

*An Environment for Effective Teaching & Learning Volume 3, Issue 17 1/24/20*

## MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS COMPETE AT THE "HISTORY FAIR" AND MAKE SOME HISTORY OF THEIR OWN

Our Middle School and High School students competed at the History Fair on Thursday, January 16th, 2020. There was a fantastic showing of many entries. Some of the categories were Historical Papers, Individual Exhibits, Group Exhibits, and Individual and Group Websites, as well as Individual Documentary and Group Performance. [Click here](#) to view the Middle School Program. [Click here](#) to view the High School Program.

Listed below are all of the winners. Congratulations on a job well done to all of these outstanding students!

### Middle School History Fair Winners

#### Historical Papers

1st - Stevie D. Rosenfeld, "How Mary Shelley Broke Barriers and Shaped Philosophy," N. Campbell

2nd - Leslie Alvarez, "Breaking Segregational Barriers: The March on Washington of 1963," L. Kurrass

3rd - Brayden Dickneider, "The Cold War: A War of Avoidance, Not Combat, That Continues to Affect History Today," N. Campbell

Honorable Mention - Gabrielle Catanzaro, "The Notorious RBG," N. Campbell

#### Exhibit Individual

1st - Isabella Messina, "Rent: Breaking Barriers on Broadway," M. Florence

2nd - Carissa Postilio, "All American Girls Professional Baseball League," R. Ginsberg

3rd - Ava Mansueto, "Jackie Robinson: Breaking the Color Barrier in Major League Baseball," L. Kurrass

#### Honorable Mention:

1. Miguel Londono, "NASA Space Program," A. Schoepe

2. Aidan Feltz, "The Apollo Space Program," A. Schoepe

3. Meghan Barry, "Barriers Broken for the Hearing Impaired," M. Florence



## **Middle School History Fair Winners continued . . .**

### **Group Exhibit**

1st - Natalie Cartafalsa and Marina Cerrato, "Special Olympics," R.Ginsberg.

2nd - Rachel Killoran and Kaitlyn Weinstein, "Walt Disney: The Genius of Entertainment," R.Ginsberg

3rd - Alison Tsororos and Kate St. Pierre, "Not Every GI is a Joe: Women in the Military" M. Florence

### **Honorable Mention:**

1. Joseph Kiley and Vincent Crafa, "Jackie Robinson: Breaking Barriers", M. Florence

### **Individual Website**

1st - Sri Adabala, "Pioneers of Space Exploration: A Race to Breaking the Barriers of Space Exploration", <https://site.nhd.org/73136591/home>, M. Florence

2nd - Chase Filipe, "Breaking Barriers in History: Fall of the Berlin Wall," <https://site.nhd.org/70871672/home>, N. Campbell

3rd - Avery Marchese, "The Irish War for Independence and the Signing of the Anglo-Irish Treaty," <https://site.nhd.org/00264340/home>, M. Florence

Honorable Mention - Erin Horigan, "Temple Grandin: Breaking Barriers Of Autism," <https://site.nhd.org/34574202/home>, M. Florence, M. Palmieri, M. Femia

### **Group Website**

1st - Arav Prabhu and Sri Sagiraju, "Breaking Down The Stonewall: Gay Liberation, <https://site.nhd.org/68463142/home>, L. Kurrass and N. Campbell

2nd - Brandon Cardamone and Ayaan Shah, "The Wright Brothers: Pioneers of Aviation," <https://site.nhd.org/19374517/home>, M. Florence and R.Ginsberg

### **Individual Documentary**

1st - Shannon Ilnitzki, "The Women Who Broke the Gender Barrier at the Boston Marathon," M. Florence

2nd - David Hendrick, "Investigation: The Boston Massacre," L. Kurrass

3rd - Matt Barshay, "John Hughes: Breaking Barriers and Defining Genres"  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ouEttVOCQqc>, M. Florence

### **Group Performance**

Kayla Krause, Tara Murphy, and Katelyn Hachadoorian, "A Silent Scream; Powerful Difference: Women's Suffrage," M. Florence and A. Zimmerman

## **High School History Fair Winners**

### **Historical Papers**

1st - Emma Vasilakopoulos, "Corporate Irresponsibility at its Meanest: How Dalkon Shield Broke Technological and Legal Barriers," A. Stebbins

2nd - Luca Iallonardi, "Disability Rights: An Often Overlooked Barrier Broken," E. Robbins

3rd - Ligia Camacho Lopex, "The Stonewall Riots and the Barriers they Broke," E. Robbins

### **Honorable Mention**

1. Navya Gautam, "Breaking Barriers: A Sixteenth Century Woman Rules," S. Lasurdo

2. Mackenzie Buscarino, "The Berlin Wall: Breaking Physical Barriers", F. Cono

### **Individual Exhibits**

1st - Teresa Deasy, "A Surplus of Food to a Surplus of Problems: The Agricultural Barrier Broken by the Green Revolution", E. Robbins

2nd - Grant Faber, "Eunice Kennedy Shriver: Breaking Barriers to Create the Special Olympics", A. DiTroia

3rd - Austin Faber, "Barbara Walters: Breaking Barriers in Journalism", E. Robbins

### **Honorable Mention**

1. Luke Jata, "To Infinity And Beyond: The Moon Landing", P. Faivre

2. Bennett Iallonardi, "The Oregon Trail and Pioneers Moving out West", A. Aiello

### **Group Exhibits**

1st - Edward Ahr and Danielle Ingrassia, "Jackie Robinson: Breaking MLB Barriers," A. DiTroia

2nd - Julia Tacca & Victoria Lopez, "Steve Jobs: Technological Innovator," E. Robbins & F. Cono

3rd - Samantha McKechnie and Ella Rivera, "REPEAL- 18th Amendment," D. Surian

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High School History Fair Winners

#### Honorable Mention

Matt Ebert and Layla Keen, "Stonewall Riots," E. Robbins

Stephanie Costi & Marlene Schoellknecht, "Betty Friedan: Breaking Barriers for Women," K. Barry

#### Individual Websites

1st - Varsha Saravanan, "Elsie Inglis and The Scottish Women's Hospital: Redefining Femininity in the Midst of Warfare", <https://site.nhd.org/85863174/home>, F. Cono

2nd - Melody Cheng, "To Boldly Go: How Star Trek: The Original Series Broke the Social Barrier", <https://site.nhd.org/17065616/home> A. Stebbins

3rd - Melody Zhu, "Jacqueline Cochran and the WASPs of WWII: Breaking Barriers in Women Piloting in the Military", <https://site.nhd.org/69436914/home>, F. Cono

Honorable Mention - Gabriela Rykiel, "Breaking Barriers: The Rise and Fall of the Berlin Wall," <https://site.nhd.org/17335747/home>, F. Cono

#### Group Websites

1st - Alex Vasilakopoulos, Jalaj Mehta, and Aaryan Chandra, "Stealing Nuclear Secrets: The Atomic Spies and the Development of the Atomic Bomb," A. Stebbins <https://site.nhd.org/12797238/home>

2nd - James Abruzzo, Kyle Adams, "The Power of Social Photography: Lewis Hine, The Man Who Exposed Child Labor," <https://site.nhd.org/47496546/home>, F. Cono

3rd - Griffin Capece, Joseph Mathew, "Apollo Soyuz Test Project: Breaking the Barrier Between Two World Powers," <https://site.nhd.org/82226497/home>, F. Cono

Honorable Mention - Gianna Hennessy, Riti Takhar, "Women Breaking Barriers in History during WWII," <https://site.nhd.org/83890805/home> S. Lasurdo

#### Individual Documentaries

1st - Isabella Calvao, "Bringing Names to the Disease: How the AIDS Quilt Broke the Barrier of Ignorance," [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N3KixM3ms\\_g&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N3KixM3ms_g&feature=youtu.be), F. Cono:

2nd - Dominick Moccia, "Women in the Workforce during WWII: Breaking the Gender Barrier," S. Lasurdo

3rd - Amanda Forgione, "Women's Suffrage: Breaking the Gender Barrier," A. DiTroia

#### Group Documentaries

1st - Jenna Bunting and Ava Kimmerer, "Rosa Parks: Breaking Barriers in U.S. History," D. Surian, Thomas Druckermiller, Youtube <https://youtu.be/0UmBwQenY6U>

#### Group Performances

1st - Rose Reece, Peter Proscia, Katie Dolce, Vincent Gerardi, Michael Seda, "From Classroom to Courtroom: The Broken Barriers of Tinker v. Des Moines Case," E. Robbins, D. Reiff, and D. Surian

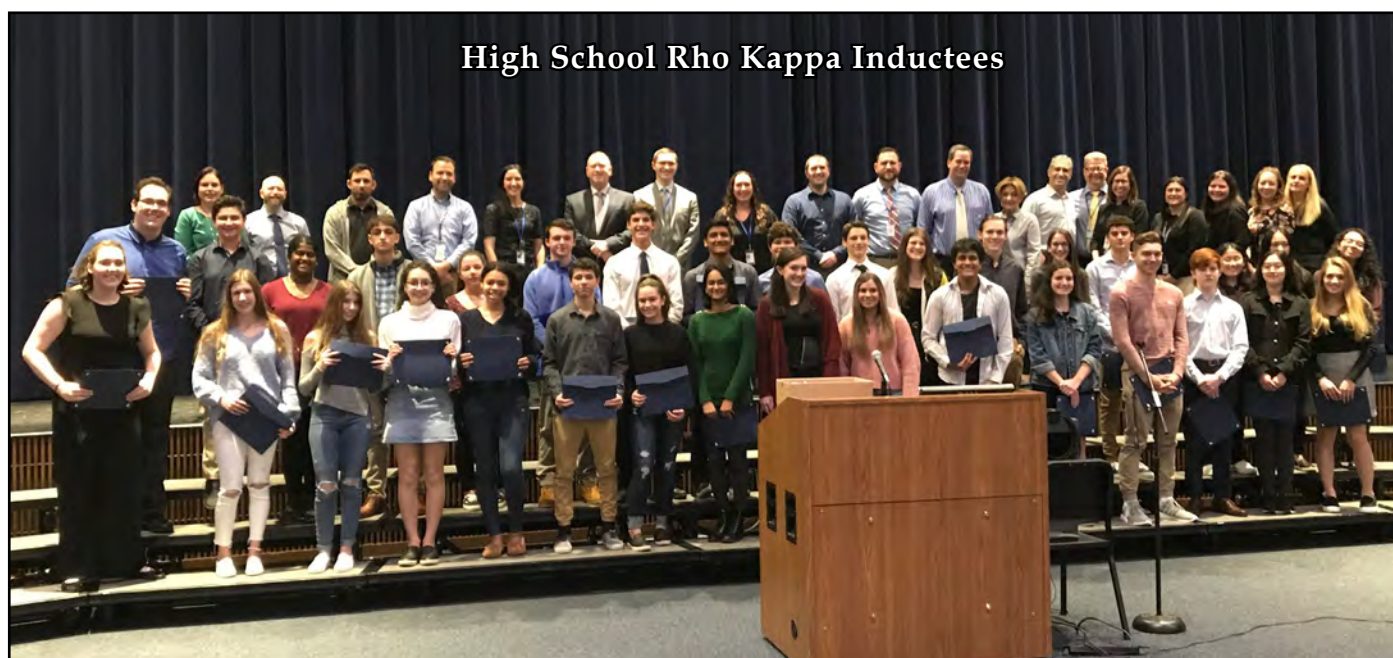
# HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ARE INDUCTEES INTO RHO KAPPA NATIONAL SOCIAL STUDIES HONOR SOCIETY

On Thursday, January 16th, a high-achieving group of students were inducted into Rho Kappa, the National Social Studies Honor Society. Doreen Gordon, Director of Social Studies and Business and Ellen Robbins, High School History teacher are the Rho Kappa Advisors.

The mission and purpose of Rho Kappa is to promote scholarship and to recognize academic excellence in social studies in secondary schools and the community. Listed below are our inductees:

Samantha Babich	Vincent Gerardi	Andrew Maiorini	Tyler Rutley
Ligia Camacho Lopez	Matthew Grimaldi	James Mariani	Noah Schwarzapfel
Vivian Chen	Colin Happe	Ian McAlister	Sarah Shaik
Melody Cheng	Luca Iallonardi	Holly McGullam	Laura Steinberg
Zachary DelGiudice	Sreevarshini Karthikeyan	Jalaj Mehta	Ayannah Stein-Jones
Gianna Dickson	Prithamsh Katla	Megan Mitola	Jordon Thaggard
Jake DiVilio	Dennis Kaydanov	Melissa Oliver	Madison Traverzo
Kathryn Dolce	Emily Kelly	Nicole Petrocelli	Ava Twachtman
Stephen Downs	Isabella Lewin	Shivani Rao	Alexander Vasilakopoulos
Emma Drum	Danielle Liu	Kaitlyn Romito	Emma Vasilakopoulos
Austin Faber			

Congratulations to all of our inductees!





# THEY ARE OUR SCHOOL NURSES AND THEY ARE THE “AMAZING SUPERHEROES” OF OUR STUDENTS

We always love to highlight our remarkable staff. This time up, we are featuring our incredible nursing staff. We have seven amazing school nurses who handle the students from the elementary schools through to the high school. They are:

Bretton Woods - Corrine Dzwil  
Forest Brook - Deborah Wissman  
Marianne Lieberman - Pines  
Grace Felice - Middle School  
Carolyn Muller - High School  
Mary Nowotarski - Middle School & High School  
Mary Bragg - Floater

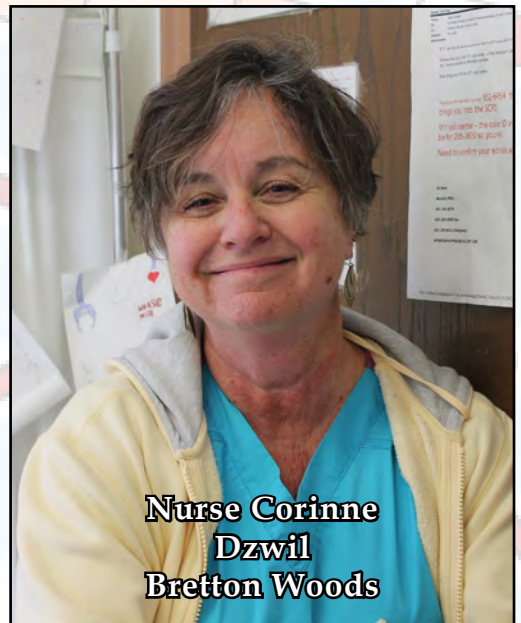
Our school nurses cover a variety of duties. They bring all of their knowledge with them to school each day and are always ready to help, listen, dry tears, and assist with anything and everything that comes their way. Let's meet our nurses!

Corinne Dzwil is the school nurse at Bretton Woods. When asked what she likes most about her job, Corinne said, “I enjoy seeing the children mature; their personalities really start to blossom by around third or fourth grade. With the younger children, my curmudgeonly sarcasm generally goes right over their heads; but it's fun when, one day, I make a crack, and they give me a knowing look—and they laugh! I've never been one to talk to kids as though they were, well...kids. Eventually they catch up, and I really do believe that they appreciate being handled with a sense of humor.”

Corinne said that on a regular basis she does the following: “Paperwork. Lots of it. Phone calls. Lots of them. Vision and hearing screenings...Anyone ever see the movie ‘Office Space?’ Do you recall the scene with the ‘hit’ on the office copy machine...? I've always said that when I retire, I'd love to do the same with both of those screeners. Screw by screw, wire by wire... And if, let's just say it should happen, I'm not sure that circumstantial evidence alone would be admissible in court.”

When asked why she became a nurse, Corinne said, “When I was about six, I was stung by a bee. I just happened to be with an aunt I very much admired, and who also happened to be a nurse. She very matter-of-factly applied a poultice of baking soda and water, and once she had, the pain was completely gone! Even though, to her, it was nothing; to me it was nothing less than miraculous! So at six, I promised myself two things: I was going to Stony Brook (the school my aunt had attended), and I would become a nurse. I kept both of those promises.” Corinne graduated from Stony Brook with a degree in nursing in 1984. Right out of school, she worked at Stony Brook Medical Center on a number of floors through the years; medical floors North and South, ICU, CCU, Oncology and Orthopedics. Years later, Corinne worked as an Agency nurse doing home care and later still as a private duty nurse in different hospitals.

With regard to what is the best part of her job, Corinne said, “In all the many years I've been in Hauppauge, most of the moments that stand out have little or nothing to do with the thing I went to school for: nursing. For instance, I remember a third grade boy who came to school in the morning pent-up, upset, but not crying. I spoke to him and he told me that he and his dad had gotten upset



**Nurse Corinne  
Dzwil  
Bretton Woods**

Continued on next page . . .

with one another before school. I called the Dad (who was also upset), had him come in, and left them both in my office together while I took a walk. When they came out about ten minutes later, both were visibly happier. The day would have been sad for them both, but because they spoke, it turned out to be just the opposite. (And honestly, I may have felt even better than either of them.) Moments like that—that real human connection—is truly what nursing is all about; it's just the part that can't be taught. But, it is the essence of everything we do—not just as nurses, but as teachers, as parents...It's what needs to be behind our every action to make ANY action matter."

We asked Corinne why she chose Hauppauge. She said, "It was the only place I decided to interview at. My kids went here—and, who better than their mom to send them BACK TO CLASS!!!"



**Nurse Mary  
Nowotarski  
Middle/High School**

Mary Nowotarski is a nurse at the Middle and High School. When asked what she likes most about nursing, Mary said, "I like that fact that I work in both the High School and the Middle School, so I know the students from grades 6-12. I see them grow and mature from young children to young adults. Occasionally I am floated to the elementary school as well, so I know the administration and some of the staff in all of the buildings. In addition, working in a school setting gives me the opportunity to coach Varsity Cross Country and Track and Field which is a passion of mine and a sport I have been involved with from a very young age."

Mary said with regard to some of the things she does on a regular basis, "One of the big things we do at the Middle School and High School are sports physicals and following up on sports injuries as well as physical education restrictions. In addition, there are immunization surveys and BMI reporting to the state. This year, in particular, the state did away with the religious exemption for immunizations so that required a great deal of follow-up. Certain grade levels are also screened for vision, hearing and

scoliosis. Medication administration for both daily and prn medications is done, as well as caring for students with illnesses such as diabetes and epilepsy."

When asked why she became a nurse, Mary said, "When I went to college I was not sure what I wanted to do. I knew I wanted to work with people (predominantly young people) and did not want to sit at a desk all day. I considered teaching, but had a few girls on my track and cross country team in college who were nursing majors and I found the information they were studying very interesting. I thought I might start with nursing and possibly work my way into sports medicine. Ultimately, I have the best of both worlds as I can work as a nurse and still be involved in the sport of track and field and cross country." Mary attended Boston College and did some graduate work at Hofstra and Adelphi University.

Mary said that she has been a nurse since she graduated from college. "My first job was on a surgical unit at Northshore University Hospital in Manhasset. I then moved to Schneider Children's Hospital (it is now called Cohen) because I wanted to work in pediatrics. I worked on a pediatric surgical unit there. After awhile, I no longer wanted to work weekends and nights so my Dad who was a principal suggested I look for a school nursing position. I worked in the Islip School District as a Middle School Nurse for 8 years prior to coming to Hauppauge."

When asked what the best part of her job is, Mary said, "The best part of my job is that it allows me to coach and to share my love for my sport with young people. I also was very happy to work the same schedule as my children when they were younger." Mary said she chose Hauppauge for the following reasons, "It was really just timing. I took a break from working as a nurse (I was coaching for Massapequa High School), until my youngest was school age. When he entered first grade, I began looking for a school nurse position again and Hauppauge happened to have an opening. It worked out



perfectly for me. I started as a school nurse again and picked up the coaching position in Hauppauge when both of my children began college."

Carolyn Muller is a nurse at the High School and said that her favorite part of the job is the connection she has with the students. She said, "Many of the students I assist in the HS I actually remember getting off the school bus their first day of kindergarten at BW (when I was not a nurse). It has been wonderful to see them go from a wide-eyed kindergartner to a young adult preparing to go off to college. I also enjoy the diversity. With such a large student and staff population, no two days are the same. You have to remain flexible and ready for anything because you never know what is going to walk into the office next."

With regard to her daily duties, Carolyn said, "Tending to students who have an acute illness during the school day is only one small part of school nursing. There are many students with chronic complex medical issues (like diabetes, epilepsy, asthma, anaphylaxis – just to name a few most frequently seen conditions) who require assistance during the school day. We also assist students who struggle with mental health issues. In addition, of course, there is the paperwork – maintaining students health records including immunizations (which was especially challenging this year) and physicals, performing vision, hearing and scoliosis screenings (all of which must be maintained, performed and documented according to NYS guidelines). Preparing reports for submission to state agencies, care plans for students with chronic conditions, sports physicals, medication administration, communication with parents and other health professionals – and the list goes on."

Carolyn said that she wanted to become a nurse for many years before she actually returned to school. She said, "Over 25 years ago, I had a number of family members who were quite ill. Visiting these relatives in the hospital daily, I remember being very impressed with the nurses that cared for them. Not only were they responsible for the minute to minute care for their patients, but they always managed to have a quiet moment to talk to family members or a quick joke to make a patient chuckle, all while juggling charting, treatments and medication administration. Here were women (mostly at that time) that see terrible human suffering, but keep a smile on their face. Who leave at the end of their shift dog-tired, but get up and do it again the next day. Who were so committed to their patients that they braved irate family members, obnoxious doctors, risk of infection, not to mention the smells! Some would have gone running – but I was impressed and inspired. I returned to school in 2009 graduated and passed my National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) in 2014. I have worked in a local nursing home in acute care (mostly post-surgical), Huntington High School and as a Clinical Care Manager for a private practice in Bay Shore (a position I still hold today)."

Mary Bragg is a school nurse who is a Floater throughout the District. Mary said what she likes most about her job is making children feel better when they're upset or not feeling well.

Mary said her daily duties include performing vision, hearing and scoliosis screenings on students along with needed data collection. She covers the elementary school nurses while they are out to lunch so that there is a nurse available at all times.

When asked why she wanted to be a nurse, Mary said, "I always wanted to be a nurse. I cannot recall anything specific to



**Nurse Carolyn  
Muller  
High School**



**Nurse Mary  
Bragg  
Floater Nurse**



have driven my desire to care for people.” Mary said that she and her husband both went to nursing school together in Newport, Rhode Island with three children under the age of 5. She said that during their last two semesters, they commuted from Hauppauge to Newport Rhode Island several times a week in order to finish.

Mary has worked as a nurse for many years before starting at Hauppauge. She said, “My passion was always to work with babies. As circumstances would have it, a job opened up in the Neonatal ICU at Stony Brook and it was there I have worked for 29 years.”

When asked what the best part of her job is, Mary said, “The best part of my job is being able to see my grandchildren periodically throughout the Hauppauge school district. Not only did I graduate from Hauppauge, so did my children and it is now where my grandchildren are going to school. Another thing I love is the positive and supportive environment provided by staff and administrators here at Hauppauge.”

When asked why she chose Hauppauge, Mary said, “Well, Mrs Martin (HMS RN) strongly encouraged me to apply back in 1990, right around the time I was to accept a part time position at Stony Brook. She thought I would be a good fit in the Hauppauge school district. Initially I wasn’t wild about the thought of being a school nurse, but I have to say I have enjoyed working with the children at school and happy I accepted this position.”

Deborah Wissman is the school nurse at Forest Brook Elementary. Deborah said that what she likes most about being a school nurse is that she gets to be an educator. She said, “On a daily basis I educate students and staff on a variety of health-related topics. I teach students to manage their chronic health issues. I teach students and staff about disease prevention, nutrition, food allergies and other health related topics.”

Deborah said the following about the things she also does on a regular basis; “I take care of students, staff and visitors who are ill or injured during the school day and during extra curricula activities. I also take care of students who have been diagnosed with chronic health issues. I teach lessons about life threatening allergies to students and staff to keep those who are allergic safe. I teach lessons on handwashing, sneezing, preventing the spread of germs. I teach about a variety of topics during the year through activities in and out of the classroom including, but not limited to, nutrition, heart health and stress management. I review health records and report to the state on immunization and other health issues. I keep up with the Department of Health and the State regulations for schools. I write care plans for all students with health issues and review them with staff. I keep a record of every student that walks through the health office door. I arrange and attend school physicals. I conduct vision, hearing and scoliosis exams. I attend 504, and IEP meetings as needed. I also run the Veteran’s Voices Community Service Group, Senior Socials Group and Operation Holiday Card. These Community Service groups include students at Forest Brook and HY Volunteers.

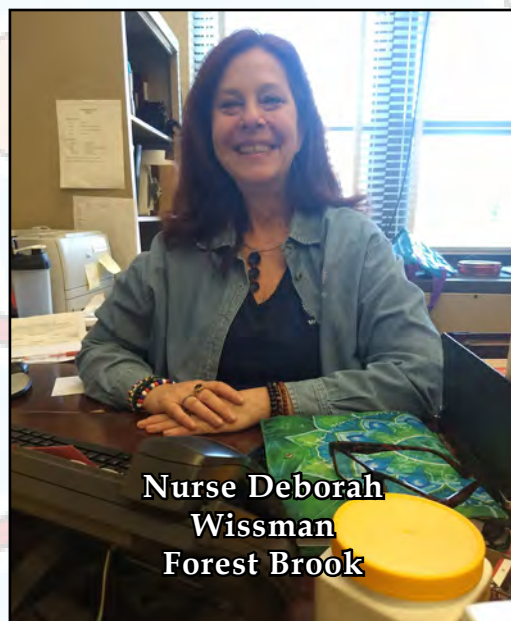
When asked why she became a nurse, Deborah said it enabled her to work a flexible schedule with her children. She attended SUC at Geneseo and earned her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Psychology and Certification in Elementary Education and she attended SUNY Farmingdale for her ASN in Nursing.

Deborah has been a nurse for 26 years. Prior to working in the schools, she worked in Pediatric, Neonatal Home Care and Hospice.

With regard to what is the best part of her job, Deborah said, “Seeing students become independent. Going into the classrooms to teach.”

When asked why she chose Hauppauge, Deborah said, “Hauppauge chose me.”

Grace Felice is the school nurse at the Middle School. When asked what she liked most about being a nurse, she said, “The best thing about being a school nurse is having the opportunity to educate the



**Nurse Deborah  
Wissman  
Forest Brook**





**Nurse Grace  
Felice  
Middle School**

students and promote a healthy school environment. I really do enjoy spending time with the students and the staff at the middle school. Every day brings a new adventure!"

When asked why she wanted to become a nurse, Grace said, "I knew at a very young age that I wanted to be a nurse. I always enjoyed taking care of people and animals. I truly believe nursing is not a job, it's a calling."

Grace attended the advanced placement nursing program at Suffolk County Community College and from there she took on-line courses for her Bachelor's Degree at SUNY Delhi.

Grace has been a nurse for 19 years. She worked in a nursing home for 6 years and in a hospital for 13 years. She said that she was a medical oncology nurse for 10 years and an orthopedic nurse for 3 years prior to working in the school.

With regard to what is the best part of her job, Grace said, "I love working with the kids and their families. I especially love working in the middle school because the students are at a great

age and I feel like I can make meaningful connections with them."

Grace found herself at Hauppauge for the following reason, "A lot of my friends are teachers in surrounding districts and all of them spoke very highly of Hauppauge School District. I am so glad that I chose Hauppauge and that Hauppauge chose me!!"

Last, but not least, Marianne Lieberman is the nurse at Pines Elementary. When asked what she liked most about being a school nurse, Marianne said, "I love taking care of children in every aspect of their well-being while promoting good health and safety habits to help ensure their academic success. I enjoy getting to know the students, their families and working with the Pines staff."

Besides attending to students who become ill during the school day, Marianne is very busy. She said, "A typical day involves assessing students or staff with varied illnesses and injuries, administering medication, blood glucose monitoring, performing vision, hearing and scoliosis screenings and attending to a number of medical needs. A school nurse is responsible for maintaining up to date medical and immunization records, keeping current with state mandates and regulations, developing individual health care plans and promoting health and safety education. I provide care, support and education of diabetes, asthma, allergies, seizures and emotional health. Another important aspect of my job is keeping the communication open between students, parents, staff and the community. A school nurse is part of the emergency response team, attends 504 meetings and helps to develop health policies."



**Nurse Marianne  
Lieberman  
Pines**

When asked why she became a nurse, Marianne said, "My mother went to nursing school while raising five children. I grew up learning about nursing from her and the enjoyment she received while working with her patients. It seemed natural for me to follow in her footsteps...and I'm glad I did!"

Marianne received her Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing from C.W. Post Long Island University. She has worked as a nurse for over 40 years. Before becoming a school nurse, Marianne worked in a hospital in the critical care and emergency department.

When asked what is the best part of her job, Marianne said, "The best part of my job is getting to know the children and watching them grow and develop into unique individuals. It is rewarding to

offer a place of comfort and support during times of physical and emotional stress."

Marianne said she chose Hauppauge for the following reason, "When I was looking to start my career in school nursing Hauppauge chose me. It was a big adjustment at first, there was a lot to learn and was so different from hospital nursing. I am happy to be part of the Hauppauge Schools for the past 20 years!"

Thank you to our wonderful school nurses for participating in this article! It has been great to get to know you. It is comforting to know that our precious students, in each school in our District, are in good hands.



## HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES RETURN TO SHARE THEIR COLLEGE EXPERIENCES

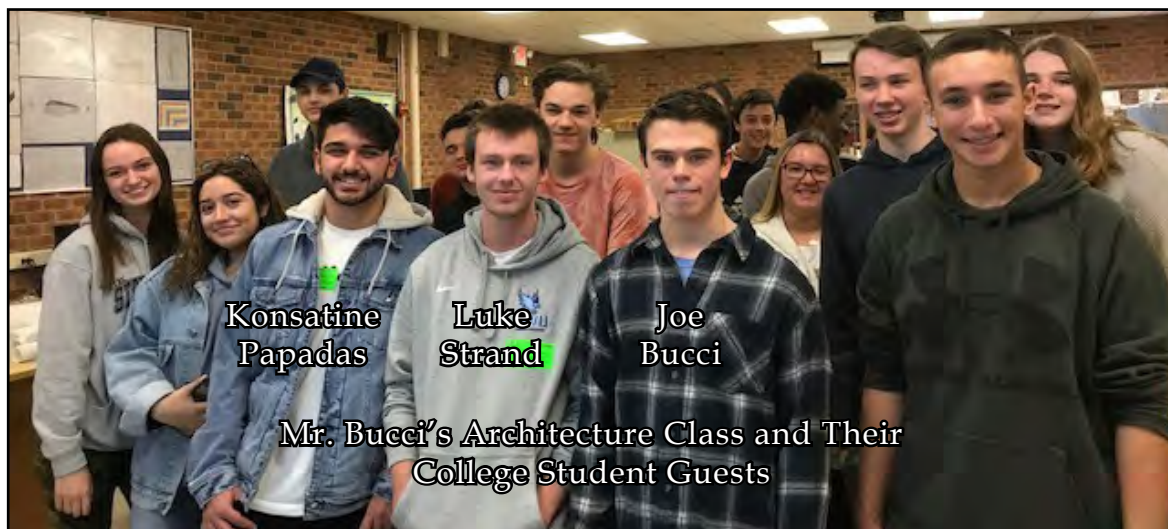
On Friday January 10th, three college students that are studying Architecture came to speak with Mr. Bucci's High School Architecture class. The students were Luke Strand and Konsatine Papadas who are former Hauppauge students. They took Mr. Bucci's Architecture class in High School. Also speaking about his Freshman college experience was Joe Bucci, Mr. Bucci's son.

Luke and Joe are both attending Roger Williams University and Konstine is attending Farmingdale College. These college students brought examples of their work and spoke to the students about their work load and college experience, which they were very happy to share.

The High school students asked questions regarding what is required to get into this program, as well as questions on the course work. It was a very positive activity for all involved.

Mr. Bucci said, "It was helpful to hear the experiences of two of the students who are attending away from home, while the other is attending locally and commuting."

Thank you to Luke, Konsatine and also to Mr. Bucci's son, Joe for taking the time to talk to our students!

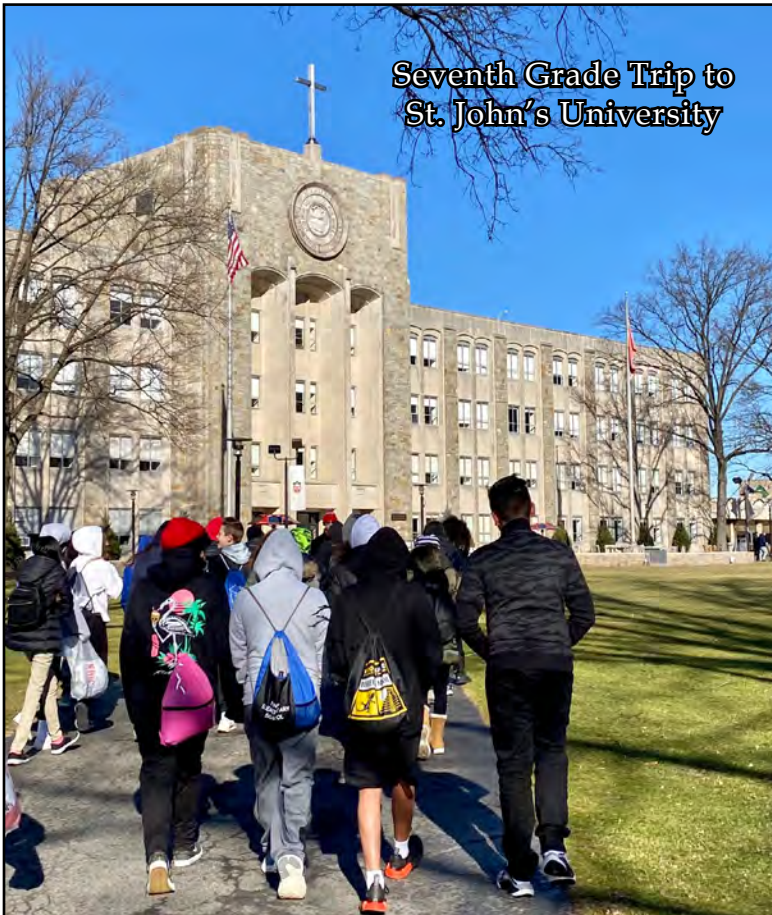




# ENTIRE SEVENTH GRADE CLASS MAKES A STOP ON "THE ROAD TO AWESOME"

On Wednesday, January 15th, the entire seventh grade class took a special trip to St. John's University in Queens. Dr. Carolyn Probst, Assistant to the Superintendent for Educational Services and Student Outcomes said, "Hauppauge students are taking an important step on "The Road to Awesome" as they learn about exciting programs offered at St. John's University."

Here are some great photos from their trip which also included getting to see a women's basketball game. This trip was a great experience for our students!



Seventh Grade Trip to  
St. John's University





# A'KAI LITTLEJOHN IS TAKING THE FASHION WORLD BY STORM, BUT WE KNEW HIM WHEN

A'Kai Littlejohn is a Junior at the high school. He has made a name for himself in the fashion world at a young age, competing in "Project Runway Junior" when he was 13 years old and an eighth grader at the Middle School. This past September, A'Kai debuted his solo New York Fashion Week Show featuring his Spring/Summer 2020 collection. On December 9th, A'Kai received the "2019 Emerging Fashion Designer Award" from "Cine' moi Network's Cine Fashion Film Awards in Beverly Hills, California.



**Early Designs by A'Kai**  
Left to right: Bonnie Lukowski, Kimberly Crawford-Arbocus, Kris Drago, Elisabeth Anziano, Eileen Doda, Phoebe Czachor, A'Kai Littlejohn



**A'Kai and  
Phoebe Czachor  
his Kindergarten  
Teacher**

A'Kai is accomplishing amazing things in his quest to someday have his fashion brand, "A'Kai" as he stated, "Become an international brand which is well-known and loved by the stars!" The Hauppauge Community is very proud of A'Kai, but there is a group of teachers who knew A'Kai from his early fashion-designing days. They are extremely proud of him and his designs, but also of the items he sewed for them when he was as young as Kindergarten age. Last week, we staged a little reunion with A'Kai and his former teachers; from Bretton Woods and Forest Brook. They all brought with them the items he sewed for them; some dresses and some shirts. Some had fancy "A'Kai" labels sewn in!

Phoebe Czachor was one of A'Kai's Kindergarten teachers and is now retired. Although he was not sewing yet when she had him, she has always remained watchful of A'Kai's accomplishments. She attended

a premiere party with his parents when A'Kai was on "Project Runway Junior" and she was able to attend his New York Fashion Week Show this past September.

Kris Drago was also one of A'Kai's Kindergarten teachers. She brought with her a dress that A'Kai made her and presented her with on the last day of school. A'Kai's mother, Kari, told the story. She said, "It was the night before the last day of school and A'Kai wanted to make a dress for his teacher, Ms. Drago. I told him he didn't have enough time, but A'Kai went into his room and sat on his bedroom floor and created the dress he gave her



**A'Kai and  
Kris Drago  
his Kindergarten  
Teacher  
"The Rainbow Dress"**





**A'Kai and  
Bonnie  
Lukowski his  
Second Grade  
Teacher**

for the last day." He sewed it by hand. Kris Drago said she is happy that she is the first teacher to get an original "A'Kai" dress! She said A'Kai named it "The Rainbow Dress."

Bonnie Lukowski was A'Kai's second grade teacher. A'Kai made Ms. Lukowski a blue dress that was off one shoulder. She was so happy to have it and was very excited to be able to help arrange this reunion with A'Kai! Bonnie was able to get A'Kai to sign the dress for her.

Elisabeth Anziano was A'Kai's Art teacher. She said she remembers Bonnie Lukowski telling her that A'Kai wanted a sewing machine. A'Kai made Ms. Anziano a lovely blue blouse from material she had given him. Her blouse came with one of A'Kai's sewn-in labels.

Kimberly Crawford-Arbocus had A'Kai for a student when he was in third grade. He made her a lovely white dress with large blue flowers. A'Kai's mom, Kari, said that A'Kai had a hard time picking the fabric for Ms. Crawford-Arbocus' dress as he was concerned about her style. Her dress turned out beautifully and she wore it and brought pictures along from that day. He certainly got her style right!

Recently retired Forest Brook teacher, Eileen Doda, was happy to come to the reunion with a blouse A'Kai made her. The blouse

also had the sewn-in label and a beautiful drawstring at the bottom which was a beaded chain. Eileen said that she watched A'Kai on "Project Runway Junior" and said it was very exciting to watch him.



**A'Kai and  
Eileen Doda  
his  
Fifth-Grade  
Teacher**



**A'Kai and  
Elisabeth  
Anziano his  
Art Teacher**

A'Kai is a very well-rounded student. He runs Spring track. He is a member of the National Honor Society and National Art Honor Society. A'Kai is also on Student Council and is a member of the Junior Class. After he graduates, A'Kai plans on attending the *Parsons School of Design* in New York City.

A'Kai received his first sewing machine when he was in first grade. He said his Aunt taught him to sew when he was 4. He was sketching outfits when he was 3. A'Kai sews all of his designs himself.





One of A'Kai's favorite designers is Zandra Rhodes who was a favorite of Princess Diana and designed many dresses for her.

Thank you so much A'Kai for taking the time to come and reunite with your former teachers! The fact that all of these teachers kept these special items all of this time was wonderful. It said a lot about how they felt about A'Kai and their appreciation for such a special gift from one of their students.



He also has items in stores in the Hamptons area and has hand-sewn those as well. As his fashions become more popular, he said he will have to have a manufacturer sew his designs, but he will keep that work in the United States. A'Kai's designs are for sale on his website [akailittlejohn.com](http://akailittlejohn.com).

A'Kai has designed dresses for celebrities. He recently designed a dress for Priyanka Chopra who is an Indian actress and the winner of the Miss World 2000 pageant and for Shahadi Wright Joseph who is also an actress starring in "The Lion King" remake and the 2019 movie "Us." His dresses were worn by them to movie premieres they attended.

While in Beverly Hills receiving his Cine'moi Award for "Emerging Fashion Designer" A'Kai said he was able to meet some celebrities while there, one of which was singer, Chaka Khan.





# FOREST BROOK FIFTH-GRADERS WORK ON AN ENGINEERING TASK IN STEAM CLASS

Room 106 is the STEAM room at Forest Brook Elementary School and is manned by STEAM Teacher, Carrie Pecoraro. Carrie is also the Library Media Specialist at Forest Brook. On Thursday, January 16th, she worked with Ms. Donna Garvey's fifth-grade class, as well as ENL teacher, Ms. Lynn Gustie. The task on that day was an engineering one. The class was charged with constructing towers using only a few materials; spaghetti, mini-marshmallows, masking tape, and a ping pong ball. The rules were as follows:

1. Build a tower as tall as possible
2. When it is finished, it must support a ping pong ball
3. Sketch your plan first
4. Materials may be purchased from the "Building Supply Headquarters" at the posted price
5. Materials can only be purchased once you have shown the "Challenge Coordinator" your correct calculations on the sheet provided, showing your work
6. The height of each structure will be measured from the base of the tower to the top of the ping pong ball
7. The structure must remain standing by itself after construction with the ping pong ball on top
8. The height of the tower and the total cost of materials will determine the team's score
9. No materials may be returned for a refund
10. Teamwork, cooperation, neatness and creativity will be observed.

Students then had to put their division skills to work! They had to calculate the average amount of

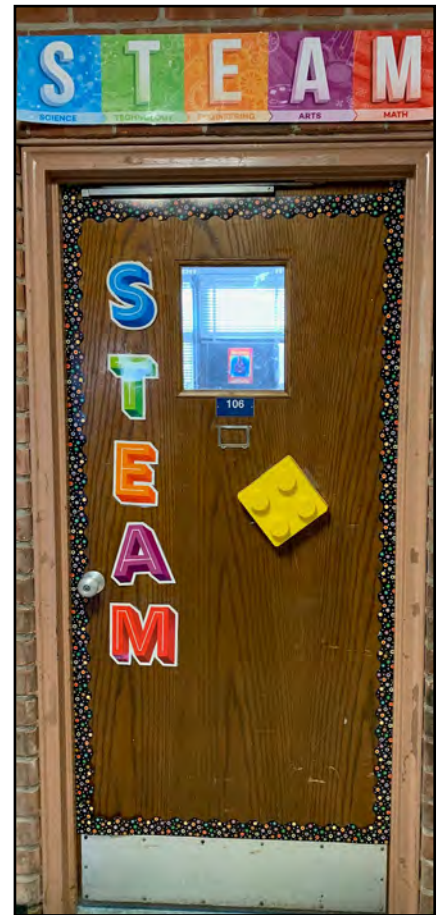


**Carrie Pecoraro**  
**STEAM Teacher**

money spent on the total number of supplies they purchased to make their tower. Then, they divided the total cost by the number of supplies. Spaghetti was \$2.50 a strand. Mini-marshmallows were \$1.70 each and masking tape was \$0.69 cents for three inches. After figuring out their costs, they were ready to purchase.

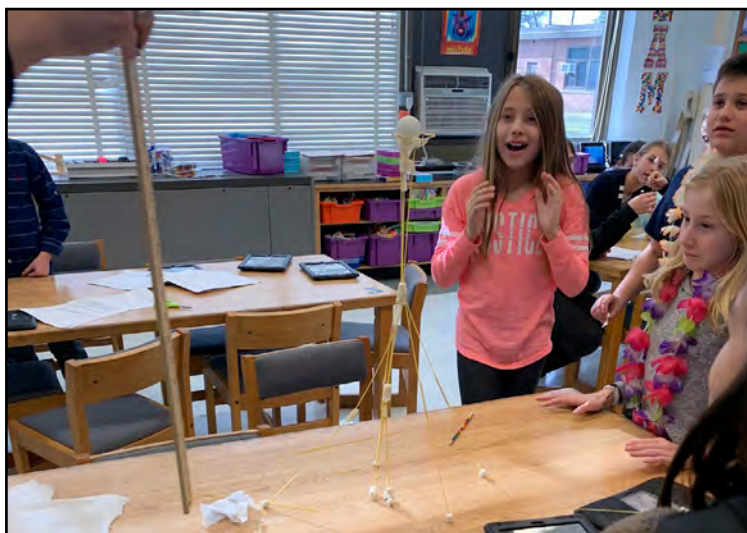
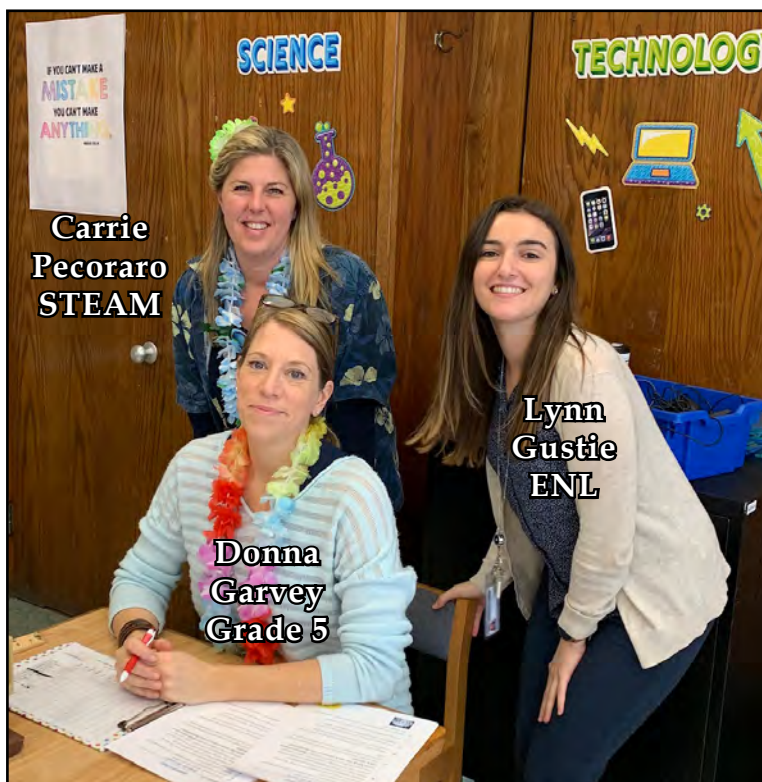
When it was time to build, the students were given points for the height and points for the amount of money spent. The higher the tower, the higher the points, but the more money spent, the lesser amount of points they would receive.

All of the groups worked diligently on figuring out their materials needed and began building. The towers at each table were different and it was amazing to watch the students hard at work! STEAM teacher, Carrie Pecoraro said, "I am always amazed when we build things in my classes. Some of the things the students come up with just blow me away!"





This was a great experience to see what our students are working on in STEAM classes!  
As a side note, it was Hawaiian Day at Forest Brook and the students, and teachers, are decked out in their finest tropical wear!





## HAUPPAUGE WRESTLERS ADVANCE TO SECTION XI DUAL MEET

Congratulations to our Hauppauge Wrestling Team! They participated in a Dual Meet on Wednesday, January 22nd and had victories over Sayville HS and Lindenhurst HS. They have advanced to the semi-finals which take place on Saturday, January 24th at Bay Shore HS. [Click here](#) to get your tickets! Come out and support our team! GO EAGLES !!!



## MIDDLE SCHOOL CHEERLEADERS PLACE AT SUFFOLK COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

Our Middle School Cheerleaders have had quite a season! They placed 1st in the Section XI Championships back in November. On January 19th, they competed in the Suffolk County Championships and placed fourth! These girls displayed not only great teamwork, but remarkable energy and enthusiasm. Congratulations on a fantastic season! GO EAGLES !!!

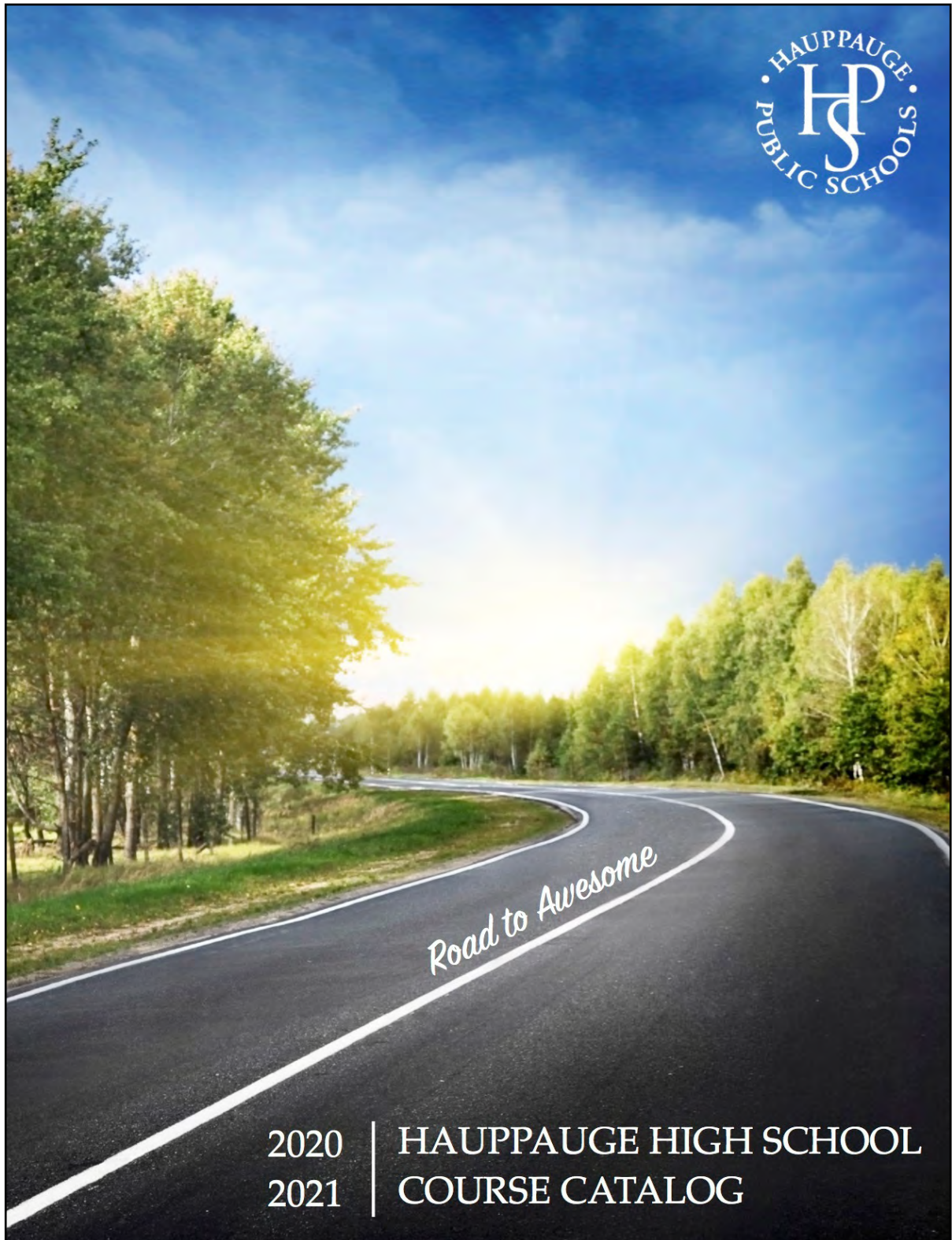


Middle School Cheerleaders



# THE NEW 2020-2021 COURSE CATALOG IS NOW AVAILABLE

The new 2020-2021 Course Catalog has arrived! [Click here](#) to see it.



*Road to Awesome*

2020 | HAUPPAUGE HIGH SCHOOL  
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