

# Horizons

*Volume 5, Issue 3 - September 23, 2022*

## HAUPPAUGE SCHOOLS WELCOME NEW STAFF

A new school year has begun and while we welcome our students back, we also welcome our new staff members.

Dr. Christopher Smalley is the new Executive Administrator of Information Technology and Security Initiatives for the Hauppauge School District. He has previously worked in the Islip and Half Hollow Hills School Districts as an Assistant Superintendent, Principal, and Assistant Principal.

Dr. Smalley lives in Kings Park with his wife, Chrysa, and his three children. In his spare time he likes to spend a lot of time with his family; watching his children play sports, spending time outdoors and upstate. He is also a big fan of the New York sports teams, and is an avid reader and writer.

When asked why he chose Hauppauge, Dr. Smalley said, "I chose Hauppauge because it's a wonderful community and an excellent school district."



**Dr. Christopher Smalley**



**Glenn Holm**

Glenn Holm is the new Director of Facilities for our school district. He has previously worked as the Supervisor of Facilities and Operations for the Bethpage School District and lives in Hicksville.

Glenn likes to spend time with family and friends, work on home renovations and landscape projects. When asked why he chose Hauppauge, Glenn said, "Hauppauge is a great community that I've always admired, so when the position became available, I knew it was a place that I wanted to work. As soon as I started the interview process, I knew it was a perfect fit."

Samantha Tannebaum is a Special Education Science teacher at the high school. This is her first full-time teaching job since graduating from college with her Master's Degree. Previously, Samantha taught at Bellmore-Merrick High School. Throughout college and outside of teaching,

Samantha has worked with children who had different disabilities.

Samantha lives in Hauppauge, but went to school in Smithtown. In her free time, she loves to spend time with family and friends, and enjoys hiking, spin class, reading, and photography. Her students already know that she loves Disney!

When asked why she chose Hauppauge, Samantha said, "Hauppauge School District is so welcoming, friendly, and helpful, more than any other school district I have been in or interviewed at. I knew after my first interview that this school and position was special. This position is the best of both worlds, a perfect combination of science and special education. I knew I would do anything to get this job."



**Samantha Tannebaum**

## WELCOME NEW STAFF

Dana Calandra is an ENL teacher at the middle school. Dana has previously worked in the Kings Park and Smithtown School Districts. While at Kings Park, Dana was a 7th and 8th grade Spanish teacher. She was an ENL teaching assistant in Smithtown.

Dana grew up in Kings Park and she and her family reside in Smithtown. In her spare time she is a busy mom of eight year old twins, a boy and a girl, and a five year old daughter. Dana likes to cook and bake, and is an avid reader and runner. She trained for and ran the NYC Marathon in 2018!

When asked why she chose Hauppauge, Dana said, "My husband is a graduate of Hauppauge, class of 2000. Throughout my life, I have always seemed to gravitate towards the smaller, more personal businesses, whether it be my children's pediatrician's office or my place of employment. The Hauppauge School District checked off all my boxes of wants and needs as a great place to work. The Hauppauge High School pool and swim program has also played a significant role in my life, as I learned how to swim in that pool and later went on to be a member of the Hauppauge Sea Eagles swim team. It was during this period of my life that I made some unforgettable memories and life long friends. Hauppauge will always have my heart!"



Caroline Bombard teaches Special Education at Forest Brook. She has previously worked at Maryhaven's Day School in Port Jefferson, The Ascent School for Individuals with Autism, and Oceanside Public Schools. Her previous titles have included Applied Behavior Specialist, ABA Therapist, and Staff/Parent Trainer.

Caroline is from Mt. Sinai and in her spare time she loves to enjoy the Mount Sinai Harbor and Long Island Sound by kayak and boat. She said, "I see the most amazing sunsets here!" She and her family also spend a lot of time in Vermont and travel any chance they get.

When asked why she chose Hauppauge, Caroline said, "It is apparent the school district is the heart and soul of the community, and vice versa. The parades and days of honor that I have had the pleasure to be a part of have been inspiring and heartwarming experiences."

Leah Koerber is a Special Education English teacher at the high school. She previously completed her student teaching at Baldwin High School and worked at Sewanhaka High School last year.

Leah grew up in Levittown and now lives in Seaford. She is hoping to buy her own home in Suffolk County. In her spare time, Leah enjoys watching the Mets games, cooking, reading, and playing board games.

When asked why she chose Hauppauge, Leah said, "I chose Hauppauge because I was searching for a school that had a well-connected community that would feel like home."

Haley Blunt is a Special Education teacher at the Pines and feels fortunate to have started this job right out of college. Haley previously worked as both a first-grade and fourth-grade leave replacement, permanent substitute and Math TA at Hauppauge also, and is proud that this has been her school home for some time now.

Haley grew up in East Setauket and lives in Port Jefferson. In her spare time she is the Varsity Volleyball Coach at her alma mater, Ward Melville High School, as well as the Director for UNITED Volleyball





## WELCOME NEW STAFF



**Haley Blunt**

which takes up a good chunk of her free time. She also loves going on adventures with her Dachsund puppy, Lily, competing in CrossFit, going to the beach and spending quality time with family and friends.

When asked why she chose Hauppauge, Haley said, "I chose Hauppauge because it immediately felt like my home away from home. The staff, administration, children and parents of this district are second to none and I truly can't imagine teaching anywhere else. We are such a tight-knit community and I'm so grateful to be a part of the Hauppauge family."



**Kimberly Arias**

Kimberly Arias has joined our District as a Psychologist. She has primarily worked previously along the East Coast in under-performing schools in New York City, Long Island, and in Massachusetts as a school psychologist. She has also worked for non-profit and for-profit organizations. Kimberly has previously been a trainer, school and clinical psychologist, and for a few years, a Chef! She is a former Bostonian.

In her spare time, Kimberly likes to golf, work out, read, and garden. When asked why she chose Hauppauge, Kimberly said, "Hauppauge is a district that celebrates student success; all students."

Matthew Ditzel is a Technology teacher at the Middle School. He has previously worked as a substitute teacher at Hauppauge schools, as well as other districts. He was the Captain of his soccer team when he played.

Matthew is from Massapequa. In his spare time he enjoys fishing, golfing, spending time with his family and working on different projects. He likes to be outdoors as much as possible.

When asked why he chose Hauppauge, Matthew said, "I knew I wanted to work at Hauppauge School District for many reasons. The atmosphere here is overwhelmingly supportive of both students and staff; you are part of a family. The educators in Hauppauge Schools are dedicated to being the best they can. I felt like this was a great match with my personal goals and desire to be a lifelong learner. I am fortunate to be part of the Hauppauge family. Go Eagles!"



**Matthew Ditzel**



**Brianna Lomonaco**

Brianna Lomonaco is a Technology teacher at the Middle School. This is her first teaching job. She graduated from SUNY Oswego in May of 2022 with a Major in Technology Education and a Minor in Athletic Coaching. Before teaching, Brianna worked part-time at D&I Expediting where she submitted permits for the Town of Brookhaven. She also was a substitute teacher at the middle school last June.

Brianna grew up in Shirley and went to William Floyd High School. In her spare time she enjoys refurbishing furniture, golfing, and driving her Jeep on the beach.

When asked why she chose Hauppauge, Brianna said, "I chose Hauppauge for a couple of reasons. One being, that I had a couple of friends from the area and when I asked them what they thought of the district they all said they absolutely loved their time growing up within this district and community."

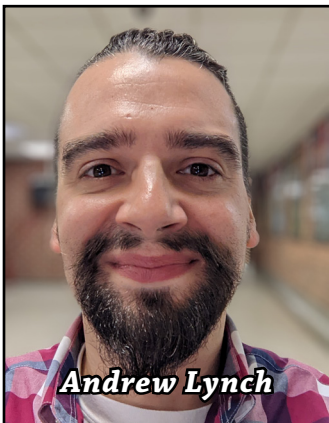
## WELCOME NEW STAFF

Also because of the students and the administration. When coming in for my demo lesson during the interview process, the students were wonderful and eager to learn. The administration was so helpful and easy to work with. It just felt like the perfect fit for me!"

Carson Scordo is a Special Education teacher at Forest Brook. She has previously worked as a Special Education teacher for the NYC Department of Education at PS 89x in the Bronx, and PS 527 in Manhattan. She has also worked in the East Williston School District.

Carson grew up in Hicksville and currently lives in Massapequa. In her spare time she likes to read and spend time with family.

Carson said the following when asked why she chose Hauppauge, "I chose Hauppauge for the collaboration and community with students, staff and families. Also, the supportive and safe environment fostered for teaching and learning, and the overall culture of the district."

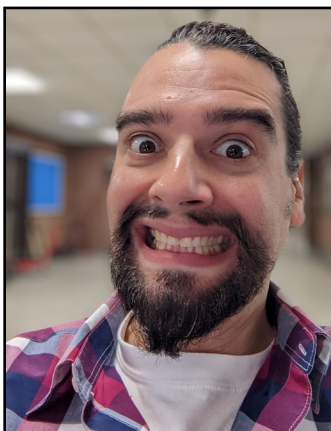
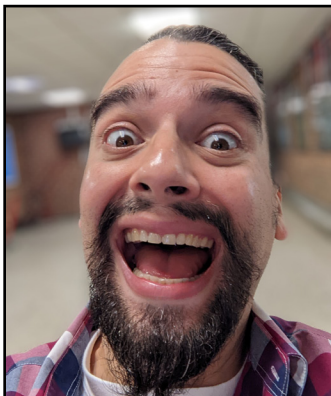


Andrew Lynch is an English teacher at the High School. He has previously worked for Comsewogue at JFK and their High School, Mount Sinai Middle School, and most recently in the Three Village School District at P.J. Gelinas and Ward Melville. Before becoming a teacher, Andrew worked in the automotive after-market industry at Automotive Trik, Inc. He also worked in the motorcycle industry as a certified Harley-Davidson technician, and in higher education administration at Columbia University, among some other professions.

Andrew was born and raised in Port Jefferson Station. In his spare time he likes to spend time reading, learning new things, being with family and friends, eating delicious food, catching a restorative and dream-filled snooze, and working on motorcycles. Andrew also likes traveling without a destination, chasing his dog, getting lost, and wandering or wondering through life.

When asked why he chose Hauppauge, Andrew said, "Because Hauppauge chose me. I consider this job an honor, and I am so grateful that the district saw my potential and decided to invest in me. I will spend my career proving that you made the right decision. From day one, everyone in this district has shown me the substance behind the enthusiastic acclaim from both within and outside the district. What a wonderful place to learn, live, and grow. I choose Hauppauge every day because it is an environment that fosters and nurtures the same values I choose to live by."

Jason Ongjoco is a Special Education Math teacher at the high school. Jason has previously worked in Washington Heights and for the New York City Department of Education. He is from Long Island, and in his spare time likes to do archery, play pickleball, work out with kettlebell. Jason said he chose Hauppauge for opportunities to work with students.



Continued on next page . . .



## ***WELCOME NEW STAFF***



***Alexa Punzone***

Alexa Punzone is a fourth-grade teacher at Bretton Woods. This is Alexa's first year teaching and she is so happy to start her career there. Before coming to Hauppauge, Alexa was a permanent substitute in the Sachem School District.

Alexa is currently the Assistant Varsity Girls Lacrosse Coach at Shoreham Wading River High School. As a first-year coach, she had the privilege of helping her team get into the County Championship for the first time in nine years!

Alexa currently lives in Rocky point. She attended Sachem North High School and moved out East two years ago. She played college lacrosse at Pace University where she was a four-year starter and a two-year captain. In her spare time she enjoys coaching lacrosse and staying active as much as possible. She is a member of Orangetheory and recommends it to everyone!

When asked why she chose Hauppauge, Alexa said, "One of the main reasons why I chose Hauppauge was because of how important their community is to them. Hauppauge is also very family oriented. I am lucky enough to have my mom who also works in the district. She has worked at Forest Brook for seven years as a Math TA. Hearing how much she adores Hauppauge made the decision to be part of the district an easy one."

Thank you to all of the staff who participated in this article! We are happy to get to know you! Welcome to the Hauppauge School District!

# WELCOME!

# "I am **H**auppauge!"

**Doreen Gordon**

**Director of Social Studies and Business**



We are proud to welcome a new feature to our "Horizons" newsletter called "I am Hauppauge." Each week we will feature our Hauppauge Alumni who continue to work in the District they once called home as students.

Thank you to Doreen Gordon, Director of Social Studies and Business, for being our first! If you are "Hauppauge" and would like to be a part of this feature in a future issue, let us know!

What was your major, and are you working in that field today?

*Yes I am working in the field of education. I was a teacher, coach, and I am currently the Director of Social Studies and Business, Coordinator and Head Instructor of the Hauppauge Swim Program. I have a BA: Secondary Education/History - George Washington University and MSed: Fordham University, Graduate Certificate in Education Leadership: State University of NY Stony Brook.*

What was your favorite and least favorite thing about school?

*Favorite: I really liked learning and I was on the swim team. Junior - Senior week where the juniors and seniors competed in academic and athletic events. Least favorite: Wearing the band uniform.*

Which teacher had the most impact on you at Hauppauge High School that you still think about today?

*I was so lucky to have many teachers that influenced me. Russ Steyert was a social studies teacher and he made me think in a different way, and to love history. Not just US History, but all history. Vic Goldie, an English teacher I had in 10th and 12 grade, really made me enjoy writing. Ron Bellucci was my coach and he inspired me to do better.*

What was your hardest class?

*Physics hands down. I didn't want to take it but my mother forced me.*

What schools did you attend in Hauppauge and what is your fondest memory of going to school here?

*In Kindergarten through sixth, I was at Pines Elementary. In seventh grade, Hauppauge Middle School (construction was going on in the MS). In grades eight through twelve I was at Hauppauge High School.*

*My fondest memory is the sense of community. There is no downtown in Hauppauge, and the schools were and continue to be everything. We used to have July 4th fireworks at the high school. I also loved swimming as a competitive swimmer and working in the swim program. Ron Bellucci was the first male coach of a girls team at Hauppauge and for him to coach, a parent had to volunteer to go on the bus and be in the locker room. My mother, Maureen Bates, did this for the entire season.*

What did you do for fun when you were in high school?

*Swimming, being with my friends, going to the movies, and roller skating at the Commack Roller Rink. I began working in the swim program when I was in high school, and I have continued working there for over 40 years. I became the Coordinator of the District Swim Program in 1987.*



What motivates you every day and do you have a favorite quote?

*Seeing students succeed, working with my staff, seeing the growth in my teachers, working collaboratively with other administrators.*

*Today I have three favorite quotes:*

*"A winner is a dreamer who never gives up." - Nelson Mandela*

*"In a gentle way you can shake the world." - Mahatma Gandhi*

*"Dream Big"*

How do you like to spend your free time?

*Being with my family and friends, camping, riding my electric bike, and reading.*

What do you wish you knew when you were sitting in your cap and gown at your Hauppauge High School graduation?

*How fast everything goes. To appreciate all of the steps, how much I loved teaching, that growth comes from making mistakes, to never say I am never going to....*

Why did you choose to remain in Hauppauge?

*I was living in Washington DC. I worked in the swim program at Hauppauge since I was in high school and I came home to work and decided to stay. Best decision!*



# HAUPPAUGE

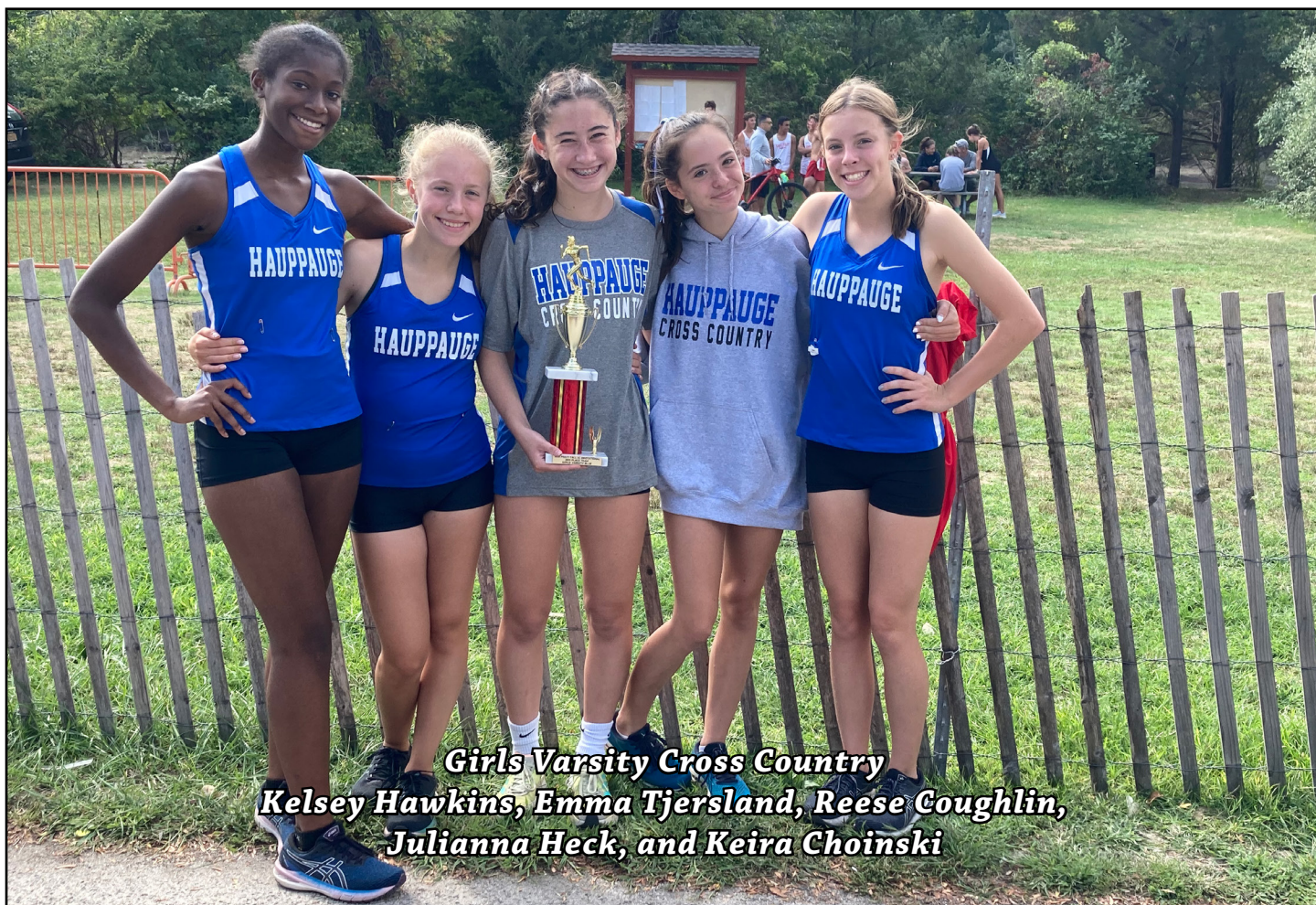


## VARSITY GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY TEAM TAKES THIRD PLACE AT "BOB PRATT INVITATIONAL" AT SUNKEN MEADOW

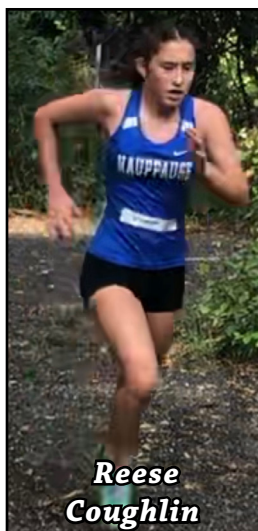
The Varsity Girl's Cross Country Team took the 3rd place trophy at the Bob Pratt Invitational this past Saturday at Sunken Meadow! This was their first Invitational of the season.

Sophomore, Keira Choinski and Junior, Reese Coughlin, led the way for the Eagles followed closely by Freshman, Emma Tjersland, eighth-grader, Julianna Heck, and Senior, Kelsey Hawkins!

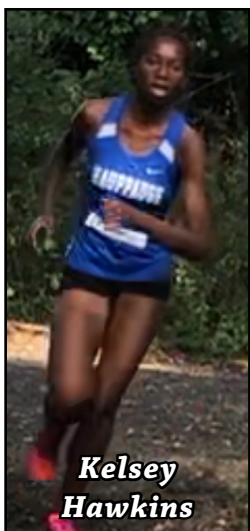
Congratulations to the entire team on a great start to their season!



*Girls Varsity Cross Country  
Kelsey Hawkins, Emma Tjersland, Reese Coughlin,  
Julianna Heck, and Keira Choinski*



*Reese  
Coughlin*



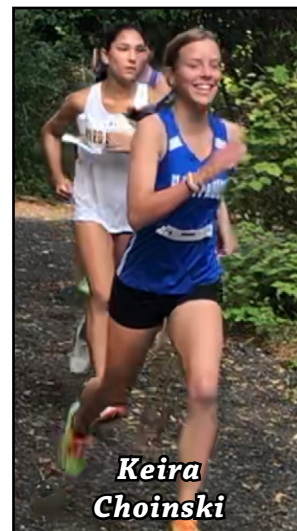
*Kelsey  
Hawkins*



*Julianna  
Heck*



*Emma  
Tjersland*



*Keira  
Choinski*



## HIGH SCHOOL WELCOMES NEW STUDENTS WITH SUPPORT, GENEROSITY AND KINDNESS

On Friday, September 16th, Hauppauge High School welcomed over 30 new students. Mrs. Pagliari, Assistant Principal, invited all of the high school staff to come down and introduce themselves to these new faces. She believes, in the words of Rita Pierson, "Everyone needs a champion-an adult who will never give up on them, who understands the power of connection, and insists that they become the best that they can be."

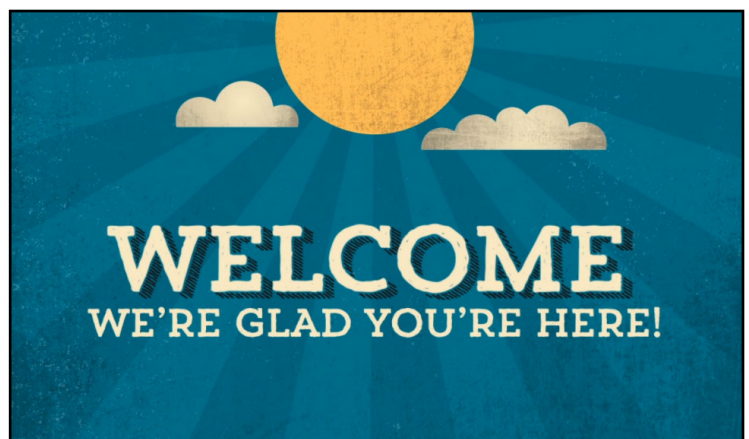
Ms. Pagliari also said, "As these students settle in, we want them to see the support, generosity and kindness so special to Hauppauge, and be able to thrive emotionally, and academically."

Mrs. Montera and Mr. Foster, high school counselors and Ignition advisors, organized ice breakers and facilitated interactive games between the new students, staff, and upperclassmen. The high school will continue to offer these opportunities as the year progresses to support this transition.

Welcome to Hauppauge! Here are some photos of the students getting acquainted.



**Joseph Wieckhorst,  
HS Principal**





## HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS CELEBRATE "CONSTITUTION DAY"

Saturday September 17, 2022 is designated as Constitution Day. This day commemorates the signing of the US Constitution. This year our students celebrated the 235th anniversary of the signing of this historic document on Friday, September 16th.

Social Studies teachers were provided with resources to teach students. Here is a photo of our Social Studies Department!





# HIGH SCHOOL GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT HOLDS SENIOR NIGHT COLLEGE PLANNING PRESENTATION

The HS Counseling Department led by Guidance Director, Gary Campanelli, hosted a Senior Night presentation on Thursday, September 15th, 2022, in an effort to provide senior students and parents with valuable information to assist in the college and career planning process.

Here are some photos from this special night.



*Gary Campanelli,  
Director of Guidance*





## ELEMENTARY STUDENTS PARTICIPATED IN OUR SUMMER READING PROGRAM

Our students were invited to participate in "Summer Reading 2022." Dr. Christopher J. Michael, Director of English Language Arts, invited students to spend some time reading this summer. Teachers had put together assignments to prepare students for the challenges of a new year in English Language Arts in the 2022-2023 school year. Dr. Michael created a website which helped students to achieve these goals.

For their incoming students, each grade posted a letter, teacher recommended reading list, reading projects, and reading log on the website.

Congratulations to these students who participated in this worthwhile program!





# SUMMER READING



**Bretton Woods  
First-Grade**



**Bretton Woods  
Second-Grade**



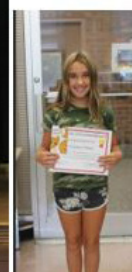
**Bretton Woods  
Third-Grade**



**Bretton Woods  
Fourth-Grade**



**Bretton Woods  
Fifth-Grade**





# HAUPPAUGE HIGH SCHOOL BEGINS "SPIRIT DAYS" AHEAD OF OCTOBER 1ST HOMECOMING DAY

## *Jersey Day*





## Jersey Day





## Jersey Day



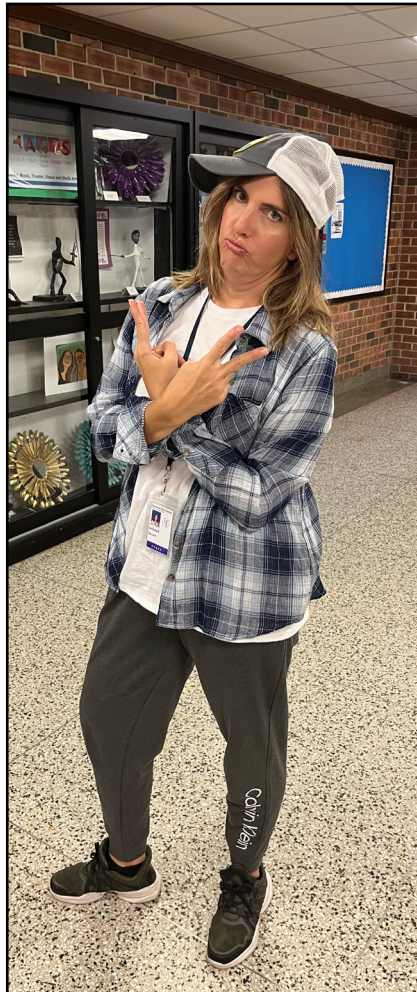




*Jersey Day*



*Adam Sandler Day*



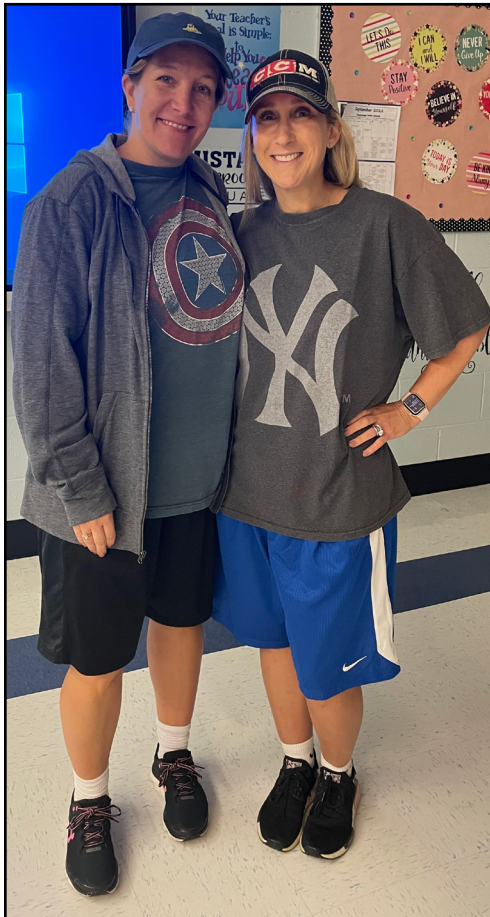


## Adam Sandler Day



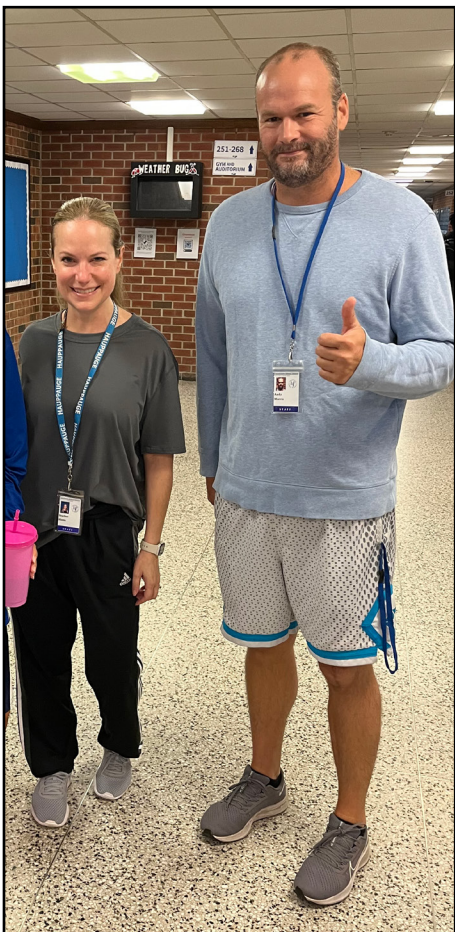


# Adam Sandler Day





# Adam Sandler Day





# Country vs. Country Club





# Country vs. Country Club



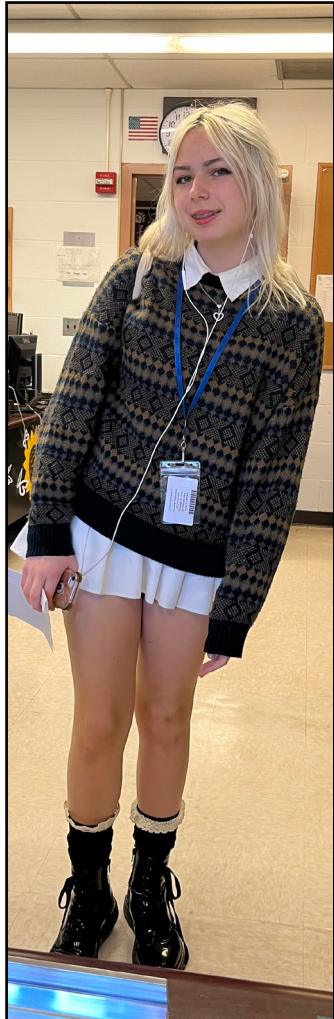


## Country vs. Country Club





# Country vs. Country Club





## GETTING READY FOR HOMECOMING!

Hauppauge High School is getting ready for Homecoming on Saturday, October 1st! Here is a display case at the High School decorated by Denise Malandrucolo! Great job, Denise!



GO  
EAGLES!



# HOMECOMING JOURNAL COVER



*Vincent Barbera*

Vincent Barbera

*JoJo Provenzano*

JoJo Provenzano

HOMECOMING

OCTOBER 1ST 2022



# HOMECOMING JOURNAL COVER

**Vincent Barbera**  
Quarterback  
Team Captain

**JoJo Provenzano**  
Running Back  
Team Captain







In Memory of Courtney Tomkin

**15<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL KICKS FOR CANCER**  
**October 14<sup>th</sup> 2022**

**GAME #1 – 4:00pm**

Hauppauge Boys Varsity Soccer vs. East Islip

**GAME #2 – 6:00pm**

Hauppauge Girls Varsity Soccer vs. Wyandanch

**HHS Turf Field**

Raffles - \$5 or 6/\$20

Winners will be pulled between games

T-Shirts – \$20	Bracelets - \$3
Hoodie - \$40	Shoelaces - \$3
Sunglasses - \$3	Lanyards - \$3
Blankets - \$25	
Bounce House Bracelet \$10	

**GAMES, FOOD &  
FUN FOR A  
GREAT CAUSE!**

Proceeds to benefit:



COURTNEY TOMKIN  
SCHOLARSHIP

Local Families  
in Need





# **SAFE HALLOWEEN**

**HOSTED BY:  
INTERACT CLUB**

**WHEN: SATURDAY OCTOBER  
29TH FROM 11AM-2PM**

**WHERE: HIGH SCHOOL COMMONS**

**ENTRY FEE: \$5 PER CHILD AND  
TWO NONPERISHABLE ITEMS TO  
DONATE TO THE SEÑORA AIGEN  
MEMORIAL FOOD DRIVE**





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