



# Horizons

Volume 5, Issue 1 - September 2, 2022

## WELCOME BACK STUDENTS!

Students arrived for their first day of school for the 2022/2023 school year on August 31st. The halls of our five schools; Bretton Woods, Forest Brook, Pines, Hauppauge Middle School and Hauppauge High School were once again bustling with the excitement of a new school year!

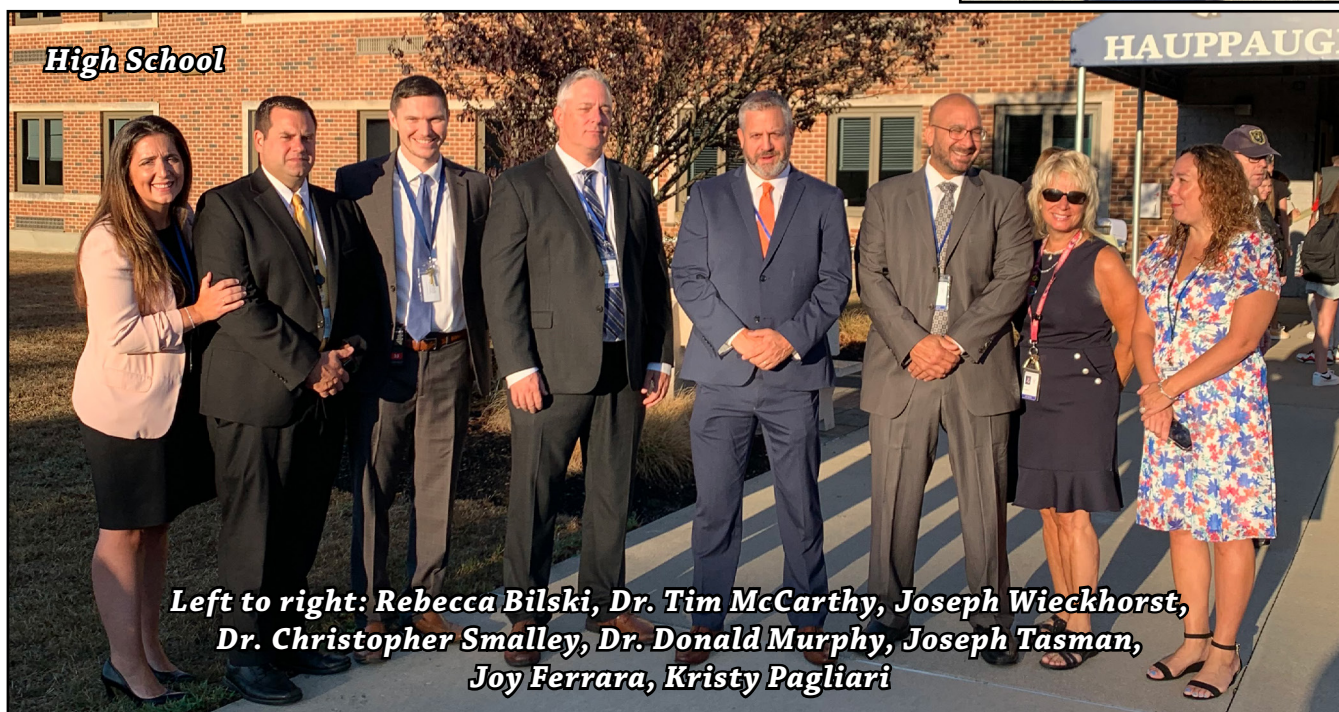
The administration and staff of each of the schools were on hand when the buses arrived to personally greet the students and anxious faces soon wore big smiles. Many students feel their school is like a second home. These positive and welcoming attitudes help ease students into a new school year where great things will be accomplished.

Each building was immaculate as the students entered. The custodial staff worked hard all summer to get the hallways and classrooms in pristine condition. The secretarial staff also worked hard all summer to make the opening day run smoothly and efficiently. The grounds crew completed the picture with manicured lawns.

Dr. Donald B. Murphy, Superintendent of Schools, is excited to welcome back students as we embark on a new school year. In a letter to Hauppauge parents and guardians, he said, "Our number one goal this year is to "Return To Normal" in our classrooms, on our fields, and throughout the district." [Click here](#) to read the entire letter.



**Dr. Donald Murphy,  
Superintendent, walks a  
student in at Forest Brook**



**Left to right: Rebecca Bilski, Dr. Tim McCarthy, Joseph Wieckhorst,  
Dr. Christopher Smalley, Dr. Donald Murphy, Joseph Tasman,  
Joy Ferrara, Kristy Pagliari**



# WELCOME BACK!

Dr. Murphy invites all parents and community members to join us throughout the year at special events and meetings listed on our District Calendar, including those of our Board of Education. Be sure to contact our school principals to learn about building activities and volunteer opportunities. Additional partnership opportunities are available through our PTA's, SEPTA, HEF, and other organizations. Here are some great photos from the first day of school. Welcome back!



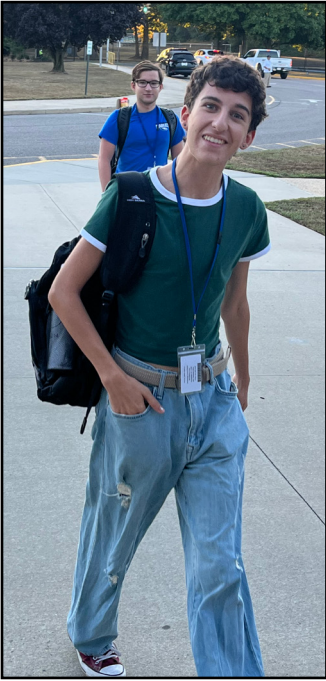


# HIGH SCHOOL



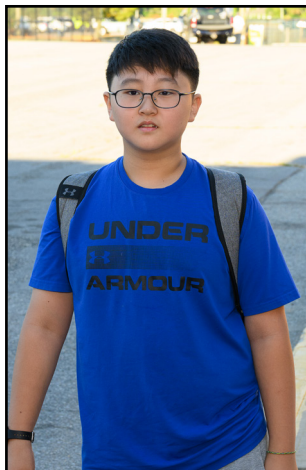


# HIGH SCHOOL





# MIDDLE SCHOOL





# MIDDLE SCHOOL





# BRETTON WOODS



*Principal, George Gagliardi, with Joseph Tasman, Dr. Tim McCarthy, and students*

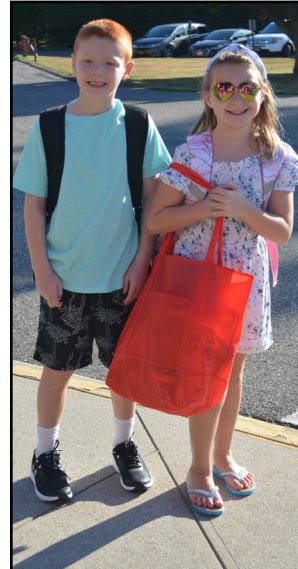
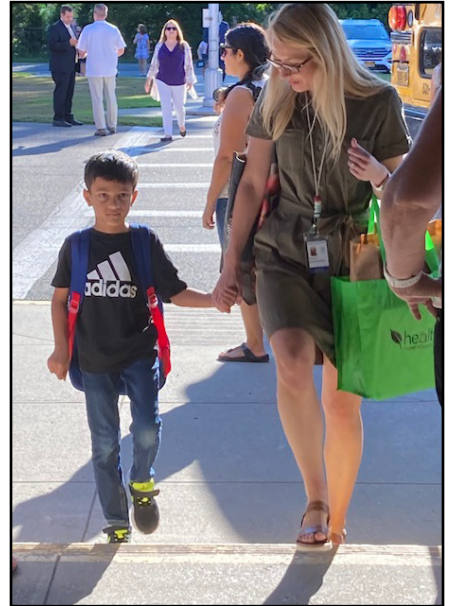


# BRETTON WOODS





# FOREST BROOK





# FOREST BROOK





# PINES



*Rebecca Bilski, Dr. Donald Murphy,  
Dr. Claudine DiMuzio, Principal*





# PINES





## HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS ENJOY A “SENIOR SUNRISE BREAKFAST”

The traditional “Senior Sunrise Breakfast” was held on the first day of school for our high school seniors. They had an opportunity to get together after a summer away and enjoy some time with their friends, principals, and even the Superintendent, Dr. Donald Murphy!

Here are some photos from this special event.





## NEW TEACHER ORIENTATION AND ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

On Wednesday, August 24th, the Hauppauge School District welcomed their new teachers during a special orientation. This new group was introduced to instructional technology programs by Leslie Brophy. They also listened to a professional development speaker who spoke about "Cultivating Educator Well-Being."

Also, the entire Administrative Council met on Thursday, August 25th, after their summer break to talk about the upcoming 2022/2023 school year.

Here are some photos from both meetings.



**Administrative Council**



# SUPERINTENDENT'S CONFERENCE DAYS ARE A WELCOME BACK TO TEACHERS AND STAFF

Dr. Murphy, Superintendent of Schools, welcomed back teachers and staff on Monday and Tuesday, August 29th and 30th, along with his Administrative Team:

Joseph C. Tasman, Deputy Superintendent of Schools

Brigid Siena, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Operations

Dr. Timothy McCarthy, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Technology

Rebecca Bilski, Assistant Superintendent for Pupil Personnel Services

Dr. Christopher Smalley, Executive Administrator of Information Technology and Security Initiatives



Also on hand to welcome back their building staff were our school principals:

Joseph C. Wieckhorst, High School

Christine O'Connor, Middle School

George Gagliardi, Bretton Woods

Dr. Kristen Reingold, Forest Brook

Dr. Claudine DiMuzio, Pines

Dr. Timothy McCarthy organized Superintendent's Conference Day. On Monday, teachers reported to their buildings for faculty and department meetings. In the afternoon, all staff reported to the high school auditorium. He welcomed Jessica Sheehan, high school physical education teacher, who got the crowd moving with "SEL (Social Emotional Learning) Fitness!"

Dr. McCarthy thanked our Buildings and Grounds custodians and facilities workers. He also thanked the entire IT department and the STEAM TA's. Also recognized were was the SCD Committee who worked with him on putting these two days together; Leslie Brophy, Joanne Seale and Tracy Zamek, with a special thank you to Dave Schaeffler.

Joseph Tasman, Deputy Superintendent, provided highlights of the Personnel Department which included announcing of new administrators, new hires, tenure recipients and staff with perfect attendance.

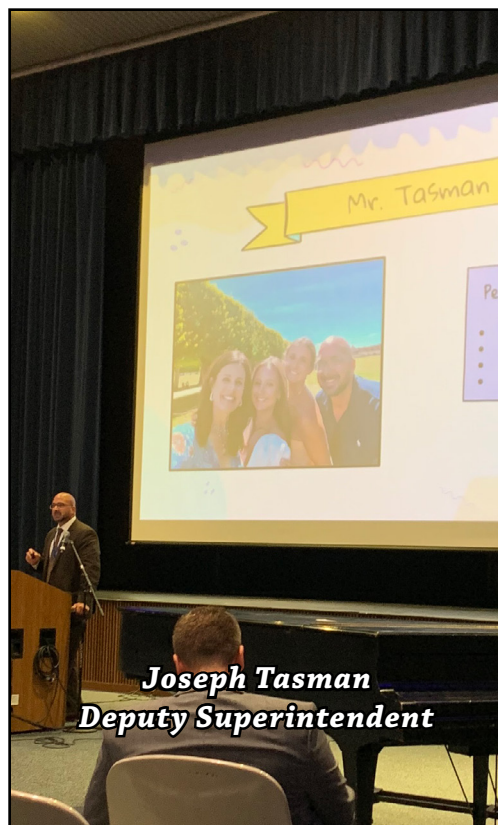
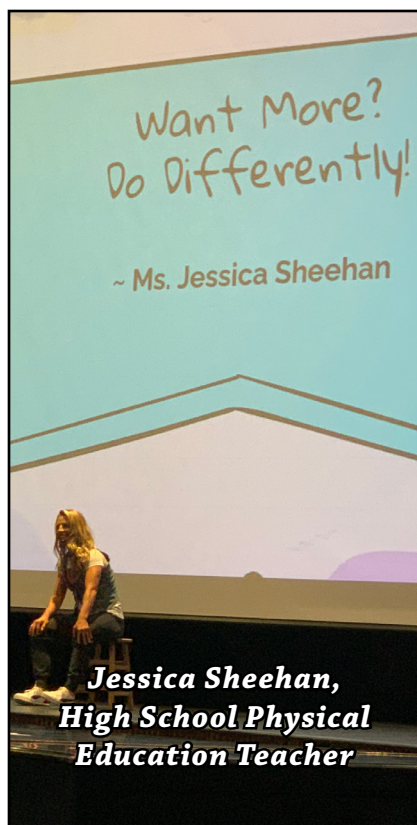
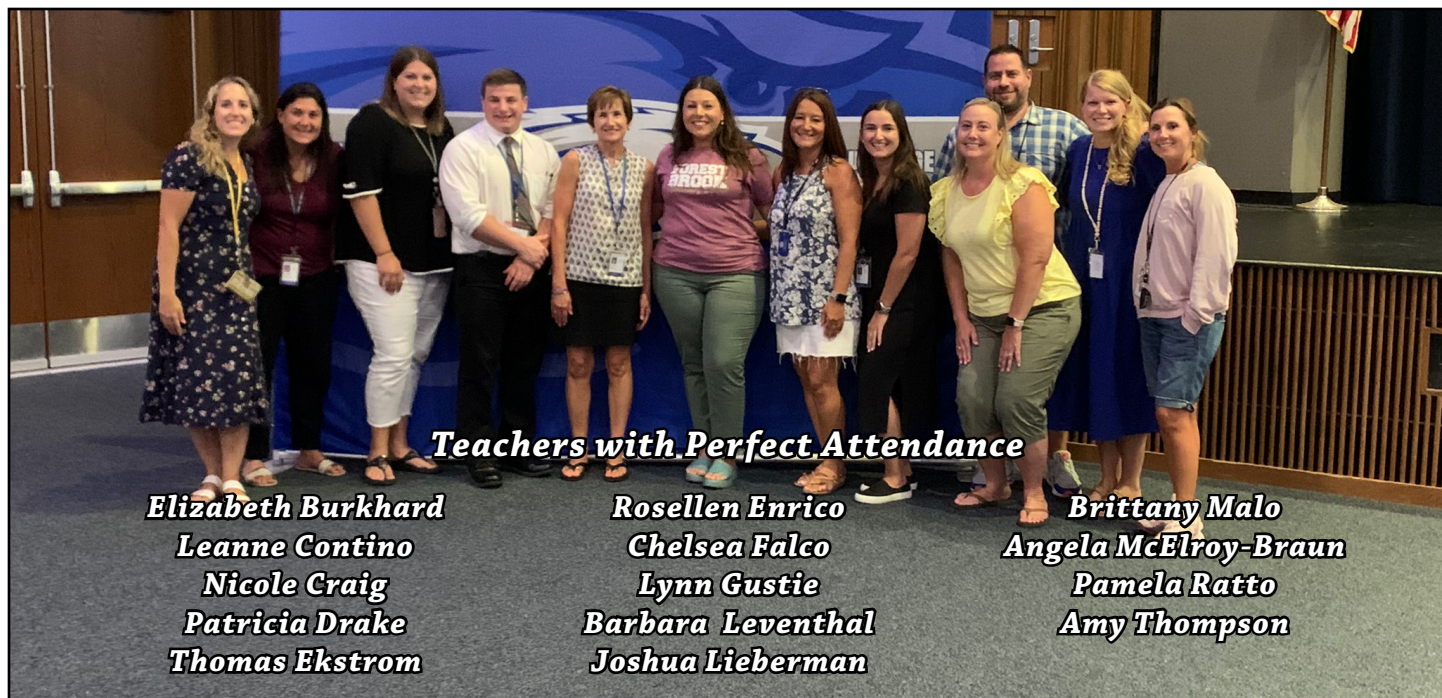
Superintendent, Dr. Donald Murphy, thanked Dr. McCarthy for his hard work on putting together Superintendent's Conference Day. He also spoke about last year and this year's "Return to Normal." Dr. Murphy challenged those in attendance to "be present."



Dr. Murphy then welcomed a special keynote speaker, Kim Strobel, on the “Science of Happiness.” Kim is a dynamic speaker and provided a compelling and thought-provoking presentation. In her keynote, she used storytelling and science to talk about how happiness is more than just a feeling and how it can have a tremendous effect on performance. Kim also had some fun with the crowd and a “dance party” was a fitting end to her talk. If you would like to learn more about Kim Strobel [click here](#).

On Tuesday, teachers reported to their buildings for professional development sessions and in the afternoon spent preparation time in their classrooms. Thank you to Dr. McCarthy and his team!

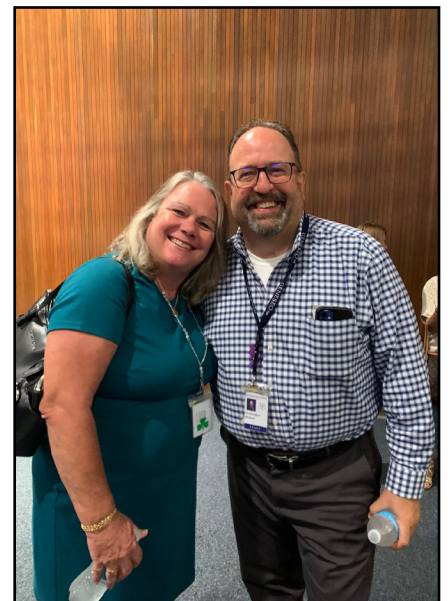
Here are some photos!







*Dr. Murphy with  
Keynote Speaker,  
Kim Strobel*





## TWO OF HAUPPAUGE HIGH SCHOOL'S TEACHERS TAKE FLIGHT WITH THE "CIVIL AIR PATROL" AND HS ALUMNI PILOT

On Friday, August 12th, Biology and Forensics teacher, Jeffrey Yablon and Technology teacher, Christopher Dowd took to the skies over Hauppauge on U.S. AIR FORCE-funded "Teached Orientation Program" (TOP) Flights made available through "Civil Air Patrol (CAP)," the USAF Auxiliary. Class of 2019 graduate, Alex Amirhamzeh, from Hauppauge flew the two educators who experienced the thrill of flight over Long Island for one hour each. The teachers swapped front and back seats in Westhampton Beach. They were presented certificates of completion. The flights are designed for STEM teachers and are meant to encourage teachers to instill an interest in aviation among their students.

After graduating from Hauppauge High School in 2019 as a CAP Cadet, Alex Amirhamzeh became an FAA-Rated private pilot in 2020, a commercial pilot in 2021, and a certified flight instructor (CFI) in 2022. Alex continues to serve in the USAF Auxiliary as an instructor pilot, orientation flight pilot, and transportation mission pilot, holding the grade of captain. Teacher Orientation flights are funded through CAP as part of the aerospace initiative that looks to allow STEM teachers to bring a thrilling flight experience over and around their high school into the classroom, in an effort to recruit future aerospace professionals.



*Alex Amirhamzah, Pilot and Class of 2019 Graduate,  
with teachers Jeffrey Yablon and Chris Dowd*



## ***CIVIL AIR PATROL FLIGHT***

The Civil Air Patrol's Mission Statement is "Volunteers Serving America's Communities, Saving Lives, and Shaping Futures." Since Civil Air Patrol's formation during the earliest days of World War II, this vigilant organization of citizen Airmen has been committed to service to America. Founded on Dec. 1, 1941, to mobilize the nation's civilian aviation resources for national defense service, CAP has evolved into a premier public service organization that still carries out emergency service missions when needed — in the air and on the ground.

As a Total Force partner and auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force, Civil Air Patrol is there to search for and find the lost, provide comfort in times of disaster and work to keep the homeland safe. Its 56,000 members selflessly devote their time, energy, and expertise toward the well-being of their communities, while also promoting aviation and related fields through aerospace/STEM education and helping shape future leaders through CAP's cadet program.

Civil Air Patrol's missions for America are many, and today's adults and cadets perform their duties with the same vigilance as its founding members — preserving CAP's 80-year legacy of service while maintaining its commitment to nearly 1,500 communities nationwide.

We thank Civil Air Patrol, who is looking for new high school cadets to join the greatest aerial organization in America. If you would like to find out more, [click here](#).





## HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS RECEIVE NATIONAL RECOGNITION FROM “COLLEGE BOARD”

Four of our high school students have received national recognition from “College Board.” These students earned this recognition because of their academic achievements in school and outstanding performance on the PSAT/NMSOT®, PSAT™ 10, and/or AP® Exams. They’ve accomplished these milestones during an immensely demanding period of their high school career and they are four of the 62,000 students from across the country to earn academic honors from College Board’s National Recognition Programs.

The students who received this recognition are:

Israel Rojas: NHRA (National Hispanic Recognition Award)

Kaylah Adam: NAARA (National African American Recognition Award)

Nairah Fraser: NAARA (National African American Recognition Award)

Vanessa Mosad: NAARA (National African American Recognition Award)

“We are thrilled that our students have earned this recognition. We are very proud of them for their achievements in their classrooms and on College Board assessments,” said high school principal, Joseph Wieckhorst. “These programs help students from underrepresented backgrounds stand out to colleges during admissions.”

Students who may be eligible have a GPA of 3.5 or higher and have excelled on the PSAT/NMSOT or PSAT 10, or earned a score of 3 or higher on two or more AP Exams; and are African American or Black, Hispanic American or Latino, Indigenous, and/or attend school in a rural area or small town.

Congratulations!



***Left to right are: Kaylah Adam, Nairah Fraser, Vanessa Mosad and Israel Rojas***



## BACKPACKS WITH SCHOOL SUPPLIES DELIVERED TO ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS BY THE "RACHEL QUINN CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION"

On Friday, August 26th, our elementary schools received special deliveries from the "Rachel Quinn Children's Foundation." Volunteers were busy in the previous days assembling backpacks for students in need.

Bretton Woods Elementary School teacher, Danielle Sukoff, is an integral part of the Foundation which was created by Nathan Quinn in 2021, after his wife Rachel's passing. She was Rachel's friend and colleague at Bretton Woods, and has taken on a large role in awareness and fundraising. Danielle said, "It's so exciting to see everyone's hard work coming together. Based on the average supply list for their grade level, kids will have the opportunity to pick a brand new backpack stuffed with the necessities for the coming year. It's important to us to provide quality items that will function and last through the year and blend seamlessly with the things their classmates have. Collecting school supplies is a great way to get kids excited and motivated for the upcoming year. Knowing that they will have what they need and those items will blend seamlessly with the rest of their class reduces anxiety and builds confidence in a student."

At our recent Superintendent Conference Day on Monday, August 29th, Dr. Donald B. Murphy, Superintendent of Schools, took a moment to recognize the commitment, and hard work of Danielle Sukoff. He thanked her for her dedication to the Foundation and the children of our district.



**Forest Brook Elementary Delivery with Kareem Abdelmagid, Rachel's Friend; Danielle Sukoff, and Dr. Kristen Reingold, Principal**



## ***BACKPACK DISTRIBUTION - "RACHEL QUINN FOUNDATION"***

Danielle expressed the following sentiment recently, "We are so excited for the first annual backpack distribution and giving to those students in need. It's exactly what Rach would want."

Special thanks to all of those who donated time and money to this worthwhile cause. If you would like to support the Foundation, [click here](#).

Rachel was an elementary school teacher who believed "a good teacher could create a lasting and positive impact in a child's life." The Foundation helps the underprivileged children of Long Island with school supplies and educational resources. Here are some photos of these "special deliveries."



***Dr. Donald B. Murphy, Superintendent,  
with Danielle Sukoff, Bretton Woods***



***Bretton Woods Elementary Delivery with Danielle Sukoff, Kareem Abdelmagid,  
Nathan Quinn, and Toby Poveromo, Guidance Counselor***



## SIXTH-GRADERS ARE READY TO NAVIGATE THE MIDDLE SCHOOL HALLS, AND OPEN THEIR LOCKERS!

The Middle School held an orientation for incoming sixth-graders on Friday, August 26th, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The students first met in the cafeteria where they received an informative presentation from Mrs. O'Connor. After the presentation, the students were grouped by their team and given a tour of the school led by members of honor society, student council and leadership.

At the end of the tour the groups were split based on their 1st period class and did a question and answer session with the tour guides. After the Q and A, the students had the opportunity to try their lockers while tour guides and staff members assisted them. At 11:30 a.m. parents were allowed to connect with their children so they could tour the building together.

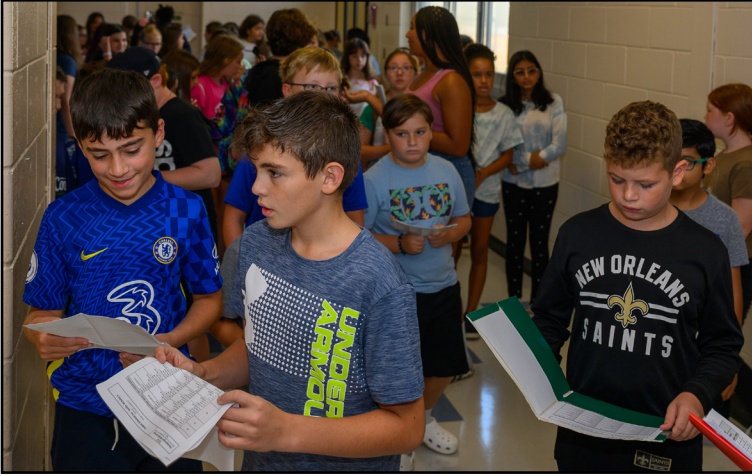
Here are some great photos from the orientation, courtesy of Frank Bayer of Frank Bayer Photography. Thank you, Frank!



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# SIXTH-GRADE ORIENTATION



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# SIXTH-GRADE ORIENTATION





# "REVISITING HAUPPAUGE HIGH SCHOOL"

By: Lily Klima, Former HS English Teacher and Hauppauge Resident

Selling and moving from my home of fifty-one years in Hauppauge, is daunting. In "right sizing" I have to be selective in what to take, donate or discard. Frankly, it is hard to put my life into a box and watch it get carted away. That said, I decided to donate several HHS Yearbooks that have been in my personal library for years. I called Dr. Christopher Michael, Director of English Language Arts/Library, to ask if he would take the books. He agreed and we met at the familiar circular driveway in front of the HS building.

With him was Doreen Gordon, the Director of Social Studies and Business, a former student of mine in 1980! I became nostalgic and asked if I could see room 307 which had been, until my retirement in 2001, my classroom for most of the thirty years that I taught English and Public Speaking. Dr Michael graciously agreed.

Walking to the third floor, holding onto the banister, brought back memories of my running up these same stairs carrying a briefcase full of graded papers in one hand and a thermos of tea in the other. The building smelled the same yet it was quite different. New flooring with the school's logo at the entrance to



307 was delightful. But where were my wooden cabinets? A large black screen hung where my chalk board used to be. The window sills, bare of my plants, and the heating units appeared to be new. Freshly cleaned desks were angled in a semicircle. As much as I loved my "home away from home," this was no longer mine. I am grateful to have had a long and fulfilling teaching career. When it was time, I turned over my classroom keys, and passed the baton.

On this recent visit, I walked through the renovated library and recalled the card catalogs, the Guide to Periodicals, the small room with shelves of books reserved for the community to use on Thursday evenings. Hauppauge did not have its own established library until 2000.

Things sure have changed. The courtyard is nicely manicured with shrubs and benches for students and staff. The handball courts are painted a bright blue. Very inviting indeed.

The theater holds a special place in my mind. I remember student-teacher talent shows, fundraisers for the Hauppauge Scholarship Fund, plays and concerts performed to full capacity appreciative audiences. Today's theater complex is impressive with new seats, improved acoustics and lighting systems. Yay, my taxes are being put to good use!

Ms. Gordon reminisced about her teachers. My colleagues flashed before me. We had fun times. We grew older together. Several have moved or passed away. Revisiting "my school" was a fitting farewell. I take fond memories with me and gladly leave behind yearbooks that will be archived in the HHS library.

It is time to turn over my house keys and pass the baton to new owners. Images of yesteryear are preserved.



## NINTH-GRADE STUDENTS ENJOY A FRESHMAN ORIENTATION

Our high school's newest students, our Freshmen, came to the high school on Tuesday, August 30th, for a Freshman Orientation. They are the Class of 2026! They were greeted by members of "Ignition" who helped them to check in and get into their groups for the orientation.

High school principal, Joseph Wieckhorst, started off things by welcoming them. He said, "We are going to support you in your goals in whatever you want to do." Mr. Wieckhorst also spoke about the offerings of IB and AP, and lessons of "Choose Love." He then introduced the high school administrative team of Assistant Principals, Joy Ferrara, Andrea Darbee and Kristy Pagliari.

Greg Foster is the dedicated counselor for the ninth-grade class. He spoke to the students about the support team of social workers, Ms. Griffin, Ms. Gersback, Mr. Morris and Ms. Ruffini. Then he introduced the 9th grade class advisors, Ms. Clark and Ms. DiMasi-Coppola.

Mr. Foster told the students that they will need to know important locations, lockers, classrooms and basic expectations. He then gave them some important information about how to download the "Student Square App."

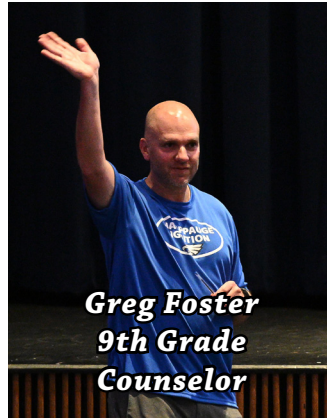
After the introductions and information, the Freshmen were able to tour the building and participate in activities in the gym which were really fun for them. Then they met for a "wrap up" and were on their way and ready to begin their new high school journey. Here are some photos. Special thanks to Frank Bayer of Frank Bayer Photos for sharing these!



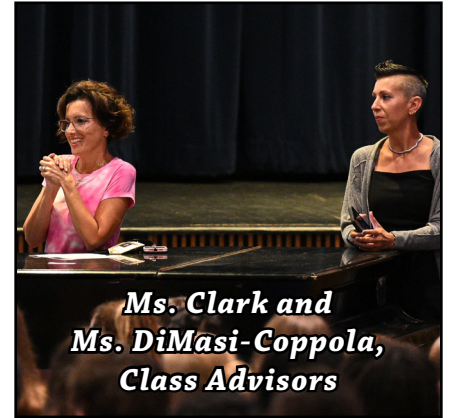
**High School Principal,  
Joseph Wieckhorst**



# NINTH-GRADE ORIENTATION



**Greg Foster**  
9th Grade  
Counselor



**Ms. Clark and**  
**Ms. DiMasi-Coppola,**  
**Class Advisors**





# NINTH-GRADE ORIENTATION





# NINTH-GRADE ORIENTATION



CLASS OF  
2026



# SUMMER 2022 - JUMP START PROGRAM

By: Dr. Christopher Michael

Jump Start Principal/Director of English Language Arts

Another successful summer with our Jump Start Program. Jump Start is a summer opportunity open to all students in grades K-5 which provides participating students a gentle boost throughout the summer to propel them into a new school year. Teachers worked at the Hauppauge High School with small classes reviewing skills taught during the previous school year and taught valuable reading, writing and math skills to support students' efforts for the school year ahead.

Jump Start ran for six weeks in July and August and students entered each day with a smile on their faces and left each day with that same smile, maybe a little brighter and many valuable skills and confidence to begin a new school year.

Special shoutout to our Jump Start teachers:

Katlyn Scharrenbroich  
Nicole Desmond  
Kelli Serocki-Tetrault  
Kristie Najdek  
Jennifer Bizzaro

Cassandra Block  
Jamie Reynolds-Ladew  
Julia Pollina  
Alyssa Comer  
Rachel Bernstein

Sara Viesta  
Christopher Chiarelli  
Anjalee Ramsaran  
Kerri Dorman  
Kayla Pettit

Casey Fitzpatrick  
Justin Conroy  
Lynn Gustie  
Grace Catalina  
Ronan Ryan

Jump Start Monitors:

Deborah Mortimer  
Kathleen Cruz  
Karen Struhs  
Sandra Fitzpatrick

Additional Support:

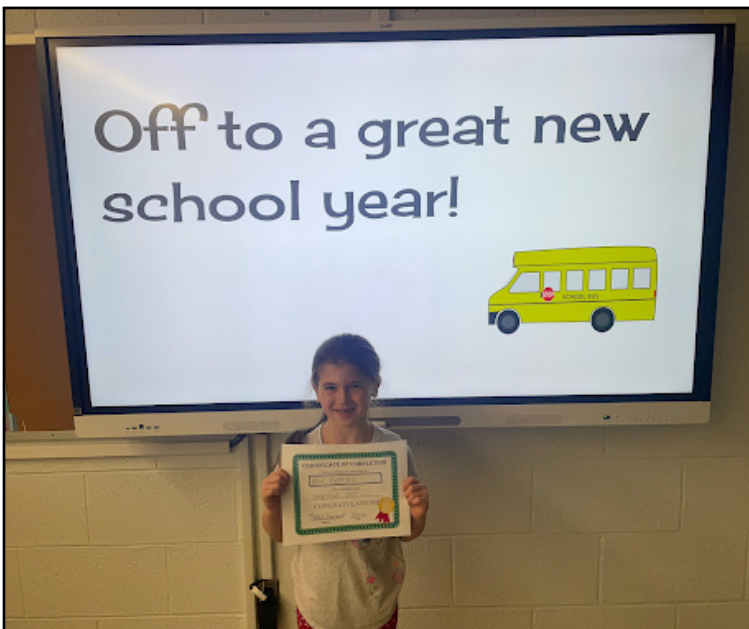
Mrs. Christine Buff,  
ELA Secretary

I could not have been more proud of our students and staff for another wonderful summer of learning.

Thank you, and all the best,

Dr. Christopher Michael

Jump Start Principal/Director of  
English Language Arts





# JUMP START





# JUMP START



## New Authors From: Miss Catalina Publishing





# SUMMER ELEMENTARY LIBRARY PROGRAM 2022

By: Dr. Christopher Michael

Jump Start Principal/Director of English Language Arts

During the months of July and August many of our elementary students participated in the Elementary Summer Library Program at the Hauppauge High School. High School students worked with our elementary students on reading, writing and math skills. Librarians from the Hauppauge Public Library were present during each session to help students select books and check out books for fun and enjoyment. At the end of the program many students shared their books that they had created over the sessions in a video presentation. Please enjoy the Library Program Celebration [video presentation](#).

We thank our wonderful High School students for volunteering their time to support our community. High School Tutors are:

Emma Bottitta	Mihika Grandhi	Connor Leddy	Steven Richardson
Julianna Bullaro	Aiden Happe	Avery Marchese	Jack Scarfo
Natalie Cartafalsa	Nadeen Hassan	Abigail Mensing	Sadiq Shaik
Angela Chen	Gianna Hennessy	Emily Morris	Dean Solomon
Sarah Douglass	Reagan Henselder	Sarah O'Brien	Kaitlin Stephens
Daniela Francisci	Rithika Katla	Sharvani Rao	Rachel Yang

Shoutout to our fantastic and motivated parents who see a tremendous value in this exciting program and all our elementary students who participated to continue to grow as readers, writers and learners.

~ Special thanks to the following staff ~

Our Library Program Teaching Assistants:

Mrs. Susan Lombardo, Mrs. Celia Ramos, Mrs. Elizabeth Martins-Stephens, and Mrs. Ginny Schoen

Mrs. Christine Buff, ELA Secretary

Ms. Catherine Berntsen, Hauppauge Public Librarian

Mrs. Lori Barnett, Technology Teaching Assistant

Students worked so hard. We hope you enjoy the show.

Thank you!

Dr. Christopher Michael, Director of English Language Arts



## HIGH SCHOOL BAND CAMP

The Hauppauge High School Marching Band kicked off the new school year with a week-long band camp in August. Band students in grades 9-12 combined with the kickline and color guard to learn music and drill formations for the upcoming halftime shows at home varsity football games.

The band looks forward to sharing their show with the Hauppauge community this Fall! Here are some beautiful photos!





**SAVE THE DATE**  
**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2022**  
**Hauppauge High School**  
**Football Stadium**  
**5:00 PM**

**3:30PM**  
**PARADE**  
**START**



Please join Hauppauge High School and the community as we honor our active and retired Military, Police, Firemen and First Responders at Hauppauge High School's 2022 Homecoming

**3:30 PM - Parade**  
**5:00 PM - Homecoming Game**

RSVP by 9/16 to Denise Malandrucolo at 631-761-8309  
or email [malandrucolod@hauppauge.k12.ny.us](mailto:malandrucolod@hauppauge.k12.ny.us)



2022-2023  
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