

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ARE PREPARING FOR THE EASTERN LONG ISLAND REGIONAL SCIENCE OLYMPIAD ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1ST

Some of our high school students are busily preparing to compete in the Eastern Long Island Regional Science Olympiad which will take place at Hauppauge High School on Saturday, February 1st. This is a very exciting year as High School Physics teachers Dennis Petercsak and Brianna Becker are the Regional Coordinators for all of Eastern Long Island. With that new responsibility, they have relocated the competition to Hauppauge High School.

At this year's Science Olympiad, over 50 teams of students from different schools in Suffolk County will meet at Hauppauge High School to compete in 23 science-related events. Dennis Petercsak said, "This is a massive event and it takes all day for it to complete. Teams will begin arriving at 7:00 am and won't be done till about 6:00 pm."

The New York State Science Olympiad is a non-profit organization which "seeks to engage and challenge students in science, technology, engineering and math ("STEM") through various levels of team-based competitive tournaments throughout New York State."

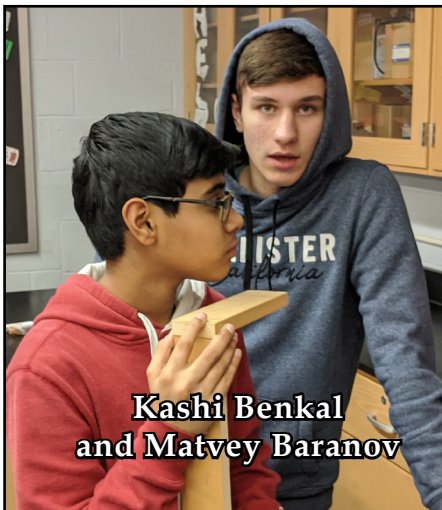
We wish our Science Olympiad students the best of luck in this competition! Here are some photos of their practice and preparation. GO EAGLES!!!



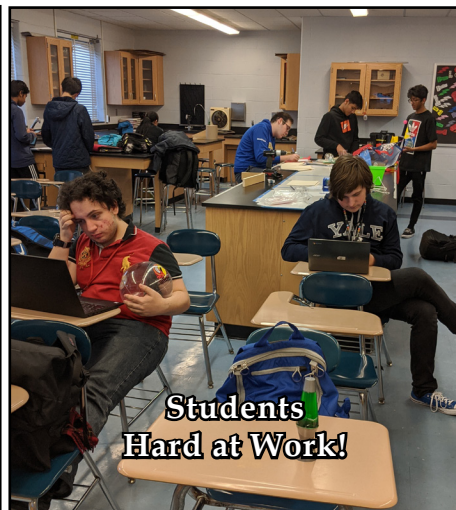
Alex
Vasilakopoulos



Keertana
Madhira



Kashi Benkal
and Matvey Baranov



Students
Hard at Work!

High School Science Olympiad Teams

Anatomy and Physiology

Team A: Alex Vasilakopoulos & Danielle Liu

Team B: Jared Palahnuk & Keertana Madhira

Astronomy

Team A: Aaryan Chandra & Noah Schwartzapfel

Team B: Joseph Mathew & Satvik Karanam

Boomilever

Team A: Pritham Katla & Rachel Ma

Team B: Pranav Lanka & Snehal Adabala

Chemistry Lab

Team A: Jalaj Mehta & Melody Cheng

Team B: Matvey Baranov & Satvik Karanam

Circuit Lab -

Team A: Emma Vasilakopoulos & Sai Munagavalasa

Team B: Viraaj Hegde & Rithika Katla

Codebusters -

Team A: Shivani Rao, Sreevarshini Karthikeyan & Melody Cheng

Team B: Viraaj Hegde, Keertana Madhira & Matvey Baranov

Designer Genes -

Team A: Danielle Liu & Emma Vasilakopoulos

Team B: Sarah Shai & Sharvani Rao

Detector Building -

Team A: Jalaj Mehta & Noah Schwartzapfel

Disease Detectives -

Team A: Alex Vasilakopoulos & Jalaj Mehta

Team B: Snehal Adabala & Matvey Baranov

Dynamic Planet -

Team A: Sreevarshini Karthikeyan & Sahi Sagiraju

Team B: Griffin Capece & Liz Furman

Experimental Design -

Team A: Sreevarshini Karthikeyan, Pritham Katla & Noah Schwartzapfel

Team B: Rithika Katla & Sharvani Rao

Forensics -

Team A: Shivani Rao & Jalaj Mehta

Team B: Sharvani Rao & Rithika Katla

Fossils -

Team A: Sai Munagavalasa & Tyler Xu

Team B: Snehal Adabala & Liz Furman

Geologic Mapping -

Team A: Sreevarshini Karthikeyan & Sahi Sagiraju

Team B: Kashi Benkal & Joseph Mathew

Gravity Vehicle -

Team A: Rachel Ma & Jalaj Mehta

Team B: Sreenand Mallisetty & Pranav Lanka

Machines -

Team A: Noah Schwartzapfel & Emma Vasilakopoulos

Team B: Jared Palahnuk & Sreenand Mallisetty

Ornithology -

Team A: Sai Munagavalasa & Tyler Xu

Team B: Liz Furman & Sarah Shaik

Ping Pong Parachute -

Team A: Pritham Katla & Aaryan Chandra

Team B: Pranav Lanka & Kashi Benkal

Protein Modeling -

Team A: Shivani Rao & Danielle Liu & Alex Vasilakopoulos

Team B: Joseph Mathew & Satvik Karanam

Sounds of Music -

Team A: Aaryan Chandra & Sahi Sagiraju

Team B: Kashi Benkal & Jared Palahnuk

Water Quality -

Team A: Sai Munagavalasa & Tyler Xu

Team B: Sarah Shaik & Keertana Madhira

Wright Stuff -

Team A: Rachel Ma & Pritham Katla

Team B: Sreenand Mallisetty & Viraaj Hegde

Write It Do It -

Team A: Melody Cheng & Alex Vasilakopoulos

Team B: Griffin Capece & Kashi Benkal



Exploring the World of Science

"TEACHER SPOTLIGHT"

Christine O'Shaughnessy
Kindergarten
Bretton Woods Elementary School



Why did you want to become a teacher?

I was actually an accounting major when I began college. One day I was visiting my mom at her school where she was a Teaching Assistant. I fell in love with working with the kids right away and knew it was the path I wanted to take.

Where did you go to college and what did you like about it?

Hofstra University. It was fun being around people with common interests.

What is the best part of your job?

Kindergarten is the most rewarding grade level to teach! I love watching the children grow throughout the year as readers, writers and problem solvers. Our impromptu dance parties are great too. Maybe the best part though is seeing your former kindergarten students march down the hall as high school graduates, knowing it all started in your room.

How long have you been teaching?

Twenty-two years total. One year as a special education teacher, and then kindergarten ever since.

What makes a good day at school for you?

I am happy when my students leave with big smiles on their faces, or when they have been working on a skill and it finally clicks.

What accomplishment fills you with pride so far this year?

I feel like my students are beginning to embrace a love of learning. Seeing the faces that were once nervous and crying, who now come in happy and excited to learn make my heart happy. These amazing kids have come such a long way in such a short time.

How does technology make teaching more simple or difficult?

I think technology is a wonderful way to enhance learning. It allows you to step outside the classroom and be a part of something bigger that you may not otherwise be able to experience. I still wholeheartedly believe though, that there is nothing better than authentic learning through play and hands on experiences.

If you could sit in on another teachers class for a day, who would it be and why?

I would love to visit all the first grade classrooms so I can sit with my former students and see their growth.

Is there a piece of wisdom you would pass on to your students?

Always ask for help when you need it.

Embrace challenges, don't avoid them.

Don't worry about being popular or cool – be kind!

If you could take your students on a field trip anywhere in the world, where would it be?

As I went through a long list of ideas in my head, I discovered that there would be nothing better than taking 19 five year olds to Disney. There we could explore animals at Animal Kingdom, learn about the world in Epcot, and top it off at Splash Mountain for fun!

Continued on next page . . .

What is one of your best memories of being a student?

I will never forget my fifth grade teacher at the Pines, Mr. Butterfield. He is the example of the teacher I strive to be. He made learning fun and authentic. Some fond memories are racing meal worms, plotting land in Baiting Hollow and our field trip where he gave my mom an apple because she kept getting lost on the trails.

Do you have a favorite thing about your classroom?

My reading center is my favorite spot in my classroom. I want my students to get cozy with books so they become avid readers. There is nothing better than a comfy reading spot and a good book.

What advice would you give to new teachers?

I would tell new teachers to make sure their classroom feels like a safe place where you can instill a love of learning. Once your students have a love of learning, teaching them will feel more natural and exciting. Teaching to the whole child, and not just academics is really important.

What would students be surprised to find out about you?

I grew up in Hauppauge, teach in Hauppauge and live in Hauppauge. I have also swam with sharks and been chased by flamingos.

What word would describe you best when you were a student?

In sixth grade my English teacher called me "Striver." I think that sums it up.

Do you have any favorite books you would recommend to students to read?

I think "The Giving Tree" is wonderful because the message of the book applies to everyone, regardless of age.

If you could meet any person, living or dead, who would that be and why?

This question stumped me because there are so many people I would be honored to meet. After thinking about Walt Disney, Jimmy Buffett, and my five-year-old self as possibilities, I decided on Chip and Joanna Gaines. I love how they appear to balance work and life, and seem to keep it all together. I would love to know their secret to making it look so easy, and get some design tips from Joanna on creating the perfect space for my family.

Why did you choose Hauppauge Schools?

I am a proud Hauppauge graduate, and I am honored to be able to give back to the community I grew up in, even in a small way.



CHINESE ACROBATS VISIT BRETTON WOODS TO KICK OFF THE CHINESE NEW YEAR

On Friday, January 24th, Bretton Woods Elementary School kicked off the Chinese New Year with a great performance by Chinese acrobats.

The Chinese New Year, also known as the “Lunar New Year” because it is based on the lunar calendar and not the solar calendar, kicked off on Saturday, January 25th, 2020. This year is the beginning of the “Year of the Rat” in the Chinese zodiac cycle. Celebrations will see people wearing a lot of red and shooting off fireworks. Some other common elements include gift giving, spending time with family and friends and food. The “Travel China Guide” notes with regard to the ‘Year of the Rat,’ “Though people consider the rat not adorable, and it even makes its way into derogatory languages, it ranks first on the Chinese zodiac signs. It has characteristics of an animal with spirit, wit, alertness, delicacy, flexibility and vitality.”

Enjoy these photos from the performance!



PINES STUDENTS PUT ON THEIR VIRTUAL REALITY GOGGLES AND SEE THE WORLD

Pines students had a fun opportunity to delve further into their studies. BOCES Model School Trainer Nikki Frink brought Virtual Reality goggles to the Pines and students went on virtual field trips using Google Expeditions. Third and fourth graders got to see animal adaptations up close and viewed the world from different animals' perspectives. Fifth graders, who are studying ancient ruins, toured the world and saw places like Macchu Picchu, the Colliseum in Rome, and Mayan and Incan ruins.

Thank you to Nikki Frink of BOCES for bringing this fantastic experience to our students!



HHS GIRLS TRACK TEAM COMPETES AT S.C. INDOOR TRACK MEET, BREAKS A LONG-STANDING RECORD AND MOVES ON TO SECTION XI CHAMPIONSHIPS

The high school Girls Track Team competed this past weekend at the Suffolk County Indoor Track Meet. The Girls Winter Track Relay Team led after the first lap in the 4 x 800 meter race with Freshman Allie Kelly starting the relay team off and leading after the first lap. Teammate Abigail Clark who is a Junior, took the baton and finished her four laps with a great time to keep the lead for Hauppauge. Next up, Senior Shannon Moleti cruised to extend the lead and Team Captain, Rebecca Clackett who is a Senior, held the anchor position winning the relay race over Eastport South-Manor by 18 seconds. She crossed the finish line in 10.15.03, breaking the record that has stood at Hauppauge High School for 20 years.



"For Shannon & Rebecca it was the culmination of four years of trying to break that Record. They teamed up with a number of athletes along the way but they were consistent members of the relay team all these years and congrats to Allie and Abi to help them break it" said Coach Mary Nowotarski after the race.

This Friday the girls running for Hauppauge Coach Nowotarski & Coach Ryan will compete at the Section XI County Championships. Congratulations to the team and good luck this weekend!

See more great photos from the meet on the next page!



High School Girls Indoor Track Team



Top row: Carlen Kwakye, Moyo Awolowo, Ella Walsh, Meghan Walsh, Maria Williams, Alexa Spiers

Middle row: Sydney Flynn, Caitlin Regan, Sarah O'Brien, Kiera Kalinsky, Lily O'Brien, Emily Russo,

Teresa Deasy, Olivia Accardi

Bottom row: Clara Jurion, Tammantha Merchant, Rebecca Clackett, Shannon Moleti,

Allie Kelly, Abi Clarke, Alexa Dobbs

Coach Jim Ryan (Coach Mary Nowotarski, not pictured)

Some team members are not pictured in photo above.

HIGH SCHOOL BOYS TRACK & FIELD TEAM WINS 2020 INDOOR LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP

BIG CONGRATULATIONS to the High School Boys Track and Field Team and their coach, Vincenzo Battaglia! They won the 2020 Indoor League Championship on Friday, January 17th!

This past Saturday at Suffolk, Martine MacDonald broke the Long Jump record for a 3rd time jumping 22 feet and 4 inches ranking him #1 in Suffolk County and #4 in New York State. Tyler Charles broke the Triple Jump record for a 2nd time jumping 44 feet and 11.5 inches.

Great job! GO EAGLES !!!



HAUPPAUGE STUDENTS ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN NINTH ANNUAL WRITING CONTEST

The Friends of the Hauppauge Public Library in conjunction with the Hauppauge School District is happy to announce the ninth annual Writing Contest which will run from Saturday, February 1, 2020 through Monday, March 9, 2020.

Students are asked to write about a situation, a person, or event that they feel captures the idea that breaking down or climbing over barriers in life can lead to wonderful things happening for you, your family, school, community and/or the world, and write a story, an essay, poem, or story board (comic strip) that highlights this concept.

Who is eligible?: Students in grades 1st - 8th attending school in the Hauppauge SD and those attending private or parochial schools served by the Hauppauge Public Library.

The topic: Breaking Down Barriers Prizes: 1st and 2nd place will be awarded to students in four grade-level groups: 1st - 2nd / 3rd - 4th/ 5th - 6th/ 7th - 8th.

Students who participate will be invited to share their writing pieces during a library celebration on Saturday, April 4, 2020 at 10am.

[Click here](#) to get all the details!

HIGH SCHOOL CHEERLEADERS PLACE FIRST IN SMALL SCHOOLS DIVISION I AT SECTION XI CHAMPIONSHIPS

Our high school cheerleaders are reaching great heights! On January 25th, the Hauppauge Varsity Cheerleaders took 1st at the Section XI Cheerleading Competition in Commack.

The girls have been working very hard to prepare for Nationals. They even have been doing early morning practices before school! Talk about commitment! The cheerleaders will be having their annual Nationals Send-off on Tuesday, February 5th at 6:00 pm at Whiporwil in the gymnasium. Come check out their Nationals routine! One of the most elite yet! HVC will be competing at the UCA High School Cheerleading Competition in Florida next weekend!



Come out on Tuesday to cheer the Cheerleaders!



HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT IS HAUPPAUGE ROTARY STUDENT OF THE MONTH

High School Senior, Abigail Schwack-Trovitch is the Hauppauge Rotary's "Student of the Month." Abigail attended a breakfast honoring her on Wednesday, January 29th with her dad, Eric; mom, Karen and brother, Eric. Also in attendance were Joy Ferrara and Joseph Wieckhorst, Assistant Principals; and Colleen Ruffini, Social Worker. Abbey is attending morning BOCES and is taking Early Childhood Education. This course is designed to prepare students for careers as teachers or child care providers in early childhood education. The study of child development includes direct hands-on work experience with children in their on-site preschool. The BOCES students take on different roles each week; sometimes as lead teacher, math teacher or reading teacher.

Abigail is very active at the high school. She is the manager of the Varsity Girls Lacrosse Team. She is also a member of National Honor Society, Leadership Club and Varsity Club.

Abigail is graduating in June, but has not made her mind up yet as to what college she will be attending. She has her eye on SUNY Delphi and Suffolk County Community College.

Members of the Rotary; Stephanie Ethel, Carol Lee Igoe, Annette Savino and Frank Rossi awarded Abbey a special certificate and Amazon gift card.

Congratulations to Abbey on this wonderful honor! We wish her the best as she continues on her chosen path of education and career choice.



OUR ELEMENTARY STUDENTS ARE TRAVELERS ON "THE ROAD TO AWESOME" AND SETTING THEIR SIGHTS ON THE DESTINATION

This past week, our elementary students celebrated "College and Career Week." They wore their college sweatshirts of schools that parents attended or schools that they strive to attend one day. Enjoy these great photos!



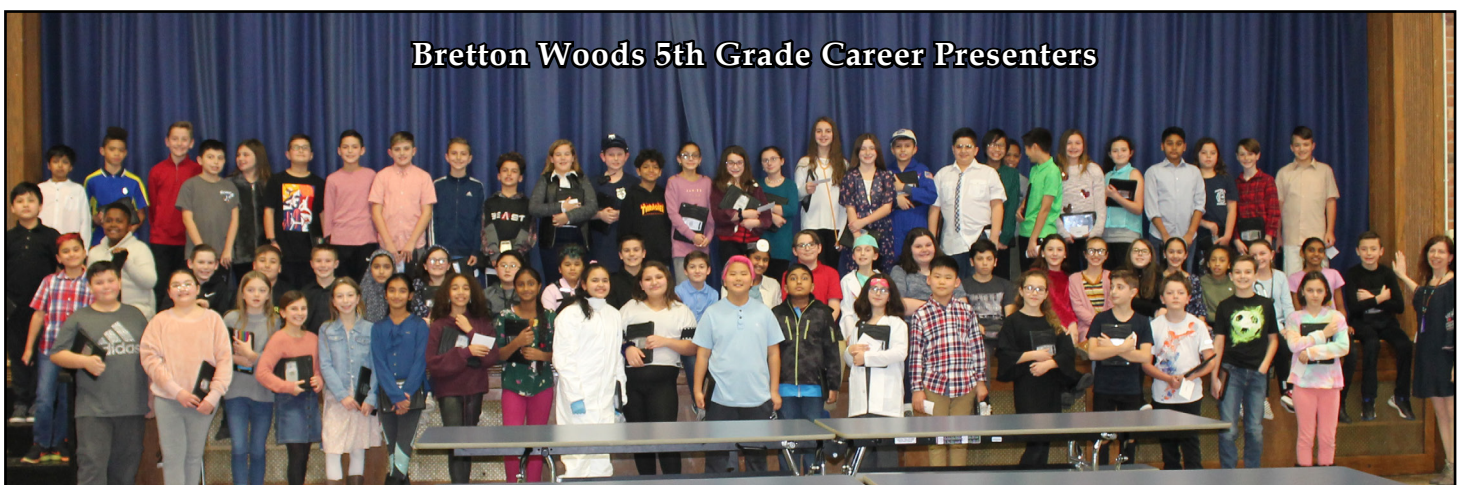
More photos on next page . . .

BRETTON WOOD STUDENTS EXPERIENCE A CAREER FAIR

Bretton Woods students were the lucky recipients of a Career Fair this past week, as they celebrated "College and Career Week." Our fifth-graders also visited classes to make career presentations.

Thank you to the following presenters who took time out from their busy schedules to tell our students about their careers:

Victoria Lospinuso – Nature's Bounty
Mr. Kaplan – Housemaster Home Inspection Co.
Mr. Battiloro – Admissions, St. Josephs College
Mrs. Gill, English Teacher/Chairperson
Dr. Handel – Stony Brook Children's Hospital, Pediatric Infectious Disease Physician
Dr. Levy , Mrs. Hoffman – Adelberg Montalvan Pediatric Dental Orthodontics
Mrs. Vanhorn – Attorney and Partner, Vanhorn & Friedman, PC
Officer Coysh – Port Authority Police K-9 Unit
Mrs. O'Brien – Entrepreneur/State Farm Insurance Agent
Mr. Albornoz – Goldman Sachs/U.S. Army Veteran



PINES ELEMENTARY STUDENTS "DRESSED FOR SUCCESS" THIS WEEK

There were quite an array of careers represented when Pines elementary students "dressed for success" this week!

Sports Photographer and Athletes

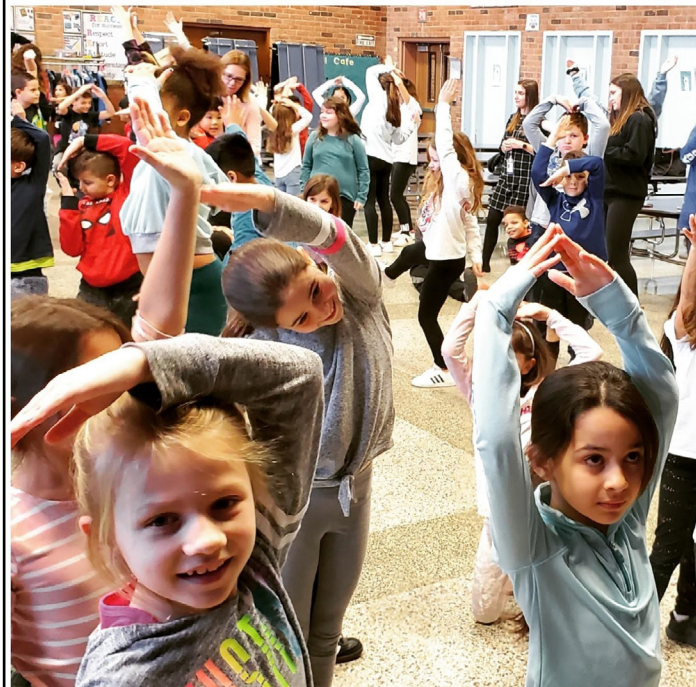
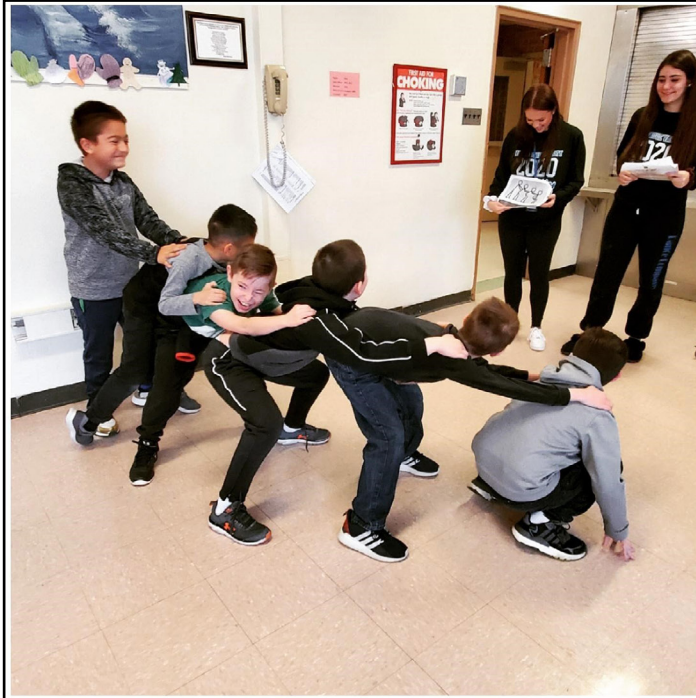


More photos on next page . . .



HIGH SCHOOL DANCERS TAKE THIRD GRADERS ON A DANCE JOURNEY

On Tuesday January 28th the high school advanced dance classes visited Forest Brook and Bretton Woods third-graders. The dancers, under the direction of teacher Carolyn Cavuoto, led workshops in mindful movement. The third graders meditated using imagery, practiced expressing emotions through movement, and played mindful freeze dance. It was a fun experience for all students!



HAUPPAUGE EDUCATIONAL
FOUNDATION'S

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MARCH 14 | 7PM
THE JAZZ LOFT
275 CHRISTIAN AVENUE
STONY BROOK

\$45/ PERSON | LIGHT REFRESHMENTS SERVED
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