



February
2019

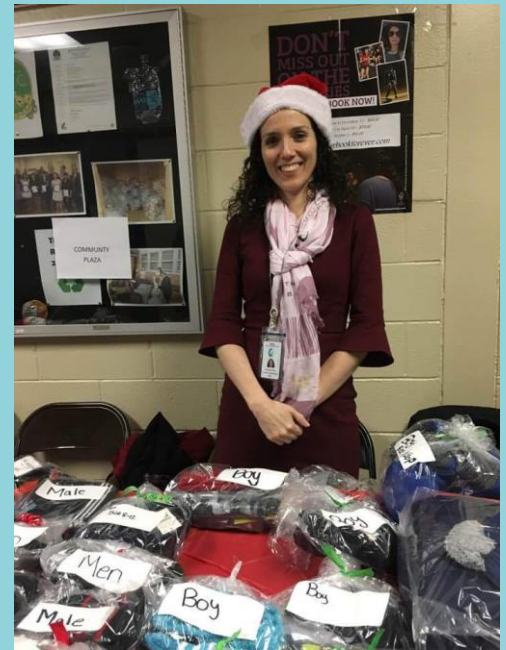


SPECIAL HAPPENINGS

Hello and welcome to the second 2018-19 issue of ***Special Happenings!*** You will see just some of the many great things going on in Special Education.

The 5th Annual Brentwood High School Tree Lighting Celebration











The Brentwood High School Tree Lighting has become a truly magical tradition that continues to grow. This year, we have incorporated a Santa letter writing project, a Parent Portal tutorial and collaborations with community organizations and business sponsors. Students from across our community enjoyed several giveaways. Fun activities were provided by clubs and community organizations. The event was a huge success due to the support and hard work from our administrators, faculty and students. A very special thank you to: Mr. Richard Loeschner, Superintendent of Schools; Dr. Monique Darrisaw-Akil, Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Education, Programs & Policy; Ms. Ann Palmer, Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Education; Ms. Wanda Ortiz-Rivera, Assistant Superintendent for Bilingual Education K-12 and Student Intake; Stacy O'Connor, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations; Kimberly Fauci, Director of Special Services; The Board of Education, The HS Principal, John Callan Jr.; April Seneus, Jean-Marie McClain, Anthony LaScala, Christine Lindsay, Susan Disbrow, Kathryn Parvis, Erica Mears, Amanda Nicolotti, Karin Joseph, Bryan Brown, IT Dept., John Knispel, Miguel Cruz and Buildings & Grounds, Dave Aponte and the BHS Custodial Staff, Brentwood High School Activity Clubs, Eva Lopez and The Future Teachers of America(gift wrapping), JAFROTC, MBK, Wanda Ortiz and The Community Plaza (Hat, gloves and scarf giveaway), Ann Palmer and VOXX SHARED SERVICES (Toys), John Rueb (50 warm coats), The National English Honor Society (Santa letter project), Brentwood UFSD Food Services, BHS Chamber Choir, Suffolk Library, Kristin George and The BYA Cheerleaders, Wendy Rodriguez and the Ultimate Sweat Zone, The Reality Check, PTSA, NMS Student Council, Carlos Sanchez and Brentwood UFSD Security, Brentwood Fire Department, Brentwood Alumni Student Association, Target, Saint Mark's Remnant Ministry, Joshua Young (Putting the lights on the tree), Chris Benitez aka Santa, Toys for Tots, BTA and all of the wonderful teachers that participated in this event, BPSO, The HS Administrative Team and every student, family and organization that participated or sponsored this event. I truly appreciate each and every one of you.



Thank you for your generocity!



NYCB Brentwood Branch donated Brooklyn Donated 20 Nets Tickets to the Tree Lighting.



Voxx Shared Services and Marines Toys for Tots donated over 700 toys for distribution.



Melville Rotary donated 1200 candy canes!



El Salvador Party Rentals Corp, 1750 5th Avenue Bayshore, NY donated the beautiful Santa throne.



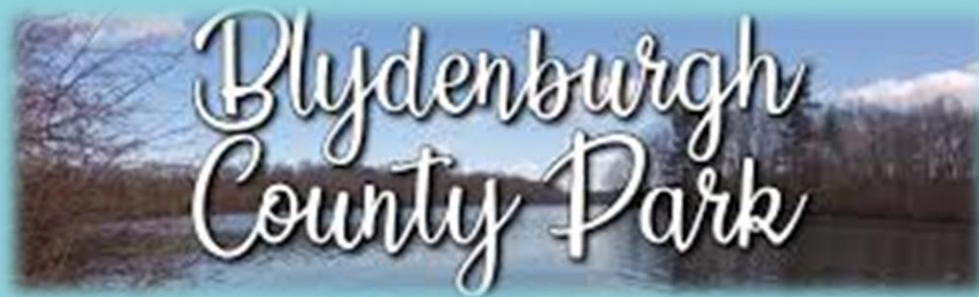
Special Event



Students debut their new Brentwood T-shirts at the Section XI Athletics for All program in Ronkonkoma.

The mission of the **Athletics for All** is to inform and provide the tools and guidelines by which coaches, athletic directors and school administrators can include students with physical disabilities in interscholastic sports. Brentwood hosted the 2018 Athletics for All event this past November. Schools from across Long Island joined our students in athletic training, dancing, and refreshments. A huge thank you to Dan Robinson, April Seneus, Anthony LaScala, and Jim Farrell for making this event possible. The students had an amazing time.

The Woods Are Calling and We Must Go!



Dr. Adaki, school psychologist, has organized a therapeutic day trip to Blydenburgh County Park. The purpose of the trip was to expose students, who are receiving counseling services, to Eco therapy and movement therapy as conduits to mood regulation, in the healing context of Mother Nature. The trip was structured as a therapeutic journey through nature. Students were engaged and exposed to a variety of therapeutic ideas and mindful exercises to increase inner and outer awareness with the goal of emotional cognizance and regulation. Since most students know each other from various counseling groups, the concept of group safety and the group as a “family unit” was reinforced to promote social skills and a sense of connectedness and unity.





Climbing to New Heights



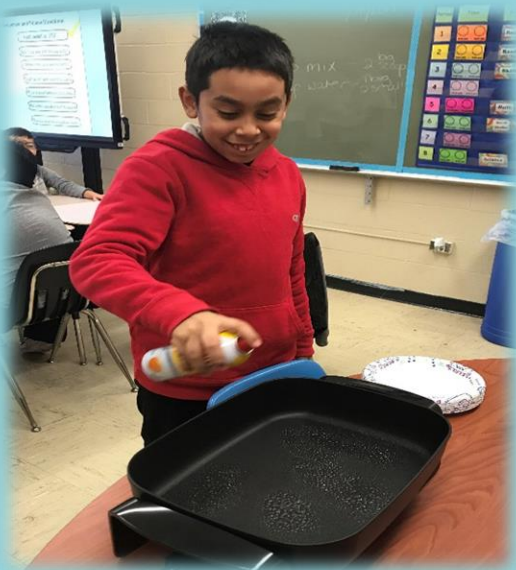
North Middle School student, Tameya Cabacungan participated in the Student Council field trip to The Gravity Vault. At first, Tameya was intimidated by this challenge, but soon she put her fears aside and conquered the ultimate climb. Congratulations Tameya!





Physical and Chemical Changes

North Middle School students in Ms. Kunzig's class learned about physical and chemical change in the most delicious way!



A True Inspiration

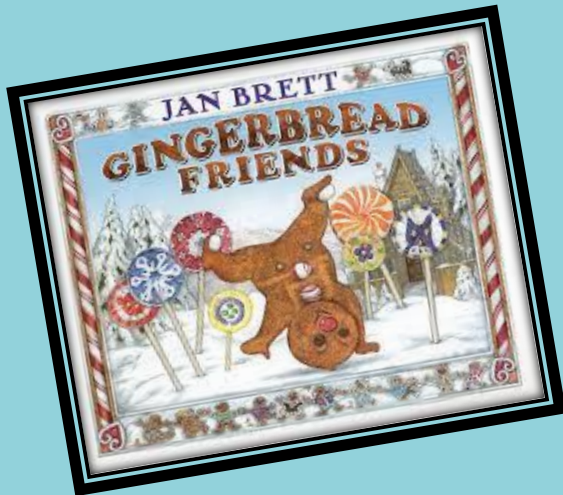
A chat with Rohan Murphy



Rohan Murphy, a nationally recognized youth speaker visited Ms. Gesseck's class at **North Middle School**. Rohan, who lost his legs at birth, shared his story of becoming a successful wrestler in high school, then later at Penn State University. Now, Rohan Murphy visits schools across the country to motivate and inspire young people to overcome adversity, to dedicate themselves to living a healthy life style and to live life with a purpose.



The Gingerbread Baby



To celebrate the holiday season at **Laurel Park**, Mrs. Rodriguez's 3rd grade class and Ms. Perci's 4th grade class combined to put on a performance of "The Gingerbread Baby". Students practiced reading with fluency and expression as they brought the Jan Brett story to life. Students participated in the making of their masks and the sets. The performance was held in the gym and was attended by parents and staff.





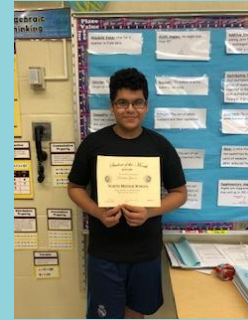
Students in Ms. Murphy's ADL class prepare a well-balanced meal using *Unique Learning*.



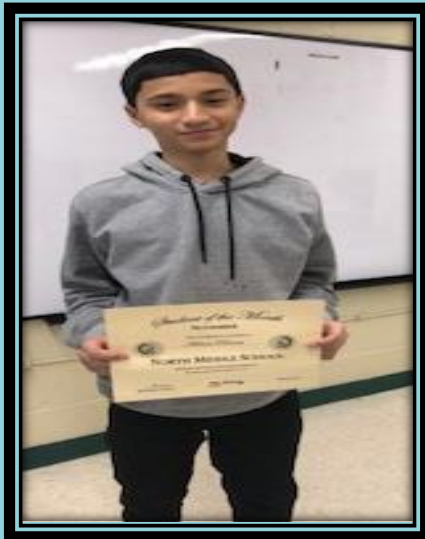
Student of the Month

The Student of the Month is awarded to students who demonstrate academic growth and achievement.

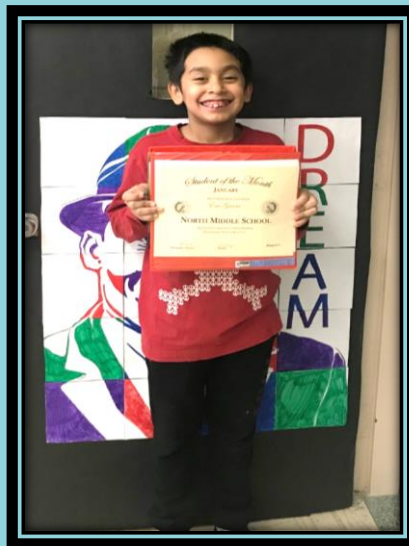
Donaldo Garcia NMS (right)



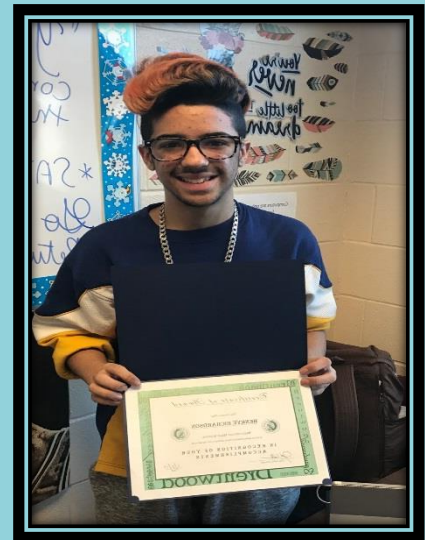
Adrien Rivera NMS



Eric Garcia NMS



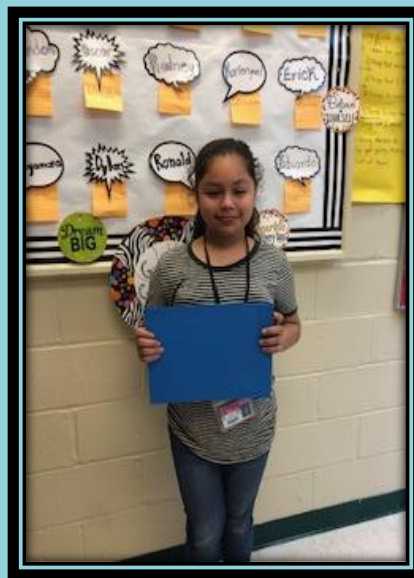
Henry Richardson SHS



Ethan Fernandez NMS



Valery Sarran NMS



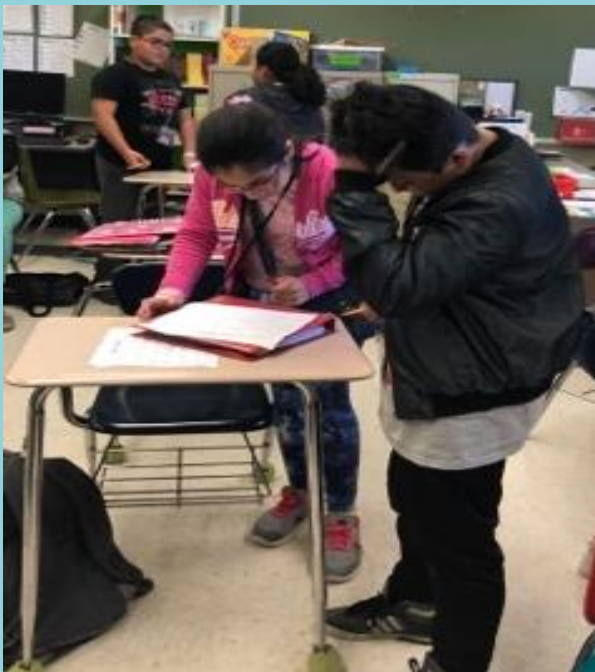
Xenia Flores NMS



Making an Impact

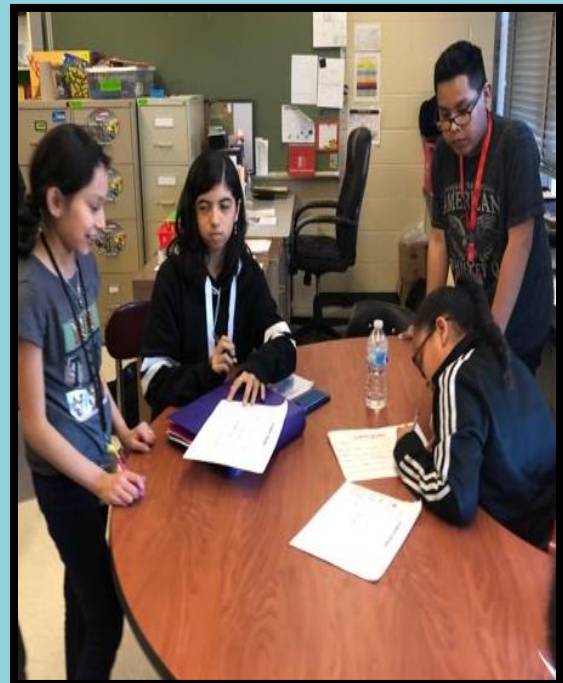
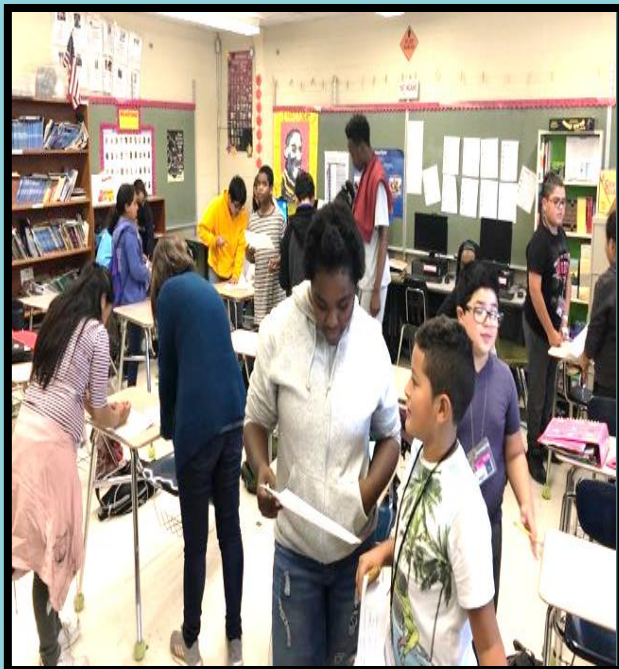
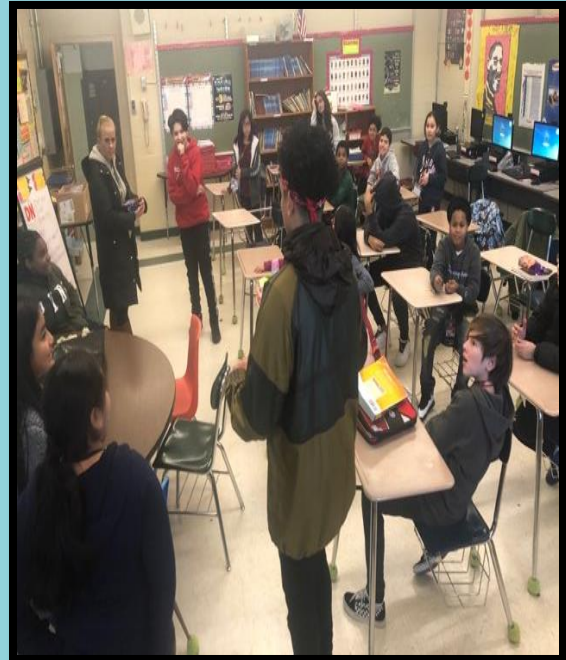


North Middle School's Friendship Club members conducted interviews to learn about each other's interests, hobbies and future goals. Special Education students, six graders and honor students are developing friendships and building skills together.



We ❤️ the Friendship Club at NMS!

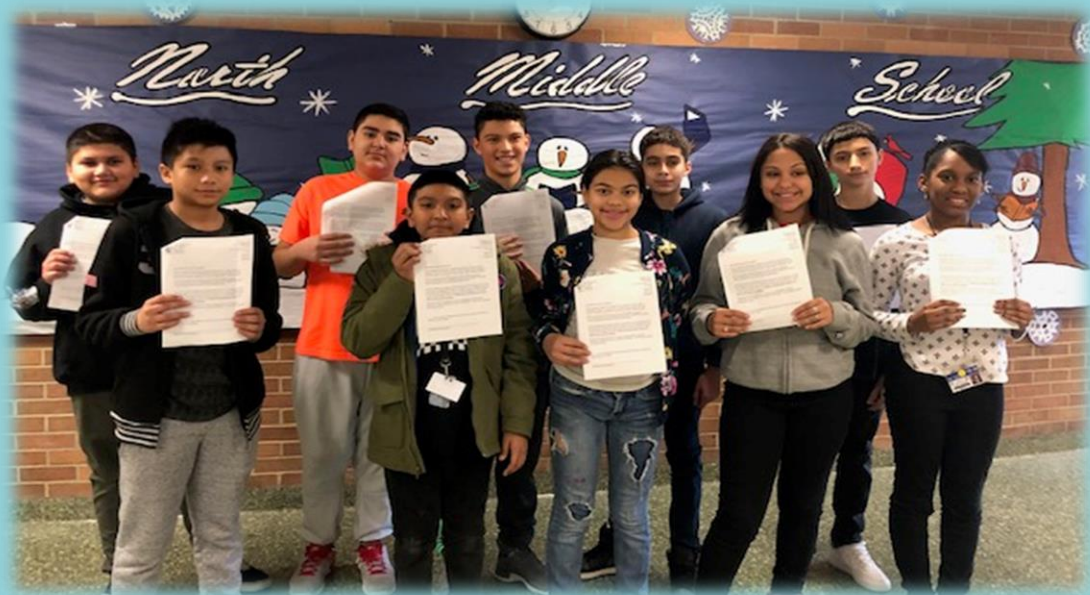
Thank you Dr. Morris and Ms. Phillips!



Stranger Sagas



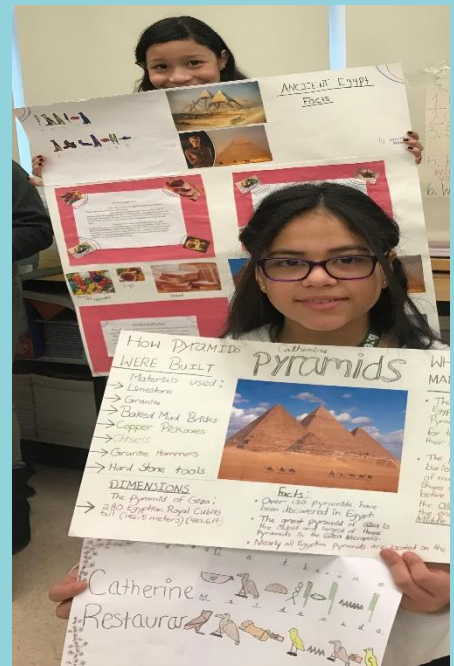
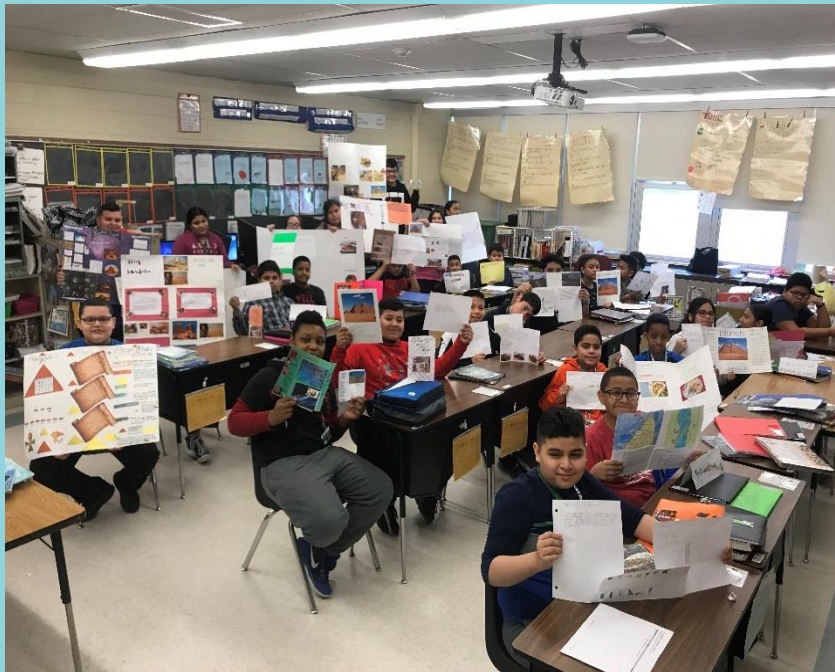
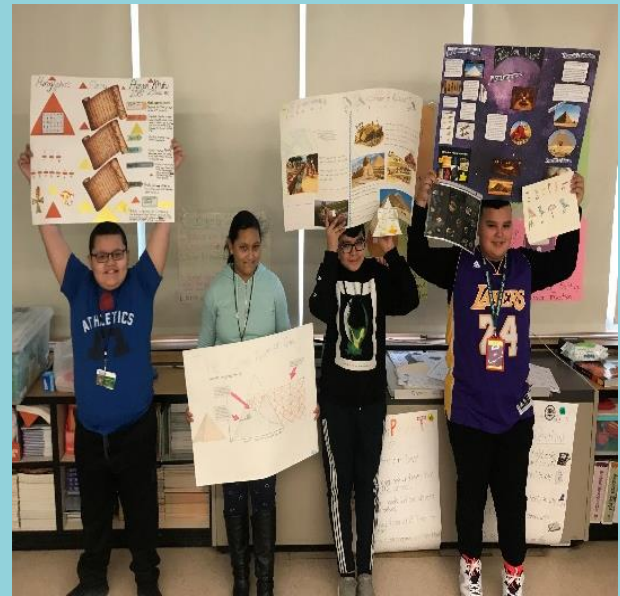
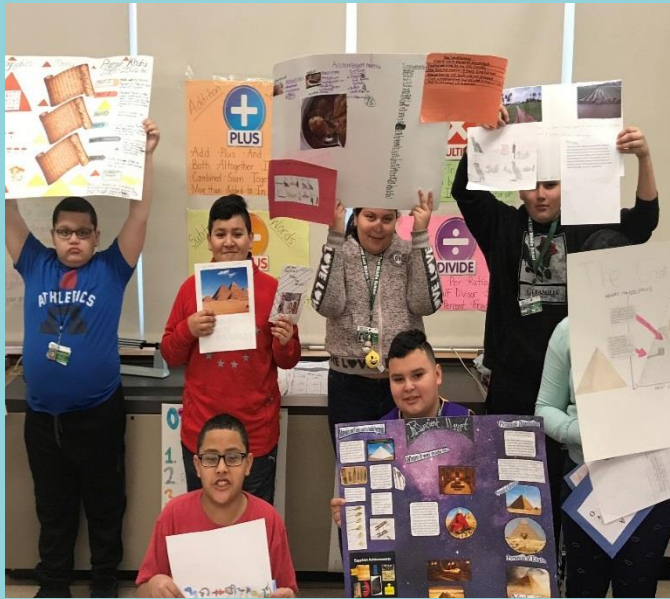
Students in Ms. Lindsay's and Ms. Leone-Martin's classes are among many of North Middle School's aspiring writers. Students participated in a Young Authors Writing Competition and were selected to have their writing published. Inspired by the Netflix hit series, Stranger Things, students were challenged to select a story prompt and compose a descriptive mini-saga, a story written in exactly 100 words. Congratulations to all!



Exploring Ancient Egypt



East Middle School students in Ms. Sigety's and Ms. Greave's class did a wonderful job working with their families to create an Ancient Egyptian project at home. They utilized their own resources and they all look great! The students were very proud of their finished projects and enjoyed sharing what they learned and accomplished with their classmates.



Freshman Center Social Justice Peer Program

Our message is to promote cultural advancement. With the support of the administrative team, the SJPP group have participated at the Truth Team Leadership workshop, the ERASE Racism Forum, and the One Act of Courage workshop. Our Social Justice Play Project is in the works. A special thank you to the program advisors: Ms. Emery Francois, Coordinator, Dr. Steve Burby, Dr. Marilyn Solano, Ms. Lisa Ponce and Ms. Diana Weaving.





Brentwood High School's First Meet the Professional Day

1st Annual MEET THE PROFESSIONALS DAY Session 1: THE INTERVIEW



Businesses represented include: Suffolk Transportation, PSEG, Awsomotive Car Care, Maryhaven Center of Hope, US Army, Jaret Acevedo Plumbing & Heating, Apprenticeship Connections & Consulting Group, Sysco, CLIMB, Digital Onesource, ASRC, Federal, Intelligent Fitness, Cox Media Group, Brentwood USPS Covanta, Bay Supply, Greenstone Marketing

BRENTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

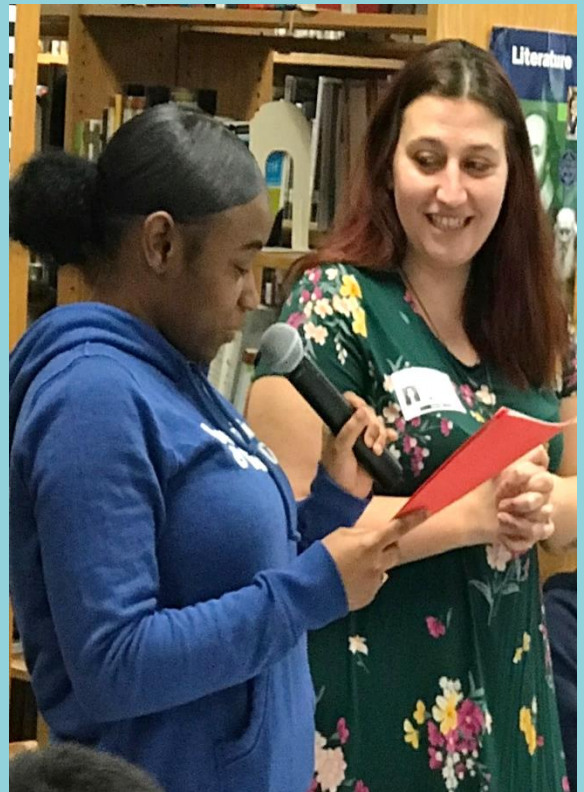
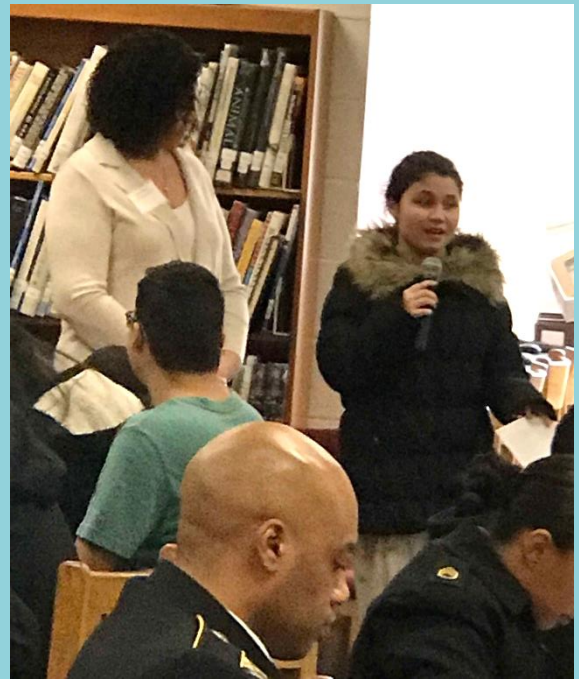
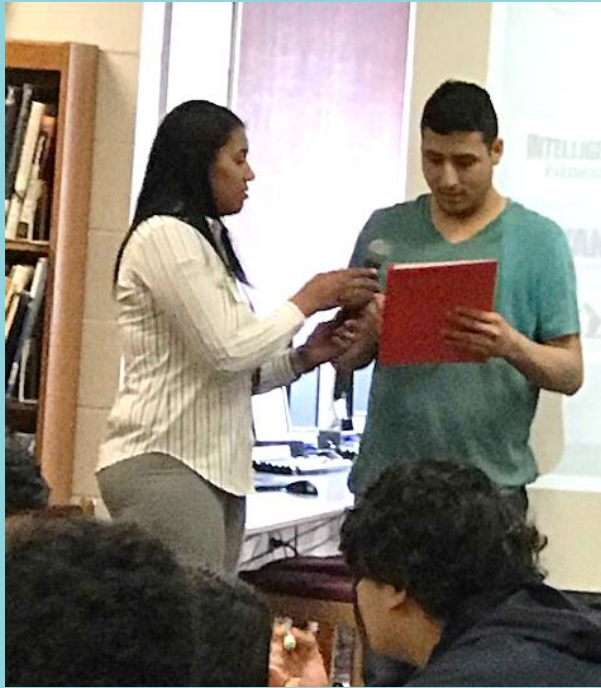
ROSS LIBRARY
2ND AND 3RD PERIOD

FEBRUARY 13, 2019



Breakfast
Sponsor





SEPTA



Special Education Parent Teacher Association

President: Ms. Jill Wolynetz

Recording Secretary: Ms. Laura Durante

Treasurer: Ms. Mara Kasdan

- Contact Ms. Jill Wolynetz at Jill.Wolynetz@bufsd.org for information or questions.
- Join our Facebook group "SEPTA of Brentwood" for parent information, meetings and events for the 2018-2019 school year.

http://www.brentwood.k12.ny.us/HTMLpages/Parent_info/PTSA_Home.html#septa



Volunteers Needed!

SEPTA and the Brentwood School District

Presents

An Evening of Transition Opportunities

LEARN ABOUT OPPORTUNITIES THAT ARE AVAILABLE TO STUDENTS IN SPECIAL EDUCATION IN PLANNING FOR YOUR CHILD'S FUTURE.

Representatives from different agencies, post-secondary schools and transition services will be available to answer questions and offer information about their services.

When: Wednesday, March 13th

Where: Sonderling High School Gym

Time: 6:00– 8:00 p.m.

Una Noche de Oportunidades de Transición

APRENDA SOBRE LOS SERVICIOS QUE ESTAN DISPONIBLES PARA LOS ESTUDIANTES DE EDUCACION ESPECIAL PARA PLANIFICAR EL FUTURO DE SUS HIJOS

Representantes de diferentes agencias de escuelas post-secundarias y servicios de transición estarán disponibles para contestar preguntas y ofrecer información sobre sus servicios.

Cuando: Miércoles, 13 de marzo

Donde: Sonderling High School Gym

Time: 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

For more information call 631-972-1512



Be sure to check out this great community resource.

<http://brentwoodnylibrary.org>



Serving the Brentwood Community Since 1937