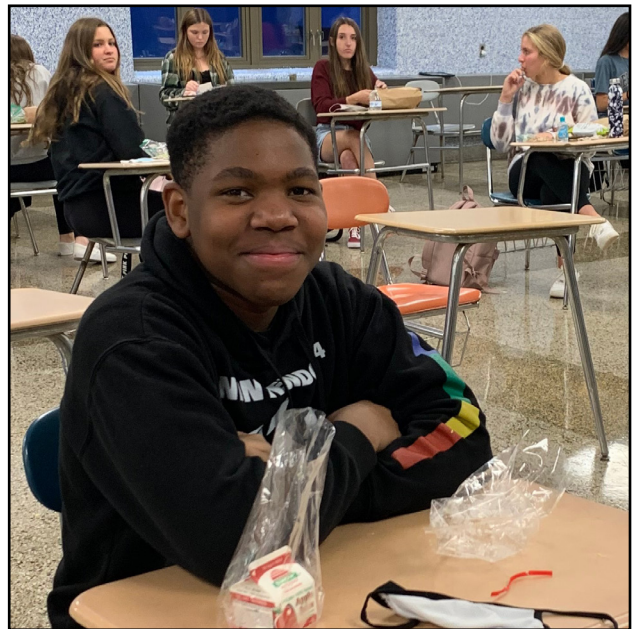


## HAUPPAUGE HIGH SCHOOL STAFF AND STUDENTS ARE DEMONSTRATING THAT “TEAMWORK MAKES THE DREAM WORK”

Hauppauge High School recently began its 2020-2021 school year. While a unique year, the HHS Team is excited by the energy in the building. Students and staff are settling into routines and new expectations, and our teaching time is working to deliver high-end instruction to every single student. All the while, safety remains their number one priority.

High School Principal, Chris Cook, recently spoke at a Board of Education meeting and reported to the Board on the high school reopening. He said, “We worked on reopening over the summer and the preparation was unlike anything I have ever seen. Staff had no hesitation and were happy to do anything that was asked of them.” Further, Mr. Cook has added, “teachers are thinking carefully about their instruction, balancing so many things, and still they are supporting our students’ development as young people.”

With regard to students wearing masks for much



of the day, Mr. Cook said, “the high school has 1,000 students in five different environments each day. All mask breaks take place outside of the classroom, but under teacher supervision. During a 70 minute block, there is some independent time and teachers are able to take their students on a mask break outside of the classroom. They are also taking their students on outdoor mask break walks... an extension of instructional time.”

In addition, lunch has achieved a new normal. Students first sit in their assigned rooms before being called to line up and stand on blue dots while waiting to get to the lunch window. Once students have their lunch, gone are the usual lunch tables and students sit at individual desks that are

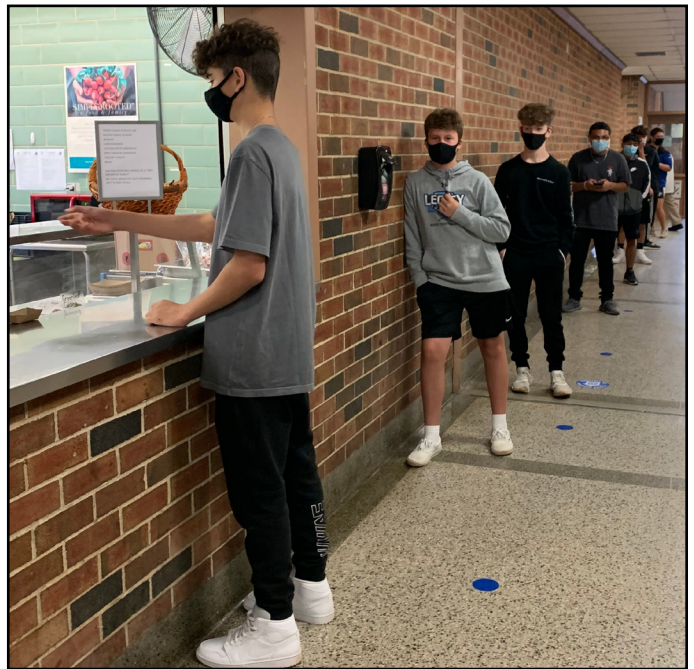
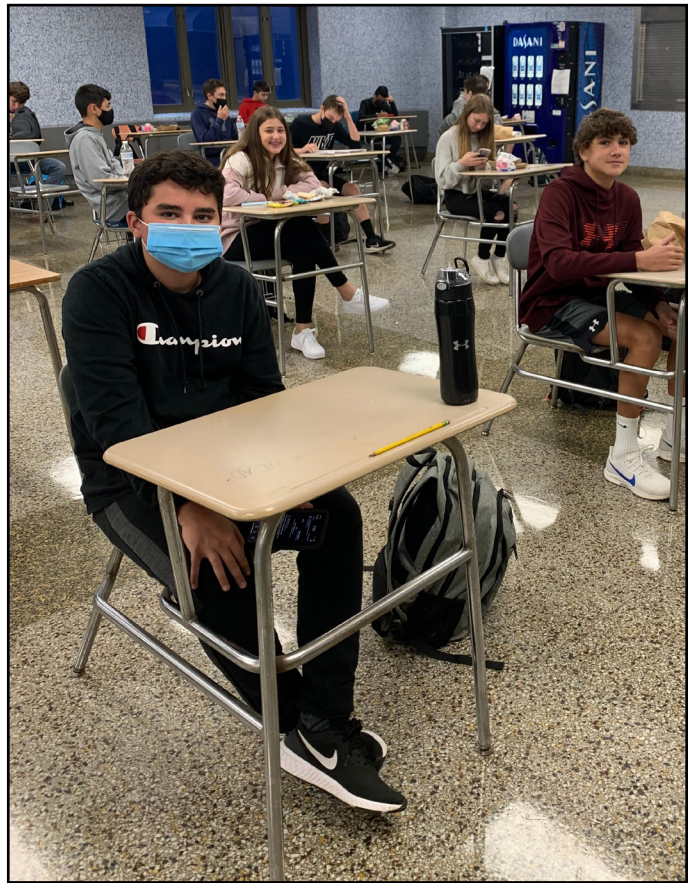


spaced six feet apart. During A & D days, the cafeteria accommodates 200 students per each of the four lunch periods, while on B & C Days, 1,000 students will eat their lunch throughout the building during third. During virtually all lunch periods, students have the chance to go outside, have a mask break and enjoy the courtyard or in other supervised locations.

The revamped high school courtyard has become a vital area for the students. Mr. Cook explained that the courtyard has been a relaxing and enjoyable place. His office now looks onto the courtyard, and he has enjoyed seeing so many students utilizing the peaceful space. The school is also looking into purchasing tents for the courtyard, so students can still go outside when it is raining. While in the courtyard, students are able to spread out into small groups, physically distanced, and enjoy some fresh air outdoors.

With regard to opening the building, Mr. Cook said, "When we opened the building, there were logistical snags here and there, but everyone was as prepared as possible. The students are coming to school and responding by doing every little thing we are asking of them. They have an understanding that we are doing something really excellent and spectacular." As we turn into our fifth week, students in school and at home are thriving. Teachers and the broader team continue to work to support our students in any way possible.

Thank you to the HS Team, the assistant principals Joy Ferrara, Joseph Wieckhorst and Kristy Pagliari, along with the entire HS operation team! The team of custodians, security, and buildings and grounds members has also supported the high school at every turn. The technology enhancements have been monumental. Also, thank you to the hard-working teachers and support staff, and our Directors for their leadership in curriculum and instruction. The contributions every team member makes each day are evident, as the high school is running smooth.

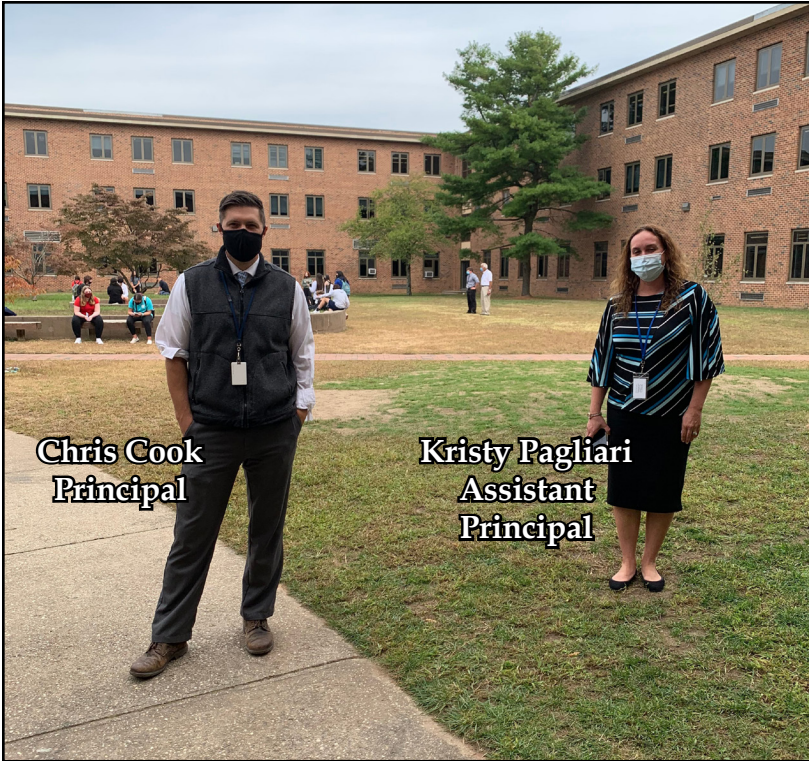






High School Courtyard





**Chris Cook**  
Principal

**Kristy Pagliari**  
Assistant  
Principal



*Outdoor time with friends*





# HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS ARE ANNOUNCED AS COMMENDED STUDENTS IN THE 2021 NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The National Merit Scholarship Program has announced that the following high school seniors are “Commended Students” in the 2021 National Merit Scholarship Program:

*Melody Cheng*  
*Vincent Gerardi*

*Damian Levin*  
*Danielle Liu*  
*Jalaj Mehta*

*Shivani Rao*  
*Alexander Vasilakopoulos*

Although these students did not continue in the competition for the National Merit Scholarship awards, they placed among the top 50,000 scorers of more than 1.5 million students who entered the 2021 competition by taking the 2019 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT).

Students who are named Commended Students have demonstrated outstanding potential for academic success. We wish these academically talented seniors all the best as they finish out their high school career.



National Merit®  
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# MATH AWARDS PRESENTED TO DESERVING MATH OLYMPIADS

Some Middle School sixth-graders took a step back in time to receive the math awards which they earned last year in fifth-grade at Forest Brook Elementary School.

Forest Brook Principal, Dr. Kristen Reingold, congratulated these “incredible mathematicians” and presented these Math Olympiads with their awards at the middle school along with Forest Brook Math teacher, Christina DeRosa; middle school Principal, Christine O’Connor; and middle school Assistant Principal, Michael Caulin.

The students who received math awards are:

*John (Jack) Stein  
Madelyn Mileo  
Katie Park  
Lilian Torres  
Julianna Heck  
Medha Rao  
Jacob Corcione  
Patrick Terzella  
John Piantieri  
Jayla Roxas  
Abigail Bowden  
Brianna Camilleri  
Cara Primiani*

Congratulations to our Math Olympians!



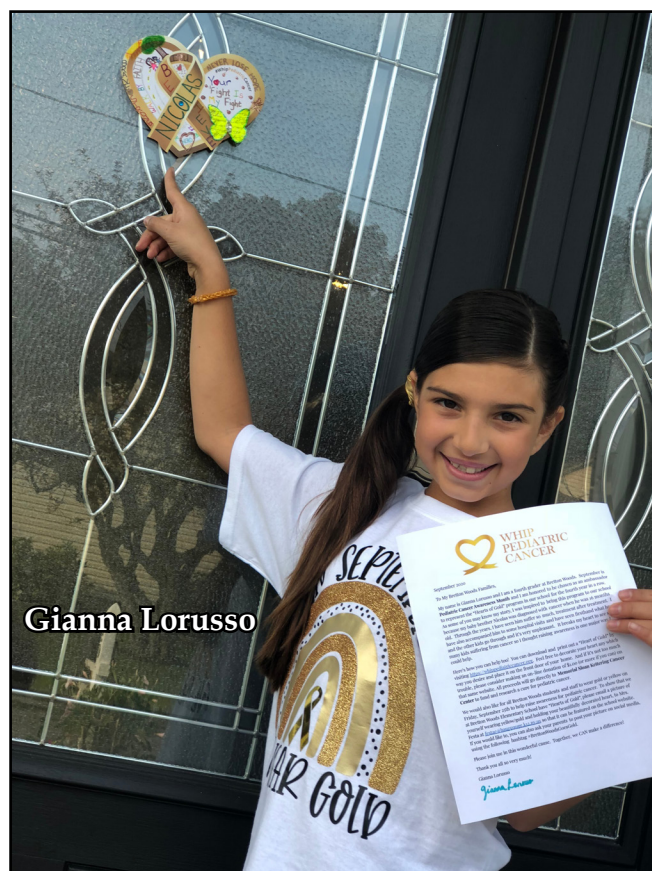


# BRETTON WOODS STUDENT TURNS HEARTS INTO GOLD TO “WHIP” PEDIATRIC CANCER

Bretton Woods Elementary School has a very special fourth-grader named Gianna Lorusso. Gianna is an ambassador who represents the “Hearts of Gold” program to “whip” Pediatric Cancer. She is working hard to bring awareness to this worthwhile cause for a very personal and special reason. In Gianna’s letter to Bretton Woods families, she said the following:

“I am honored to be chosen as an ambassador to represent the “Hearts of Gold” program in our school for the fourth year in a row. As some of you may know my story, I was inspired to bring this program to our school because my baby brother Nicolas was diagnosed with cancer when he was 16 months old. Through the years, I have seen him suffer so much, treatment after treatment. I have also accompanied him to some hospital visits and have seen firsthand what he and the other kids go through and it’s very unpleasant. It breaks my heart to see so many kids suffering from cancer so I thought raising awareness is one major way I could help.”

Gianna’s letter continued, “Here’s how you can help too! You can download and print out a “Heart of Gold” by visiting <https://whippediatriccancer.org>. Feel free to decorate your heart any which way you desire and place it on the front door of your home. And if it’s not too much trouble, please consider making an on-line donation of \$1.00 (or more if you can) on that



Gianna Lorusso



Principal, George Gagliardi with Gianna Lorusso

same website. All proceeds will go directly to Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center to fund and research a cure for pediatric cancer.”

All Bretton Woods students and staff to wore gold or yellow on Friday, September 25th to help raise awareness for pediatric cancer and they were also asked to email a picture of themselves wearing yellow/gold while holding their beautifully decorated heart to the school so that it could be featured on the school website. Students were asked to have their parents post their picture on social media, using the following hashtag #BrettonWoodsGoesGold.

Gianna concluded her letter saying, “Please join me in this wonderful cause. Together, we CAN make a difference!”

If you would like to help Gianna and donate to this worthy cause, [click here](#).

Thank you, Gianna, for all the special work you do to help your brother and all the children and families to “whip” Pediatric Cancer!

Enjoy the wonderful photos on the following page!





Principal, George Gagliardi with  
Gianna Lorusso





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