



June 2019

SPECIAL HAPPENINGS

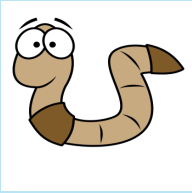


Hello and welcome to the 4th Quarter 2018-19 issue of **Special Happenings!** Here, you will see just some of the many great things going on within the Special Services Department.

Feast Ala Fresco!

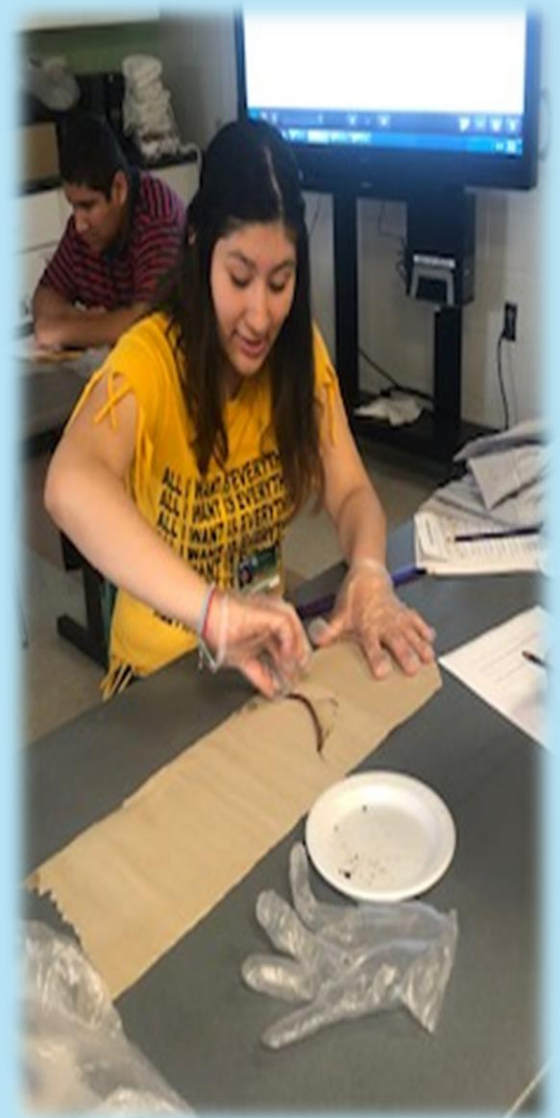
Sonderling High School students in Ms. Murphy's class enjoyed a delicious meal outdoors. Students used ingredients from their organic garden to prepare delicious meals. So impressive!





Earthworm Observation Lab

During Ms. Murphy's life skills science class students engaged in a hands-on activity. They had the opportunity to look at live earthworms, observe their external structures and test their responses to environmental stimuli. The students then added the worms to the ADL raised beds as they have learned how earthworms make our soil good for growing plants that provide us food.





Field Trip to The American Museum of Natural History

West Middle School students in Ms. Greaves's and Ms. Sigety's class visited The American Museum of Natural History. Students had a great time riding the LIRR and subway, exploring dinosaur fossils, and sculptures from around the world. Students had personal interaction with museum experts to learn about exhibits. It was a great day for all!





Sonderling High School Field Day!

Life Skills students concluded another successful year by celebrating with a pizza party and participating in field day. Mr. Farrell, Mr. LaScala, Ms. Lijoi, Ms. Murphy, Ms. Ramsaran, and Ms. Halton—along with a wonderful group of TAs—worked together to provide a memorable experience for students.

The participants not only enjoyed a pizza party, but a delicious homemade cake created by Ms. Ramsaran to resemble a pizza as well! Tasty fruit kabobs made by the students in Mrs. Murphy's ADL classes were also served. Yum!

The following day when the sun was shining, students were taken out by Ms. Dennis, Ms. Jones, and Ms. Halton for a friendly game of soccer. Physical exercise was incorporated with skill-building in the areas of communication, teamwork, cooperation, and sportsmanship.





Nassau Suffolk Autism Society Fundraiser



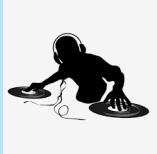
Ms. Lijoi's class and Ms. Desouza's class teamed up again this year and raised \$1289.42 for the Nassau/Suffolk Autism Society during April's Autism Awareness Month. The hearts shown in this photo were only half of what we were able to hang up. Thank you all for your support. The students and staff at Ross High School and Sonderling High School were most generous. We are looking forward to continuing this fundraiser next year!



Middle School DANCE

Spring Dance

North Middle School students had a great time dancing the afternoon away and taking memorable photos.



Quick Action!



Mr. Bill Budnik, a teacher at East Middle was recognized by the Brentwood Union Free School District Board of Education for his quick action which saved his student from choking. Both Mr. Budnik and his student were recognized at the next board meeting.



**ROCK
YOUR
SOCKS**
WORLD DOWN SYNDROME DAY

Thank you for your generous donations for *GiGi's Playhouse* on World Down Syndrome Day this year! Over \$1,600 was collected from numerous schools in our District. Our Brentwood is just amazing!

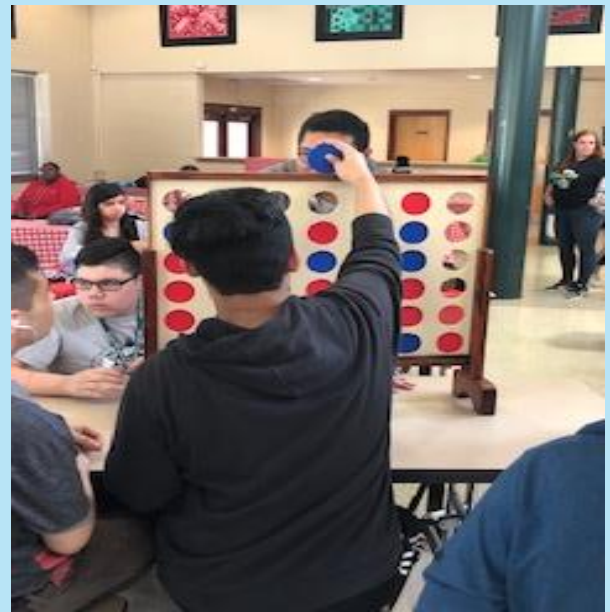
GRILL & CHILL

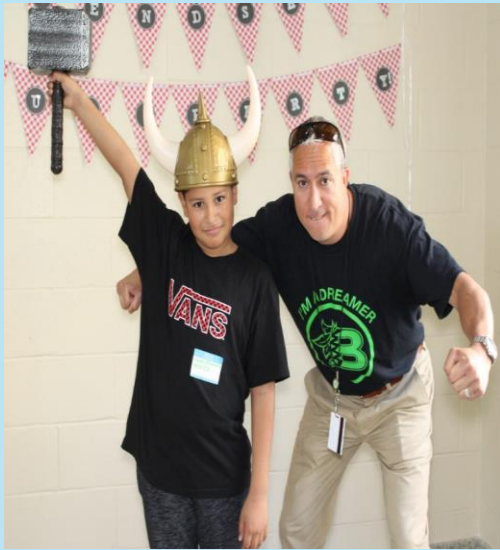
The Brentwood Union Free School District proudly presented a Grill & Chill Celebration! High school students and middle school students from across the district came together to celebrate friendship. This was a fun-filled afternoon with dancing, games, photo opportunities, and of course a delicious meal and tasty desserts. Thank you to all of our participating students, faculty, staff and administrators for making this event possible.



FRIENDSHIP













South Middle School's Friendship Club students visited the Long Island Aquarium and Exhibition Center in Riverhead. Students had an amazing time checking out the 120,000 gallon shark tank, sea lion show, African Penguins and more than 100 other exhibits. Students learned about marine life while fostering and building upon friendships with peers.



Friendship



Team Building at East Middle



East Middle School's Friendship Club participated in a unique team building activity called The Human Knot. Students worked together to determine an effective strategy to become "untangled." This is one of many cooperative team games that they have done throughout the year.



Say Yes to Your Formal Dress!

Over 70 North Middle School students participated in a unique shopping experience to select the perfect dress for the 8th Grade Formal Dance. Nearly 500 dresses were available to choose from! This was all possible with the help of our special education students. Students in Ms. Lindsay's class were responsible for setting up clothing racks, sorting dresses according to size and style, decorating a two-room boutique, preparing a buffet area, helping others, and cleaning up.



They Said Yes to their Formal Dress!



Perfect Attendance Recognition

Thank you to everyone that volunteered their time to prepare a wonderful 2019 Perfect Attendance Celebration. The following recipients from the Special Education Department have demonstrated perfect attendance for the past 5 or more years: **Joel Dirocie, Gina Murphy, Lori Ann Otero and Gina Mathieu.**





Social Justice Peer Program

PRESENTED A DIVERSITY IN LEADERSHIP SERIES
AN ENGAGEMENT WITH DR. CORRINE GRAHAM

Social Justice Peer Program's Diversity In Leadership Series was planned by the team in efforts to engage students directly with community leaders. Students discussed their personal goals and their desires to be leaders in fields that interest them most.





Each May, Better Hearing & Speech Month (BHSM) provides an opportunity to raise awareness about communication disorders and role of Speech-Language Pathologist and Audiologist in providing services to students who are mandated for speech and hearing services.

A special thank you to the Brentwood Union Free School District SEPTA, Speech Pathologists, Audiologist, Special Education Teachers, Teachers, Kim Fauci, Central Administration, and BUFSD Administrators for a great movie and game night event!





East Middle School's Student Presentation Day

ENDANGERED SPECIES



East Middle School students in Ms. Greaves's and Ms. Sigety's classes were honored to have Senator Monica Martinez join them for Class Presentation Day. Students presented information on endangered species and their ideas for recycling projects. Thank you, Senator Martinez for supporting East Middle School students and for the delicious pizza party!



Ross High School Graduation Celebration hosted by Cindy Combs, Social Worker of the Year!



Congratulations Graduates!





*Congratulations on a
Remarkable Accomplishment*



*Ms. Placida Randall,
Assistant to the Director of Special Services for
Elementary and Preschool*



*Thank you for your devotion in serving the children and families of
the Brentwood community for the past 40 years!*



*Happy
Retirement*



Wishing the very best to this year's Special Services Retirees.

Thank you for your hard work and dedication to our students, and their families.

You will be missed!



Leslie Bial, Allison Connors, Allan Friedman, Anne Gruenberg, Maria Harrison, Terry Merksamer, Elizabeth Rahne,

Marianne Scifo, Sharon Scott, Lillian Siever, Audrey Topol and Pat Vasallo

FREE Summer Youth Academy Camp

Register today!

The Suffolk County Police Department will be hosting the Summer Youth Police Academy.

The academy is open to students of both genders, ages 13-18 years old, who are interested in pursuing a career in law enforcement.



When: The first session will be held July 22-26.
The second session will be held July 29 - August 2.
9:00a.m.-3:00p.m.

Where: Suffolk County Community College

This program can have a meaningful impact on your child since it seeks to instill discipline, structure, confidence and respect. These assets can serve to promote a brighter future for any young person regardless of chosen career path.

All applications must be received by July 12, 2019. Please contact us if you have any questions 631-853-8270.

ENGLISH

<https://www.suffolkcountyny.gov/Portals/0/formsdocs/youthbureau/2019%201%20Youth%20Police%20Academy%20flyer.pdf>

SPANISH

<https://www.suffolkcountyny.gov/Portals/0/formsdocs/youthbureau/SPN%20-%202019%20Youth%20Police%20Academy%20flyer.pdf>

Participating students will receive a summer uniform!



SEPTA

Special Education Parent Teacher Association

President: Ms. Jill Wolynetz

Recording Secretary: Ms. Beth Law

Treasurer: Ms. Rosanna Mendola

- 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 2019-2020 school year.

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



Volunteers Needed!



Be sure to check out this great community resource.

<http://brentwoodnylibrary.org>



Serving the Brentwood Community Since 1937

**HAPPY
SUMMER
VACATION!**