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HAUPPAUGE SCHOOLS WELCOME NEW STAFF!

Our new school year began with not only our new and returning students, but also with new staff. Hauppauge Public Schools welcomed a new group of teachers and administrative staff this year. We are honored to present here, the newcomers to our Hauppauge family!

Rebecca Bilski is the new Director of Pupil Personnel Services and Special Education. Rebecca began her career as a teacher of the Deaf working at Millneck Manor School for the Deaf. She also worked at Nassau BOCES and South Country School District as a Special Education Teacher. Rebecca said, "I had the opportunity to teach students at all grade levels. Teaching students with special needs and working closely with families has always been my passion and I am excited to utilize my skills as a special educator and as an educational leader in the Hauppauge School District."

Rebecca hails from Saint James and graduated from Smithtown High School. She enjoys spending time with her husband and three boys, running, camping and kayaking. When asked why she chose Hauppauge Schools, Rebecca said, "From the moment I arrived in Hauppauge, I knew it was going to be my new home. The team here is supportive, focused and committed to providing students and families with the best educational programs and services. Many of my family members graduated from Hauppauge and experienced first-hand Hauppauge's commitment to excellence. It is both a privilege and an honor to be part of the team. I am excited to work with families and build home/school connections that support student learning and growth."



Rebecca Bilski
Director of Pupil Personnel Services
and Special Education



Meridyth Hansen
Director of
Mathematics

Also welcomed is a new Director of Mathematics, Meridyth Hansen. Meridyth joined the Hauppauge School Community coming from the Cold Spring Harbor School District where she served as the STEM Director overseeing curriculum and instruction in Mathematics, Science and Technology K-12. Prior to her time in the Cold Spring Harbor District, Meridyth served as the Chairperson of Mathematics and Science for the East Rockaway School District for grades 6-12. Meridyth said, "I began my career as an educator in the NYCDOE. While teaching mathematics in NYC, I took on various leadership roles in both large and small high school settings in Queens and Brooklyn. These roles included turnaround teacher, lead teacher, attendance coordinator, testing coordinator, content leader, and teacher mentor. I began my professional career as an auditor for PricewaterhouseCoopers. After volunteering at local underserved high schools in Manhattan, I was extremely excited to join the New York City Teaching Fellows program and began my teaching career within the NYCDOE."

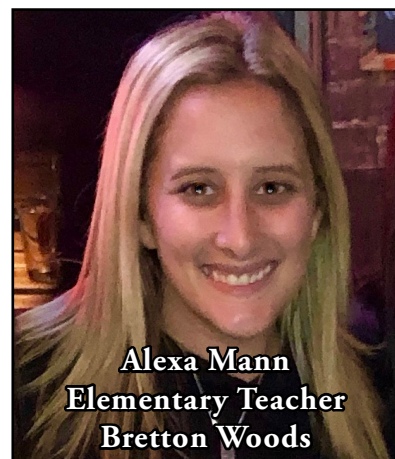
Meridyth moved to Oyster Bay three years ago with her husband, three children, dog and pig. Yes, a pig! Meridyth grew up on Long Island and graduated from Malverne High School. In her spare time, Meridyth said that she and her family spend as much time as possible outdoors at the beach or the parks. Meridyth said, "I was previously an ocean lifeguard and feel like the beach is where my heart is in the summer, so we spend much of the summer on the beaches of Long Island. I played soccer most of my life and continued to play while attending Rutgers University. I still play when I can in various adult leagues when I'm not attending sporting events or school events for the kids."

When asked why she chose Hauppauge Schools, Meridyth said, "Hauppauge has a phenomenal administrative team of leaders who are focused on working together with educators to increase opportunities for all students. I'm excited to help provide leadership, vision, and support in the ongoing development and implementation of the district's curriculum and to ensure that our programs are always reaching their maximum potential."



Anthony Hayes is the new Elementary Music Teacher and splits his time between Bretton Woods and Forest Brook. Anthony previously worked for Hauppauge during the 2016-2017 school year and after, he moved upstate to Oneonta, NY, where he accepted a position teaching Chorus and Band. While in Oneonta, Anthony also played Horn in a few orchestras and started his own video editing business. Anthony said, "As a Long Island native, my family frequently asked, 'What would it take to get you back?' My answer was simple. 'A full time band position in Hauppauge. Nowhere else.' It's hard to believe this has actually happened. I am overjoyed to be back with the wonderful, collaborative staff and administration that have always made me feel welcome."

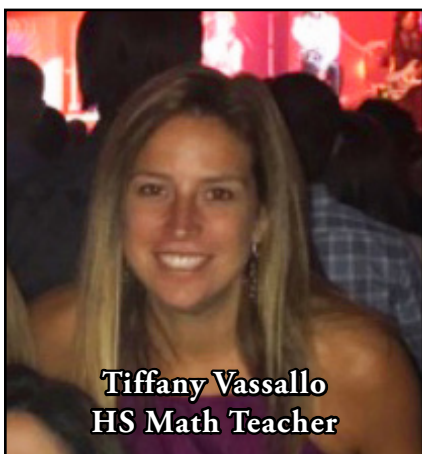
Alexa Mann is a new elementary teacher at Bretton Woods. She previously taught fourth grade in Elmhurst, Queens at PS 89. She was also a teaching assistant in the Lynbrook School District and Oceanside School District. Alexa is from South Bellmore and now lives in Huntington. In her spare time she enjoys reading, working at Driftwood Day Camp, traveling and spending time with family and friends. When asked why she chose Hauppauge schools, Alexa said, "I chose Hauppauge Public School District because from the minute I stepped inside, I felt a connection to the faculty and children and knew it was a special place to work!"



Donna Scocca is a new Special Education teacher at Forest Brook. Donna has worked all over New York; from the Hamptons to Brooklyn. She has been a teaching assistant, substitute teacher and a behavior consultant. She taught third and fourth grade in Brooklyn and taught sixth, seventh and eighth grade science in Riverhead. Donna is a Hauppauge graduate and is so happy to be back! In her spare time, Donna loves to play with her two dogs. They come from Hawaii and Puerto Rico! When asked why she chose Hauppauge, Donna said, "I am so happy to be back home in Hauppauge. I love how this district helped prepare me for my future, and I am happy to do the same for the children in my own community."

Tiffany Vassallo is a new math teacher at the High School. Prior to joining Hauppauge schools, Tiffany taught at Northport High School for 12 years. She worked as a leave replacement in Hauppauge for a half-year in 2017 and worked here part-time last year. Before becoming a math teacher, Tiffany worked as an Institutional Sales Trader on Wall Street for seven years. Tiffany grew up in Northport. In her spare time, Tiffany likes spending time with family and friends, as well as relaxing on the beach, going to the gym, skiing and reading. When asked why she chose Hauppauge, Tiffany said, "I love the Hauppauge community. Faculty and students have been very welcoming and make this a nice place to work."

Stephanie Mesbah has joined the high school as a Special Education teacher. Stephanie said that she spent the last few years teaching in the West Village in Manhattan. She taught ELA and Social Studies there and was the supervisor



Tiffany Vassallo
HS Math Teacher

for Student Council there. Stephanie grew up in Oyster Bay. In her spare time she likes to read true crime books, but Harry Potter is her all-time favorite series. She also said that she spends most afternoons at the gym and tries to hike as often as she can. When asked why she chose Hauppauge, Stephanie said, "Hauppauge is a school that is very close to my heart. While I grew up in Oyster Bay, - a very small district - I spent two of my high school years as a Hauppauge student. These years were when I came out of my shell, made lifelong friends, and felt most supported and encouraged by teachers. Despite being in a much larger school, I felt like I played a much larger role in the overall community. Now as a teacher, I want to give my students this same experience."

Nicholas Converso is the newest addition to our Music Department and currently splits his time between the Middle School and High School. Nick previously

worked as a music teacher in the East Islip School District and taught everything from elementary general music to middle school chorus to high school music theory. Nick is originally from East Islip, but moved to Ronkonkoma recently. He likes to spend his free time cooking and surfing. When asked why he chose Hauppauge, Nick said, "I chose Hauppauge School District because of its awesome reputation and the wonderful teachers and administration that work here. It has been an absolute pleasure getting to know everyone and learning about this wonderful school. Hauppauge has really built something special here and I'm so happy that I can be a part of it."

Finally, our last new addition to the Hauppauge family is Meghan McGrath. Meghan is a new Art teacher at the High School. Meghan comes to us from the private sector and during that time, she never gave up on finding a great teaching job. She worked at Bancker Construction Corporation here in Hauppauge and said, "I



Stephanie Mesbah
HS Special Education

was an Assistant Contract Manager at Bancker Construction Corp. - a role that is responsible for the intake and submission of all the new bids for all utility work (civil and electrical) across Long Island and in the city including for major clients - National Grid and PSEG Long Island. I also managed and reviewed new contracts for recently awarded projects, filed and obtained Road Opening Permits and submitted Proposals for contractors. Meghan is from Mount Sinai and likes to spend her spare time running, exercising, and of course, creating art! Meghan enjoys taking art classes on the side and recently took a watercolor workshop over the summer at the Art League of Long Island.



Nicholas Converso
Music Teacher
MiddleSchool/High School

that I would never be happy with myself if I did that, nor do I believe in quitting. I knew what I wanted to do for my career and knew I would be good. Nothing was going to prevent me from trying. I liked that Hauppauge called me in to meet with me and gave me a chance. They asked tough questions during my interview but they saw I had a passion for art, a passion to teach children what I love so much and that in the end, I persevere. I think perseverance is a very under-estimated but important trait for one to have. Never give up. It's what I hope to teach my future students."

Thank you to all of our new staff for wonderful interviews! We are happy to welcome an awesome new group to our Hauppauge School Community!



Meghan McGrath
HS Art Teacher

FOREST BROOK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CELEBRATES “CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS DAY”

Forest Brook Elementary School celebrated “Childhood Cancer Awareness Day” on Friday, September 13th. Students and staff all wore yellow in order to unite together to show their support and let those who fight this terrible disease know that they are not alone.



HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS WITH AN EYE ON ENTERING THE WORKFORCE AFTER GRADUATION GET PREPARED THROUGH EASTERN SUFFOLK BOCES' CAREER CENTER

Each year, high school students take advantage of a multifaceted educational experience. The mission of the ES BOCES Eastern Long Island Academy of Applied Technology located at the Edward J. Milliken Technical Center in Oakdale, NY, is "to provide quality career education programs that will transition each student from secondary education to competitive employment." At the Career Center, students have the option to explore a wide variety of career programs. With an increasingly complex job market, students will need to be prepared in all aspects of career education and these programs are designed to help students meet the professional, academic and interpersonal skills necessary to realize their full potential. Currently, Hauppauge High School has 64 students in grades 11 and 12 attending.



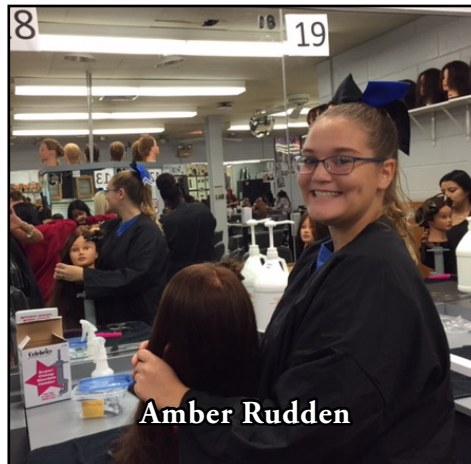
Ava Lemke, Alyssa Adragna, Amber Rudden
Cosmetology

Ms. Deborah Esposito is a Cosmetology teacher at ES BOCES and teaches three of our Hauppauge students; Alyssa Adragna, Amber Rudden and Ava Lemke. Cosmetology instruction is provided along with hands-on experience in hair shaping, styling and chemical services including hair coloring, permanent waving, body waves and chemical relaxing. Encompassed with the curriculum are treatments of the hair and scalp, facials, all aspects of make-up, nail care and artificial nails. The course also teaches the business aspects of cosmetology and salon management. A cosmetology license qualifies graduates to work with hair, skin and nails, as well as allowing specialization in any area of cosmetology. Students who successfully complete this 1,000 hour course over two years will be eligible to sit for the New York

State Board Licensing Exam!



Alyssa Adragna



Amber Rudden



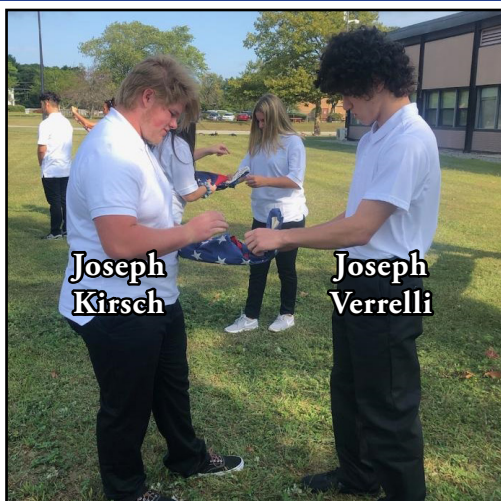
Ava Lemke

State Board Licensing Exam!

Sandra Lochren is Teaching Law Enforcement at ES BOCES. She has several Hauppauge High School students in her class. Law Enforcement is a broad based program for students with an interest in criminal justice, law enforcement, public safety and other related legal careers. The program includes the study of civil and criminal law, providing a strong foundation for entry into the security field or for advanced training at a police academy or college. This program is a NYS Approved Security Guard School and students who qualify are provided an opportunity to pass the Security Guard certification exam, as well as the International Federation of Protection Officers (IFPO) exam and the APCO exam, which is a national telecommunicator (911) certification. Both of these certifications are nationally recognized and are offered in the second year of the program, which also includes forensics and crime scene investigations.

On September 11th, our students, along with their law enforcement class, had a special opportunity to learn the art of flag folding.

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**Joseph
Kirsch**

**Joseph
Verrelli**



**BOCES Law Enforcement
Flag Folding Lesson on 9/11**

**Samantha Pfander-Casolaro, Joseph Ferrara, Joseph Kirsch,
Joseph Rosenberg, Gabriel Rosario, Kevin McLoughlin, Jacob
Reardon, Joseph Verrelli, Mikayla Tsantes**



**Carter
Ramputi
Culinary Arts/
Restaurant Operations**

Chef Spyridon Giannakouloupoulos is the ES BOCES Culinary Arts/Restaurant Operations teacher. Hauppauge High School student, Carter Ramputi is in his class. This program begins with baking and pastry arts and then moves into complete food preparation and management techniques. Students gain an understanding of baking and cake decorating, nutrition, menu planning, catering, dining food service, food production, as well as safety and sanitation codes. Second year students are prepared to take the National Restaurant *ServSafe* test. The program has the accreditation of the American Culinary Federation (ACF) which provides students with the opportunity to earn a Certified Junior Culinarian (CJC) certificate. The program is also associated with the New York State Restaurant Association (NYSRA) Educational Foundation *ProStart* Program, which provides students with work experience necessary to succeed in the workplace.

Mr. Brett Corcoran teaches Electrical Trade and Alternative Energy and has several of our Hauppauge HS students in his class. This program is a combination

of hands-on skill development and technical training in order to prepare students for entry-level employment or higher in the electrical trade. Students gain practice in traditional wiring methods and blueprint reading, as well as learn the latest renewable energy concepts including solar, wind and geothermal technologies. Energy conservation methods and the technological changes driving future energy careers are an integral part of this program.

Students have the option of taking the National Center for Construction Education Research (NCCER) exam to be placed on the NCCER National Registry. The Registry provides valuable industry credentials for students as they seek employment and build their careers.

Ms. Gini Wagner teaches Early Childhood Education at ES BOCES, with several of our HS students taking this class. This course is designed to prepare students for careers as teachers or child care providers in early childhood education. The study of child development is included by direct hands-on work experience with children in their on-site preschool.

There is a second year option of this class available which prepares students to work towards the child Development Associate (CDA), a nationally recognized credential that will qualify candidates to meet all state licensing requirements



Electrical Trade and Alternative Energy

**Front row: Michael Hufnagel,
Liam Maggio, Edward Wisneski,
Matthew Tsororos,
Back row: Ian Seeger, Dillon Lynch,
Matthew Kennedy**



Abigail Schwack-Trovitch
Early Child Education

to work as a child care professional in any early childhood program in the United States. Students in the second year program participate in community-based internships to explore varied educational settings and student groups.

High School student, Jason Zorn, is enrolled in Mr. Brian LaBarba's Auto Body Repair and Car Customizing class. This program gives students the opportunity to learn how to dismantle and reassemble damaged automobile components, straighten metal parts and car frames, straighten dents, use filler compounds, grinding techniques and prepare a car for the refinishing shop. Students also learn how to select and mix paint according to the latest EPA guidelines as well as the proper techniques in spray painting. Students gain hands-on experience in after market auto accessory installation.

Tyler Tuzinkiewicz is taking the Automotive Technology class at ES BOCES, taught by Mr. John Mazeika. This two-year program meets requirements for Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) Certification and is certified by the Na-



Jason Zorn
Auto Body Repair and
Car Customizing

tional Automotive Technicians Education Foundation (NATEF). This program provides students with theory and practice in the use of tools, special equipment, technical manuals, computerized service equipment, service specifications, diagnosis and methods of repair through teamwork, problem solving and critical thinking skills. Students will be prepared for The National Institute for Auto Service Excellence examination and



Tyler Tuzinkiewicz
Automotive Technology

have the option to be approved by the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles in NY State Inspection. High achieving juniors will have the opportunity to enter the AYES Program, which is a two-year apprentice program, administered through The Academy with local dealerships, similar to cooperative learning. Student, James Matarazzo is also taking the same Automotive Technology class and is being taught by Mr. Andrew Sarli.

Thank you to Mai Lan Boyce-Hurst, School-Guidance Counselor at the ES BOCES Eastern Long Island Academy of Applied Technology for gathering all of these wonderful photos from each of the teachers. All course descriptions were obtained from the Eastern Long Island Academy of Applied Technology 2019-20 Course Offerings Catalog. If you would like to view the catalog, [click here](#).

We wish all of our high school students attending BOCES the best of luck!



James Matarazzo
Automotive Technology

**PROGRAMS HAUPPAUGE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS
ARE ATTENDING THIS YEAR AT
EASTERN LONG ISLAND ACADEMY OF
APPLIED TECHNOLOGY**

Animal Science

Audio Production

Auto Body Repair and Car Customizing

Automotive Technology

Aviation Professional Pilot Training

Barbering

Carpentry and Residential Home Improvements

Clinical Medical Assisting

Computer Technology and Repair

Cosmetology

Culinary Arts and Restaurant Operations

Early Childhood Education

Electrical Trade and Alternative Energy

Fashion Merchandising

Heating, Air Conditional, Ventilation, and Refrigeration

Law Enforcement

Marine and Motorsports Technology

Physical Therapy Aide

Plumbing and Heating

Welding and Metal Fabrication

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