



HAUPPAUGE SCHOOL DISTRICT • MARCH 2017

Forest Brook Wins 1st Place, Bretton Woods Takes 10th, Pines Scores in Top 5% in National LightSail 25 Challenge



Forest Brook fourth and fifth grade students won the First Place Elementary School and First Place Student Reader in the nation's LightSail 25 Reading Challenge. Bretton Woods was the proud winner of 10th place, and Pines ranked among the top five percent of all the elementary schools in the nation that participated in the Challenge. As the First Place winner, Forest Brook was awarded \$3,000 worth of ebooks from the LightSail organization.

The LightSail 25 Challenge was held from January 9, 2017 to February 10, 2017. It was open to fourth and fifth grade students in classrooms across the United States – uniting them with the common goal of reading as much as possible during each day of the Challenge. Approximately 126 fourth and fifth grade Forest Brook students participated in the contest, logging in 173,004 minutes of reading – a whopping average of nearly 23 hours of reading per student! Bretton Woods students logged an impressive 125,335 total minutes of reading.

Forest Brook Fifth Grade Student Max Ofgang was the top individual reader in the LightSail 25 Challenge. The following Forest Brook and Bretton Woods students also scored extraordinary rankings among the **Top 50 Readers in the Nation:**

Max Ofgang, Forest Brook, 1st Place
Andrew Master, Bretton Woods, 2nd Place
Sadiq Shaik, Bretton Woods, 4th Place
Alex Ofgang, Forest Brook, 5th Place
Ashleigh Glassberg, Forest Brook, 9th Place
John McGullam, Forest Brook, 12th Place
Vincent Crafa, Forest Brook, 29th Place
Sara Conquet, Forest Brook, 38th Place
Michael Rosato, Forest Brook, 49th Place

Forest Brook and Bretton Woods teachers also achieved impressive rankings in the LightSail 25 Challenge – placing in the **Top 20 Teachers in the Nation:**

Eileen Gatto and Kristin Huber, Forest Brook, 4th Place
Eileen Doda, Forest Brook, 6th Place
Donna Garvey, Forest Brook, 7th Place
Jeanine Brusca and Bill Boehle, Forest Brook, 8th Place
Deborah Fiorini and Carrie Pecoraro, Forest Brook, 10th Place
Karen Karpowicz, Bretton Woods, 12th Place
Dolores Behme, Forest Brook, 13th Place
Barbara Leventhal, Bretton Woods, 19th Place

“Our class embraced the LightSail 25 Challenge with its usual exuberance,” said Forest Brook Fifth Grade Teacher Eileen Doda. “Students checked on their progress minutes every morning and were extremely proud to display these minutes on our chart. How awesome it is to also have the Number One reader in the nation in our class! The LightSail 25 proved to build the stamina of every one of my students as a reader. I am so proud of my students’ reading accomplishment as they worked together to reach a common goal.”

In the News...

Superintendent's Message

"Do not judge me by my successes, judge me by how many times I fell down and got back up again." – Nelson Mandela

As our school year progresses, we continue our focus on the work of Stanford University psychologist, Carole Dweck, and her book, *Mindset: The New Psychology of Success, How We Can Learn to Fulfill Our Potential*. When considering our focus on developing a growth mindset among our faculty, staff, administrators and students, Nelson Mandela's quote provides great meaning.

Dweck confirms what each of our students need to know, which is, "...it's not just our abilities and talent that bring us success – but whether we approach our goals with a fixed or a growth mindset." We learn from Dweck that, "...praising our children's intelligence or ability doesn't foster self-esteem and lead to accomplishments but may actually jeopardize success."

I envision a school district in which every student, on every day and in each interaction, encounters teachers and school leaders who believe students' intelligence and abilities can continuously grow. I envision our Hauppauge Schools to be places where we support a culture in which challenge is embraced, learning is loved and resilience is common place. We seek to educate students who see any failure, large or small, not as fatal, but instead, as a gift upon which to build future success.

It is vitally important, whether we are educators or parents, that we partner in our efforts to instill a growth mindset within our children. Surely, this is one of the keys to a successful and fulfilling life.

Please join us on April 3, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. in the James Baxter Board Room, Whiporwil Building, where we will discuss in greater depth Carole Dweck's work and the power of a growth mindset.

Sincerely,

Dennis P. O'Hara, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Middle School Students Bedazzle Audiences in *Seussical the Musical*

Hauppauge Middle School students recently dazzled audiences, young and old, with an outstanding production of *Seussical the Musical*. The play wove together Dr. Seuss' famous tales and characters in the most unexpected of ways, incorporating storylines from 16 of his beloved books. Some characters fell in love, some went on wild adventures, some saved



the world – traveling everywhere from the Jungle of Nool to McElligot's Pool to do so! With Dr. Seuss's unique lexicon – and hundreds upon hundreds of wondrous creations – the play conveyed all the important messages Dr. Seuss felt strongly about. He believed in helping friends in need, in not giving up, in valuing those around you, in the power of imagination, in preserving the sweetness of the natural world, and most importantly, in working toward peace and harmony.

"Putting on a show is the ultimate learning experience. Throughout the rehearsal process, the cast and crew learned the importance of cooperation, dedication and focus – which is applicable to both theater and life," described *Seussical the Musical* Director Jacob Pincus. "It wasn't always easy; it wasn't always pure fun – but whether we were doing theater exercises to warm up, learning a number, or running the entire show in full, they never failed to give us their generous spirits, playful hearts and resilient energies."

Bretton Woods Students Use Their Reading "Super Powers"



Bretton Woods kindergarten students' "super powers" reading workshop was highlighted by a special visit from "Reader Man" – their favorite reading super hero. "The children practiced using reading super powers as they did private reading and partner reading at the workshop celebration," said Bretton Woods Principal George Gagliardi (aka Reader Man). "They worked very hard and showed that their reading powers have been activated. More importantly, the students learned that they can read through even tricky books when they use their persistence power."

Goals and Achievements...

Winter 2016-2017 Athletic Highlights

Hauppauge School District sends out sincere congratulations to all our athletes on their winter 2016-2017 sports participation and achievements. Following is list of winter sports highlights at the All-County and above.

Winter Sports Highlights - All-County and Above

- The Cheer Team won 1st Place at the UCA Regional Championship, New Jersey, and 3rd Place at the UCA Nationals, Florida.
- Cheer Team Senior Samantha Scarpinella was named Academic All-County.
- Cheer Team Senior Olivia Mannarino and Junior Francesca Capilets were named All-County.
- Track Team Junior Nick Crociata qualified for the 600M Run in the NYS Track and Field Championships – winning 4th Place and All-State Honors.
- Track Team Senior Cullen Armstrong represented Hauppauge and Section XI on the Intersectional Relay Team. The Team won the race, and Cullen was crowned a NYS Champion for the second time in his career.
- Track Team Junior Jade Dyer-Kennedy took home All-County Honors and qualified for the NYS Championships in the triple jump after an outstanding performance at the State Qualifying Meet.
- The Girls Basketball Team were League IV Champs – finishing their season undefeated and advancing to the Section XI Championships Semifinals.
- Basketball Team Senior Katie Murphy became only the 5th Hauppauge Basketball Player to score more than 1,000 points – finishing her career with 1,239 points. Katie was named All-County and the League IV Player of the Year.
- Basketball Team Senior Kayla Petre was named All-County.



- Basketball Team Senior Emma Olivo was named Academic All-County.
- Boys Swimming captured the League 2 Tournament Championship.
- Sophomore Swimmers Trenton Burr and Jack Casey, Junior Aidan McMenamy and Senior Alex Fisher qualified for the NYS Championships.
- The Swimming Medley Relay Team finished 10th at the State Meet and achieved All-State Honors.
- Sophomore Swimmer Jack Casey finished 2nd in the 100M Breaststroke and took home All-State Honors for the second year in a row.
- The Wrestling Team won the League IV Tournament and had four All-County Wrestlers: Freshman Luke Smith, Junior Jake Silverstein and Seniors Ben Tepperman and John Munro.
- Wrestlers Jake Silverstein finished 2nd, Ben Tepperman finished 3rd and John Munro finished 6th at the NYS Championships to each take home All-State Honors.

Beloved *Cam Jansen Mysteries* Author Visits Pines

Pines Elementary School students enjoyed a very special visit with famous Author David A. Adler who has written more than 250 books for young readers, including the popular *Cam Jansen Mysteries* book series. Mr. Adler's interactive program featured a demonstration of his writing process as students followed a book from the initial idea through the research, writing, revision, editing, illustration and printing phases. The author also generously signed books for the Pines students at this exciting program.

"The Pines community had a wonderful time learning from David Adler," stated Pines Principal Dr. Claudine DiMuzio. "We are particularly grateful to our PTA for their generous support in arranging for this beloved author to visit our school."



What is the Hauppauge Educational Foundation?

Have you ever found yourself sitting in a car facing the light at the intersection of Townline Road and Route 111 reading the High School's flashing electronic sign? Have you driven past the Middle School or High School and seen students peddling mountain bikes up and down the school's terrain? Have you attended a Hauppauge Hall of Fame breakfast in honor of alumni and special individuals who have significantly impacted our District's history? Perhaps your elementary school-aged child came home talking about the great assembly he/she attended...the one specifically designed to address character education and student welfare. If you have experienced any of these, you have had a glimpse into the important role the Hauppauge Educational Foundation (HEF) plays in the lives of our students.

The Foundation, an organization consisting of volunteer members of the Hauppauge community, is committed to help fund the projects and programs that are not available to Hauppauge students due to our District's budgetary constraints. Athletic equipment, instructional tools and assemblies fall within the reach of the Foundation's arms. Administrators, teachers and community members work tirelessly behind the scenes to raise money to supply our students with the additional resources needed to complement their well-rounded education.

Meeting once a month, the Foundation reviews grant requests for special projects and allocates money for the projects. Marvel at the sound room and television studio in our High School, listen to the hum of the digital sewing machines in our Middle School, or visit the outdoor learning lab at Bretton Woods and you will witness the work of your Foundation.

The Foundation honors our students in yet another way. Each year at the High School's awards night, seven students are presented with scholarships by the Foundation's president. Scholarships are awarded to the top three students from the graduating class who exhibit the highest academic averages and to four students who have demonstrated exemplary community service – promoting the Foundation's desire that our students go above and beyond to make their community a better place.

Much has been said about our global society and the need for our students to enter it seamlessly upon graduation. Our students must leave our schools – college and career ready. They must compete at all levels, possessing the skills necessary for success. This process must be a commitment in all grades from Elementary to Middle School, and, finally, High School. We must give our students the tools they need to meet the challenges of life. The Hauppauge Educational Foundation is committed to do its part to help our students meet that challenge.

During the year, you may see us at events or read our program inserts. There will be other listings of the gifts we have secured for our students; however, there also will be a plea for donations. All contributions, large or small, will be accepted. It is through accepting your thoughtful gifts that our gifts are possible.

Our address is: *Hauppauge Educational Foundation*, Whiporwil School, 495 Hoffman Lane, Hauppauge, NY 11788; or visit our website at <http://www.hauppaugeeducationalfoundation.com>.

The students of Hauppauge and the HEF thank you!

Rebecca Proscia Named National Merit Finalist

Hauppauge is pleased to congratulate High School Senior Rebecca Proscia on being named a National Merit Finalist in the National Merit Scholarship Program Competition (NMSC). According to the NMSC, about 15,000 National Merit Finalists are selected from more than 1.5 million high school seniors across the country for their exemplary performance on the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. In April through July 2017, NMSC will notify approximately 8,000 Finalists that they have been selected as NMSC winners and thus will gain access to three types of scholarships, including: 2,500 National Merit \$2,500 scholarships; approximately 1,000 corporate-sponsored scholarships; and about 4,500 college-sponsored scholarships.

Rebecca was named a National Merit Semifinalist in September 2016. To reach this designation, Rebecca submitted a scholarship application detailing her academic record, participation in school and community activities, demonstrated leadership abilities and employment as well as honors and awards received. "It is an impressive accomplishment to be recognized as a National Merit Finalist! Rebecca's selection is a prestigious honor and a testament to all of her hard work and dedication to academic excellence," said Hauppauge Deputy Superintendent James Stucchio. "Hauppauge School District is proud of Rebecca for achieving this well-deserved honor."



Hauppauge's Musical Comedy *The Boy Friend* Brings the 1920's Jazz Age Alive on Stage

Hauppauge High School's Theatre students brought the 1920's Jazz Age to life in a charming production of Sandy Wilson's musical comedy *The Boy Friend*. This light romantic spoof is set at the Villa Caprice where Maisie (Meghan Smith); the girls Dulcie (Emma Casey), Nancy (Hannah Schwack-Trovitch), and Fay (Danielle Gerardi); the maid Hortense (Emily Pandal); and Madame Dubonnet (René Kozlowski) live at Mme. Dubonnet's School for Young Ladies.



Set against the backdrop of the French Riviera, the play tells the story of English heiress Polly Browne (Evelyn Beltrani) who is longing for only one thing: a boy friend. Polly's widowed father Percival (Rob Podmore) – convinced that any boy who isn't wealthy will court Polly strictly for her financial situation – forbids her to engage any potential suitors. Honoring his wishes, Polly explains to Tony (Francesco DiFlora) – the messenger boy with whom she's fallen in love – that she is not a rich girl. Tony, in reality, is the missing son of the rich Lord and Lady Brockhurst (David Fresolone and Rebecca Proscia). This is just the tip of the mistaken identity iceberg, as love proceeds to find its way charmingly through nearly every member of the cast and brings them all to a happy ending.

The Boy Friend is the quintessential Golden Age musical. "The play featured many tongue-in-cheek moments as well as a captivating score and complex and expertly executed dance numbers," stated Theatre Teacher Ruthie Pincus. "Audiences were treated to an unforgettable opportunity to view the comedic and exuberant talents of Hauppauge's theatre students."

Middle School Students Advance in Science Fair Competitions

Hauppauge Middle School is pleased to announce the Middle School Science Fair winners and the up-coming competitions in which they will compete.

6th Grade

- 1st Navya Gautam, "Does Shape Matter?"
- 2nd Luke Jata, "Recycling Greywater"
- 3rd Grant Faber, "Blonde, Brunette, Red"

The 1st and 2nd place 6th grade winners will advance to the BNL Elementary Science Fair, May 6, 2017, Brookhaven National Laboratory, Upton, NY.

7th Grade

- 1st Abhiram Marisetti, "The Power of Nano"
- 2nd Nicholas Barshay, "Deter-Ant: What Substance Will Keep Ants Away?"
- 3rd Anish Shenoy, "Should You Go Nuts for Nuts?"

8th Grade

- 1st Jalaj Mehta, "Developing an Inexpensive Filter to Remove Microbeads from Water"
- 2nd Alexander Rodriguez, "Roller Coaster Marbles"
- 3rd Shawna Auleta, "The Grape Mistake"

The 7th and 8th grade winners will compete in the Long Island Science Congress, April 4-5, 2017, St. Anthony's High School, Huntington Station, NY.

In addition, the Middle School Science Olympiad Team won 4th place at the Science Olympiad Eastern Long Island Regional Competition. The Team will advance to the New York State Science Olympiad for the second consecutive year, where they will compete against the top schools in New York State, April 7-8, in Syracuse, NY. "Congratulations to all of the Middle School Science Fair winners and participants," said Robert Wankmuller, director of Science, Technology and Research."



