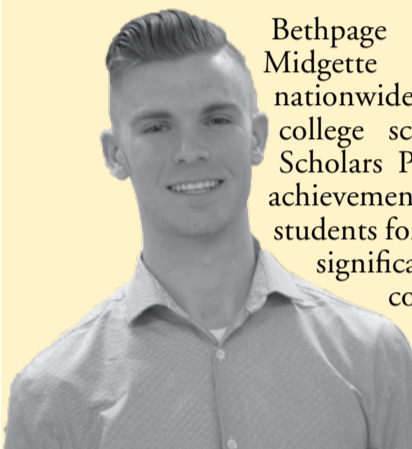


# BETHPAGE

## Union Free School District

### NEWSLETTER

## SCHOLARLY Achievements



Bethpage High School senior Daniel Midgette is one of 150 students nationwide chosen to receive a \$20,000 college scholarship in The Coca-Cola Scholars Program. The scholarship is an achievement-based award that honors students for their commitment to making a significant impact on their schools and communities. To qualify, Daniel had to undergo a rigorous application process. He was selected from more than 180,000 students who applied and was honored at a ceremony

in Atlanta, where he met the other scholarship winners.

Daniel will attend the United States Naval Academy in the fall. With his acceptance, he has committed to four years of schooling plus five years of active duty for the Naval Academy. Although he is keeping his options open, he may major in either chemistry or cybersecurity. Daniel decided to attend the Naval Academy after attending their Summer Seminar last year.

"I like working out and I like service," he said of the decision. "And I like being around motivated, like-minded individuals who are looking to pursue a naval career."

He has also been named an AP Scholar with Distinction and is captain of the track and field, cross-country and marine fitness teams. Last year, Daniel was ranked #6 in the nation for marine fitness.

## National Merit FINALIST

Bethpage High School senior Jessica Nardulli has been selected as a finalist in the 2017 National Merit Scholarship Program. She is one of approximately 15,000 finalists nationwide – representing less than 1 percent of U.S. high school seniors – who will continue in the competition for some 7,500 National Merit Scholarships worth about \$33 million.



To become a finalist, Jessica submitted a detailed scholarship application that includes her academic record, participation in school and community activities, demonstrated leadership abilities, employment, and honors and awards received.

She was also named an AP

Scholar, participates in the Columbia University Science Honors Program, and is part of Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory's Partners for the Future Program.

## Thank You for Supporting the 2017-18 School Budget

The Board of Education and administration would like to thank all community members who voted on May 16. The budget was overwhelmingly supported by our community. We thank you for your continued commitment to the education of our students.

Bethpage Union Free School District  
Bethpage, New York 11714

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## REGAL EAGLES

The Bethpage High School Robotics Team (Regal Eagles) completed a bustling stretch that saw them compete in three competitions in six weeks. The team competed at the For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology Regionals at Hofstra University where they were recipients



of the FIRST Chairman's Award, which is the most prestigious award presented to the team that best represents a model for other teams. That event qualified them for the FIRST World Championships in St. Louis, Missouri. More than 15,000 students and over 400 teams from around the globe gathered for the competition. Congratulations to all of the Regal Eagles and team advisors, Mr. Zabell and Mr. Kay on an outstanding season!

## 2 High Rankings for Bethpage

The district is proud to announce its high rankings that were included in the 2017 listing on Niche.com. Not only was Charles Campagne ranked No. 98 in New York with an overall A+ rating for public elementary schools, but JFK Middle School ranked No. 43 and Bethpage High School ranked No. 74 in the list of Best Public High Schools.

The 2017 Best Public High Schools ranking is based on rigorous analysis of key statistics and millions of reviews from students and parents using data from the

U.S. Department of Education. Ranking factors include state test scores, college readiness, graduation rates, SAT/ACT scores, teacher quality and high school ratings.

In addition, among the more than 8,000 school districts Niche.com ranks each year, the district as a whole ranked No. 48 in the entire state. Bethpage was ranked at No. 8 of 582 school districts for safety and No. 38 as one of the best places to teach in New York.

"These distinctions reflect the work of our



entire school community- students, parents, teachers, staff and Board of Education," said Superintendent of Schools Terrence Clark. "We are proud of the high quality education provided in Bethpage and appreciate that independent organizations like this recognize that our schools are great places for kids."



## WRITER'S WORKSHOP

Under the guidance of District Director of English Language Arts and Reading Dr. Mary Hannon, grade K-2 teachers have been putting a stronger emphasis on students' writing skills. Based on teacher feedback of the need for more consistency across grade levels, a team of teachers spent last summer researching and creating a new writing curriculum.

To assist with the task, the district recruited Sarah Cordova, a writer's workshop consultant whose focus is training teachers in a specific protocol for the teaching of the writing process. Sarah met often with the teachers, demonstrated lessons, and incorporated teachers' own curriculum ideas within the writer's workshop framework.

The new curriculum focuses on the process of writing for the various forms - narrative, opinion and informational - and celebrates a finished, published work. The process is based on the

writer's workshop that came out of the Teachers College of Columbia University, but has been adapted to meet the specific needs of Bethpage students. It is designed to provide a seamless alignment in vocabulary and process across all schools, and eventually grade levels.

**STAGES OF THE WRITING PROCESS**

Immersion  
Generating  
Selection  
Drafting

Revising  
Editing  
PUBLISHING

"This really shifted our focus from giving students a 'prompt' by which to write, to giving

them a process," said Dr. Hannon. "The more students understand the process of writing, the more they will internalize it and become better writers across all areas."

The teachers are using Google drive to house all of the student work through the stages, which enables it to be viewed and shared by others for feedback.

This summer, grade 3-5 teachers will be creating curriculum for the continued implementation of the program to be K-5 next year and into the middle school in the future.

"We are being very thoughtful about its implementation," said Dr. Hannon. "The Board has been incredibly supportive, and teachers have embraced the initiative, bringing impressive creativity and collaboration to every stage of the process."

### DEMONSTRATING PHYSICAL FITNESS

The physical education demonstration at CCS is an exciting annual event for fifth-grade students that culminates the curriculum in a meaningful way. The performance features various athletic events to challenge students' balance, hand-eye coordination and mathematical skills through fun, interactive and team-building exercises. The district's physical education program is designed to help every child develop physical fitness and muscular coordination in an atmosphere of good sportsmanship.

#### KRAMER LANE



#### ROBO EAGLES

Kramer Lane hosted a demonstration for its third- through fifth-graders from members of the FIRST Lego League. The demo was conducted by Vinaya and Sridev Raghavan whose son, Ankur, is part of an out-of-district FIRST Lego team with fellow fifth-graders from both Kramer Lane and Central Boulevard schools. The team took their peers through this year's challenge mat, titled Animal Allies and showed them how the robot is built and works. Although it is only the team's first year, they were one of 40 that qualified for the championships and won the Robot Design Award for Strategy and Innovation. The demonstration served to garner interest from students who may want to be part of the team next year.



#### TRIVIA CHALLENGE

Students at Kramer participated in the Cerebral Palsy of Nassau County's Trivia Challenge, an academic fundraising event that combines education, philanthropy and fun. In teams of four, participating students took a 100-question trivia written test, which covered a wide variety of subjects from academics to popular culture.

Students raised money for CPNassau by asking family members and friends to sponsor them to take the test. A team of Kramer Lane fourth-graders placed 6th and a team of fifth-graders placed 4th overall.



#### CENTRAL BOULEVARD



#### THE STATE FAIR

Second-grade students at CBS hosted the annual State Fair performance and project showcase. For the project, students research a state at home and create a presentation board with interesting facts. Boards are then displayed in the gym for families to view. At the conclusion of the viewing, families gather in the auditorium where students sing patriotic songs from "America We" - A Celebration of the People, By the People, For the People - that the children learned in music class with Mrs. Stehlik.

#### CHARLES CAMPAGNE



# Summer Programs



Kindergarten through eighth-graders in the district have the opportunity to participate in many enrichment programs over the summer. In addition to the Extended School Year program for those who need the consistency of a year-round school structure, the district houses several programs that are run via BOCES.

Approximately 600 students take advantage of the program, which operates one five-week session each summer. The fee for enrollment in the program is typically only a few dollars.

In addition to classes designed to assist students in preparing for the next grade level, the district offers many enrichment programs in art, music, theater, physical education, foreign language, geography and culture.

## Summer Offerings Include:

- ▶ Kindergarten Readiness
- ▶ Prep for Grades 1-8
- ▶ ELL Immersion for K-2
- ▶ Arts & Crafts
- ▶ Computer Technology
- ▶ Math Fun/Challenges
- ▶ Theater Arts
- ▶ Science Discoveries
- ▶ Spanish/Italian is Fun

# ATHLETES SIGN *Letters of Intent*

Nine of the district's most distinguished students each signed National Letter of Intent to play their respective sport at the collegiate level. Each of the students donned college gear and signed in front of family, coaches and special guests.

### *Congratulations to the following seniors:*

- Michael Blom, lacrosse – *Cortland University*
- Cormac Foley, soccer – *Baruch*
- Taylor Hughes, basketball – *Alvernia University*
- Frank Iacovano, soccer - *Baruch*
- Gannon Kenney-McGowan, baseball – *Stevens Institute of Technology*
- Ryan Mendes, soccer - *Oneonta*
- Camryn Roeller, soccer – *Brockport*
- Sara Suazo, golf – *California University of Pennsylvania*
- Carmine Szydal, baseball – *Mercy College*

Congratulations and best of luck to all of these talented student-athletes.



# Seventh IN NATION



Congratulations to the Bethpage High School winter track relay team, which placed seventh in the nation at the Indoor New Balance Nationals for Track & Field on March 10. The team, consisting of Justin Cano, Daniel Midgette, Aidan Pech and Clayton Santiago, placed for the 4x800 category. The team is coached by Michael Posch and assistant coach James Ravener.

# FILM FESTIVAL FIRST

Bethpage High School senior Peter Ingenito placed first in the documentary category at the Locust Valley Film Festival. He received the honor based upon a video he created at BOCES Barry Tech, titled "Behind the Glasses." The film also won Best in Show at a film festival held at Five Towns College.



## BOARD OF EDUCATION

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