



# FAIR LAWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**A STATEMENT FROM MR. NICHOLAS J. NORCIA, SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

## **CONGRATULATIONS CHILD CARE PRESCHOOL GRADUATES!**

**Fair Lawn, NJ (June 1, 2021)** – For the very first time, Fair Lawn High School’s Child Care preschoolers met their teachers on May 27 – Fair Lawn High school seniors – on Sasso Field for their fun-filled graduation ceremony. For the entire school year, the Child Care class has been held virtually on Zoom.

“I never thought we’d be meeting the students for the very first time at graduation,” said Miss Jennifer Bell, who has taught the Child Care class for the past six years and is an alumna of FLHS (and participated in the Child Care class as a senior herself).

Two graduation ceremonies were held: one in the morning for the AM class (23 seniors and 18 preschoolers), the other in the afternoon for the PM Class (13 seniors/13 preschoolers).

Superintendent Nick Norcia, Principal Paul Gorski, and Miss Bell spoke briefly to attendees/preschoolers and each graduate was called to the stage decorated with a balloon arch to receive a gift. Graduates were recognized by name for accolades such as Best Weatherperson, Coming Out of Their Shell, Always Smiling, and Super Reader awards, to name a few.

“There were a lot of dark days this past year, but today is truly a bright one,” said Principal Gorski, as he acknowledged that the day’s celebration wouldn’t be possible without the support of parents, senior teachers, Miss Bell, and FLHS staff members.

Following the graduation, Seniors ran a COVID-friendly carnival, where preschoolers and their parents were able to participate in activities and win prizes; DJ Jeff played fun music at the event.

The Child Care class is an elective for seniors, who teach preschoolers four days a week. To be accepted into the program, students are required to interview and complete a project. Over the course of a year, students learn about child growth and development from prenatal through age 5, qualities of a successful preschool teacher and responsibilities, lesson planning, assessing preschoolers, and more.

“Even though we were on Zoom the entire year, the program was a great experience,” said senior Jason Shepetofsky, who will be studying Education at Montclair State University next year.

At the ceremony, Ivana Ragusa and Sabina Gomez were selected as the Child Care Senior of the Year for AM program; Victoria Baula was selected as the Child Care Senior for the PM program.

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Photo Credit: Fair Lawn Public Schools