with it at the same time.”

The class is one of more than 50 on Long Island currently being offered to high school students. In addition to the Virtual Enterprise course, the Bethpage business department also offers accounting, college accounting and sports marketing.

Bethpage students are planning to attend an international trade show in April in New York City, which they had to pay attendance fees for using their virtual money. They also attended a local trade show at SUNY Farmingdale in January.



Musical Masters

All-County Musicians



Nine Bethpage High School students were selected to participate in the Nassau Music Educators Association All-County Music Festivals that were held in January. The district congratulates the following students on this outstanding musical accomplishment: Andrei Aziz, Madison Buttice, Dana Chan, Keana Lee, Emily Liang, Michelle Luo, Adina Rahman, Carly Sesti and AJ Vita.

All-National



Bethpage High School senior Keana Lee performed at the National Association for Music Education's All-National Honor Ensembles Conference held in Grapevine, Texas in November. She performed as part of the All-National Chorus, which is the highest level of recognition that a musician can receive for participating in a school music program.

Congratulations to Keana on this honor!

Successful Strings

Bethpage High School's music department congratulates sophomore Soham Maiti (bass), junior Emily Liang (violin) and senior Michelle Luo (violin) for performing in the 2016 Long Island String Festival Association Honors Orchestra Festival last November.

The association's dedication to educating young string players enabled our students to work with renowned conductors and musicians from all over the country. (L-R) Emily Liang, Michelle Luo and Soham Maiti



HONORS Musicians



Congratulations to Bethpage High School's (l-r) Emily Liang, Keana Lee, Michelle Luo and Carly Sesti who have been accepted into the 2017 National Association for Music Education's All-Eastern Honors Choir and Orchestra. Their acceptance was based on their perfect score of 100 at the New York State School Music Association All-State Festival last spring, in addition to their state ranking which is done by the NYSSMA judges. The students will represent Bethpage's music department and perform in Atlantic City as part of this prestigious ensemble in April.

Central Boulevard School



STEAMING FOR VALENTINES

Allison Robb's fifth-graders mentored Erin Austin's first-graders in a series of STEAM-related stations centered around Valentine's Day. Stations included students working together to make: heart houses out of marshmallows and toothpicks; valentine-themed slime; heart shapes out of Legos; boats that can hold the most candy hearts; and frozen baking soda hearts that react with vinegar. Not only did the activity serve to honor the special day, but it brought students together to work on projects that enhanced their science, technology, engineering, the arts and mathematics skills.



DNA LABS

Fourth- and fifth-grade argonauts at CBS have been learning about DNA and what is in a cell. To bring their learning to life, students created "baggie cell models" utilizing beans, string, gelatin, water, capsules and a plastic bag. They were asked to compare the parts of a cell to a factory in order to reinforce a cell's various parts and functions.

Following the hands-on project, students learned about the history of DNA and how dominant and recessive traits are determined. With the help of their peers, argonauts then completed a personal human trait wheel. At the conclusion

of their unit, they will visit the DNA Center at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory to study how traits are passed on in fruit flies.

HONORING YOUNG AUTHORS

Kindergarten students attended the Jan. 31 Board of Education meeting to celebrate the completion of their narrative writing projects. As part of a new K-2 writing initiative, students studied the works of author Todd Parr and reflected his style of writing and illustrating in their own work. At the meeting, which was part of their author celebrations, they read their Parr-inspired original works and explained how they went through the seven stages of the writing process.

Congratulations to those students who shared their work: Anna Cuomo, Gabriel Closs, Quinn Correll, Luke Kenney, Victoria Lazaridis, Chase Mejia, Suraya Shariff and Lynette Wallace.



Charles Campagne Elementary

MOCK ELECTION

In recognition of Election Day, students at CCS cast their own votes for presidential candidates. After learning about the history and importance of voting and the facts and experience of each of the candidates, they took to the polls. Run by the school's student council, members counted up the votes and announced the winner of the school's mock election over the PA system.



DENTAL HEALTH DUTIES

In honor of Dental Health Month, dental hygienists from Vitagliano Orthodontics visited students at CCS. Students learned about the importance of brushing and flossing their teeth and why it's essential to visit the dentist every six months. For their participation, each student received a toothbrush, toothpaste and an informational booklet to bring home.



Kramer Lane Elementary



COLORS OF LONG ISLAND

Congratulations to students Grace Greco and Daniella Palmeri for having their artwork displayed at the Long Island Museum's Colors of Long Island Art Exhibition, an annual showcase that gives students in grades kindergarten through 12 an opportunity to display their creativity in a museum setting. They will be honored on April 2 from 2 - 4 pm at the Long Island Museum in Stony Brook, New York.



BROWN BAG LUNCH

Throughout the winter months when students often remain indoors for recess, Kramer Lane School is offering some unique recess activities for them.

Called the Brown Bag Lunch series, Principal Kerri McCarthy has requested parent volunteers who are looking to share a skill or passion with students of any and all grade levels. Once a parent agrees to a session, students of appropriate grade levels are offered the opportunity to take that session in place of their traditional indoor recess. To date, programs have included yoga, songwriting and Irish step dancing lessons.



Soaring Eagles Day

John F. Kennedy Middle School held a special school spirit day that tied into the districtwide anti-bullying week festivities. Soaring Eagles Day served to build character, celebrate the school culture, and emphasize the importance of positivity and making effective choices.

As part of the day's celebration, all students attended a powerful presentation from World Wrestling Entertainment wrestling champion Marc Mero, who shared his personal story of overcoming obstacles throughout his life to achieve success. The presentation, titled "Champion of Choices," focused on giving students the confidence to be champions while challenging their

thinking about themselves and others. Mero's messages of hope and empowerment aimed to give students a positive perspective on life. Following his talk, students worked together on a classroom lesson and shared their reactions to his words. Mero also hosted a special evening presentation for parents on Oct. 27.

Sixth- and eighth-graders participated in the second annual "Family Feud" team-building challenge as part of the day's events. Former pen pals, students rotated in teams of five to play the classic game, which featured character-building questions and survey results from actual students at the school. The fun and interactive event, hosted by guidance counselor Steve Suprenant, was

a highlight of the day for students.

Soaring Eagles Day concluded with the school's pep rally, highlighting all of the fall sports teams and generating school spirit.



Eight Athletes Signing



Bethpage High School held its Commitment Day for athletes on Nov. 21. Eight of the district's most distinguished student-athletes signed National Letters of Intent to play their respective sports at the collegiate level. Each of the students donned college gear and signed their Letter of Intent in front of family, coaches and special guests.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING SENIORS:

Kierstin Bloom – Softball,

New York Institute of Technology

Alyssa Firth – Gymnastics, *Yale University*

Thomas Galgano – Lacrosse, *Binghamton University*

Taylor Hannaberry – Lacrosse,
Misericordia University

Jessica Losquadro – Lacrosse,
St. Bonaventure University

Patrick Luzzi – Lacrosse, *Misericordia University*

Alexa Ritchie – Lacrosse, *Ithaca College*

Kristen Suran – Softball, *DeSales University*

Athletes Assist Elementary Peers



Student-athletes in the Bethpage High School's Athletes Helping Athletes program serve as positive mentors and role models to fifth- and sixth-grade students throughout the district. They take a pledge to remain drug-, alcohol- and tobacco-free and to act as "upstanders" in their community. Several times throughout the year, the high school athletes visit their younger counterparts and work with them to foster sportsmanship, civility and healthy choices through interactive

workshops and exercises.

The program, which has been in place for approximately 25 years, also serves the community by hosting many fundraisers and drives to benefit the less fortunate. Members of Athletes Helping Athletes are pictured with students during a workshop at Kramer Lane Elementary School. During this session, the athletes discussed sportsmanship, civility and bullying prevention.



READ *to Achieve* 7

Third-grade students from all three elementary schools attended the annual Read to Achieve pep rally at Bethpage High School to bolster their interest in reading and reiterate its importance in their academic careers. A tradition for more than a decade, the

program included interactive dialogue from many district administrators regarding their favorite books and discussion on why reading is so important on the road to achieving success.

Various varsity team captains shared

their favorite books and experiences with the young students and provided guidance through basketball challenges. During the school year, the captains will visit the third-grade students in their classrooms to help inspire them both athletically and academically.



Dictionary Donations



A special thank you to the Lions Club for donating dictionaries for the fourth consecutive year to our third-grade students. Lions Club President George Hannau was on site at the Read to Achieve event for the distribution of the dictionary/almanacs. The Dictionary Project provides an opportunity for students to expand their vocabulary while aiding teachers in their goal of helping them to finish the school year as good writers, active readers and creative thinkers.



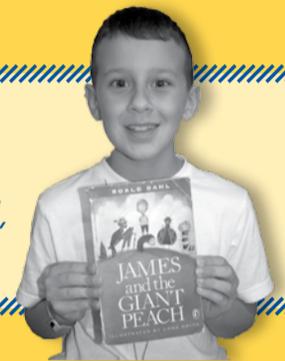
WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE BOOK?



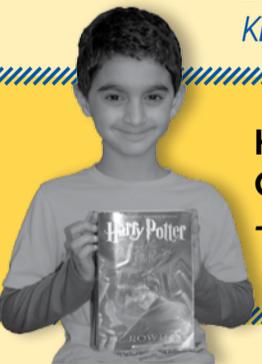
Ramona Quimby Age 8
- Ava Morgan, CBS Grade 3



James and the Giant Peach
- Christopher Jenal, CCS Grade 3



Miss Daisy is Crazy
- Catherine Taaffe, CBS Grade 3



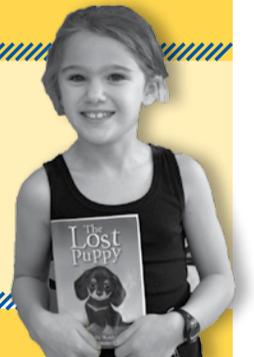
The Adventures of Ook and Gluk
- Dimitri Markopoulos, KL Grade 3



Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix
- Benjamin Maciel-Seidman, CCS Grade 3



The Lost Puppy
- Lauren Como, KL Grade 3



Harry Potter (series)
- Joey Traversa, CBS Grade 3



The Twelve Days of Christmas
- Lauren Hoffman, KL Grade 3



TV STATION *Upgrades*

Over the summer the JFK Middle School Television Studio underwent a major upgrade! Adding a second 1080p HD camera, a third microphone, two stream monitors, camera switcher, and two teleprompters. Beyond equipment, the TV studio has also added more opportunities for student involvement with

its expansion to make room for a state of the art control room which allows for up to six students to run the show behind the scenes. This upgrade has made the studio more engaging than ever for the students involved, and has helped to foster 21st Century, television production, and career readiness skills in all students involved!

Mark Your Calendars!

Budget Development Dates

As the district begins its discussion on the 2017-18 school budget, we urge all residents to participate in our budget development process. These meetings will provide an opportunity for community members to express their opinions, ask questions and hear explanations of the tax levy cap. We look forward to seeing you at these meetings.

Tuesday, March 28
Board of Education
Business Meeting
7:30 p.m. @
Admin Bldg.

Tuesday, April 25
Board of Education
Business Meeting
7:30 p.m. @
Admin Bldg.

Tuesday, May 2
Budget Hearing 8 p.m.
@ BHS



Tuesday, May 16
School Budget
Vote & Trustee
Election
7a.m.-9p.m. @
BHS

Strutting the **BULLY-FREE**

The district hosted its third annual Bully Prevention Fashion Show on Jan. 12. This year's show featured both students and faculty performing and modeling from each of the school buildings, as well as a special performance from Sal Valentinetti of "America's Got Talent" fame. Set to the theme of Fashion "Friend"zy, the event raised more than \$2,200 with more than 400 in

Runway



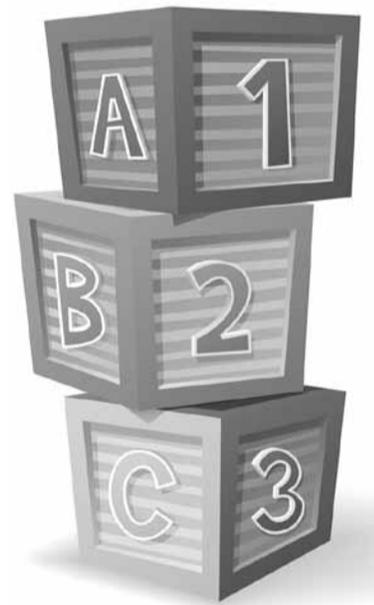
attendance to benefit Child Abuse Prevention Services, YES Community Counseling Center, Pride for Youth, and the district's own bullying prevention programs. Thank you to all of those who attended and made contributions to this event, held at Bethpage High School's Center for Performing Arts.



Kindergarten Registration

The district is conducting kindergarten registration for its three elementary schools for the 2017-18 school year. Children born before Dec. 1, 2012, are eligible for enrollment.

Parents should contact the main office of each school prior to registration to receive paperwork that can be completed in advance: KLS: 644-4500; CBS: 644-4300; CCS: 644-4400. To determine your child's school, please call 644-4040. Registration will take place at the respective schools during normal school hours.



Private/Parochial School Transportation Reminder

Parents of students attending private or parochial schools should note that the deadline to submit your transportation request is April 1, 2017. For more information, please call 644-4040.

Union Free School District **BETHPAGE**

NEWSLETTER

A Publication of the Bethpage School District's
Community Relations Office

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