

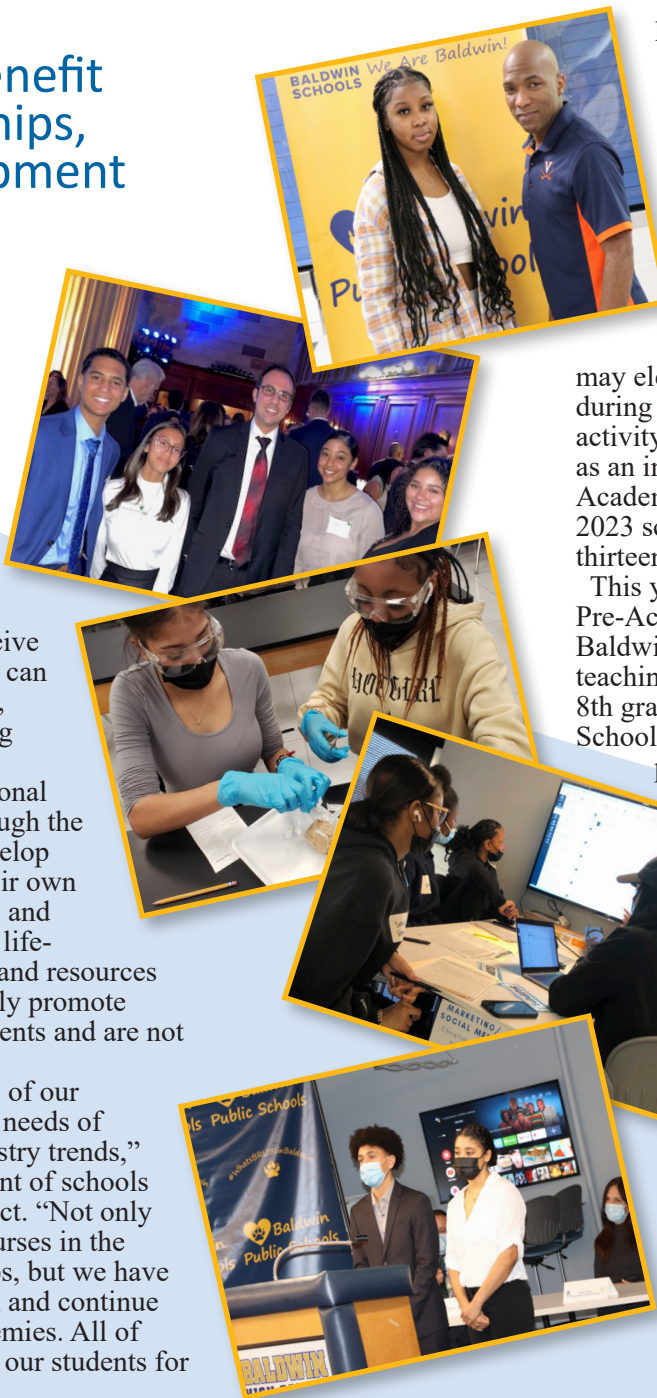
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Baldwin Students Benefit from Virtual Internships, Professional Development and Networking

Knowing what you want to be when you grow up does not always come naturally. Recognizing this, the Baldwin Union Free School District continues to offer programs, services and resources that can help guide students with this decision. Baldwin UFSD's School2Career encompasses the Pre-Academies, Academic Academies, Work-based Learning and Internships, as well as the Mentoring Program. Students receive real-life work experiences where they can apply their academic, communication, and leadership skills, while developing their employability. Additionally, the Mentoring Program provides professional guidance and builds confidence. Through the School2Career Program, students develop an ambitious spirit with regards to their own academic, personal, social, vocational and civic future. In addition to cultivating life-long skills, the programs, curriculum and resources associated with School2Career strongly promote equity in that they are open to all students and are not GPA-based.

"Our district continues to enhance all of our School2Career offerings based on the needs of our students as well as emerging industry trends," said Dr. Shari L. Camhi, superintendent of schools for Baldwin Union Free School District. "Not only have we added more college-level courses in the last few years through our partnerships, but we have also expanded our internship program and continue to add new Academies and Pre-Academies. All of these programs and resources prepare our students for



life after high school and will help them find success in their future profession."

Baldwin Middle School Pre-Academies

Starting as early as 8th Grade, students can embark on their career journey through the Pre-Academies Program. The Baldwin Middle School students may elect to take Pre-Academy classes during ninth period as an enrichment activity after the regular school day and as an introduction to the high school's Academic Academies. Starting in 2022-2023 school year, the district will offer thirteen different Pre-Academies.

This year, "Future Teachers of Baldwin" Pre-Academy made its debut, introducing Baldwin Middle School students to the teaching profession. Most recently, the 8th graders taught Meadow Elementary School students, which involved lesson planning and in-person instruction.

Most students in this Pre-

Academy will enroll in the Education Academy at Baldwin High School. The

Medical Detectives also launched in September, allowing Baldwin Middle School students to solve mysteries through hands-on projects and labs, measure and interpret vital signs, investigate disease outbreaks, and much more. The majority of these students will go on to the Medical and Health Sciences Academy.

In addition, the middle school's Junior Virtual Enterprise

Continued inside...



Pictured: Baldwin High School sophomores, Bianca Samedy, Chelsea Panky, Thalia Kontoleon, Kaylah Deriphonse and Reyna Palmer, during their winning moment in Northwell Health's Medical Marvels competition.

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students visited the high school's Virtual Enterprise (VE) firms after connecting with each other in recent weeks to exchange knowledge on current projects and events. The experience proved to be invaluable where both high school VE firms, SuppLI and OneWorld, gave the middle schoolers an overview of organizational structure, subscription models, virtual pricing and the competitions. The seniors also discussed the importance of teamwork and other takeaways based on their experiences in the past four years.

"I think the visit to the Virtual Enterprises was helpful and felt like an early start to what we will be doing as we enter high school," said 8th grader, Adam Magwood.

"I loved that everyone collaborates and when everyone does their part in a company, the work comes together," added Emily Mejia.

Working Remotely and National Expansion

The Work-Based Learning (WBL) Program, which includes the Senior Internship course and the Extracurricular Internship Program, has grown substantially over the past few months, with students participating in more than 150 career exploration opportunities since September. Students collaborate with political leaders, local businesses, and national organizations.

One high school student is learning about public policy under Assemblywoman Judy Griffin. Another, who is interested in the culinary arts, is baking and selling confections at Sugarberry Bakery. A soon-to-be Ivy League freshman is exploring veterinary medicine at Baldwin Animal Hospital.

Baldwin High School@Shubert has also launched a new WBL Program. There, students can integrate internships into their studies and obtain New York State Career Development and Occupational Studies (CDOS) credits for their work.

Additionally, the district launched its "Virtual Internship Program" for the spring, allowing students to intern with professionals all over the country. Thirty students are working virtually with fashion designers, advocates, spiritual healers, marketing firms, STEM networks and clothing companies. Within the group, mentors have been featured in *The New York Times*, Project Runway, Buzzfeed and Vogue. Students complete tasks remotely, join Zoom meetings and presentations, among other responsibilities.

For instance, some Baldwin High School students are student-editors with The Disruptive Factory, focusing on journalism and civic-mindedness, while others are working with Jim Hollis, former director of the Innovation Incubator at Pivot Learning Partners, to develop STEM programs that are inclusive to all children. Kyle Denman, who was featured in New York Fashion Week and winner of the "Project Runway Remake It Work Grand Prize Winner 2016," has

taken a few Global Business & Entrepreneurship Academy students under his wing to help develop their fashion design skills. In addition, three high school seniors were selected for a marketing internship with The Clear Cut, a startup that creates hand-crafted diamond engagement rings at affordable prices. The company's founders and co-founders, who were among "Forbes 30 Under 30," along with the marketing manager work directly with the students.

With the flexibility associated with remote work and different time zones, students can participate in a virtual internship after school and even in the evenings from home. As of today, Baldwin UFSD is one of the only districts to offer such a comprehensive internship and externship program.

Mentoring and Professional Development

Baldwin High School's Mentoring Program boasts 200 mentors and mentees and proudly hosted its 21st annual Mentoring Breakfast in person in March. All participating faculty and administrators are trained by MENTOR New York and make a four-year commitment to their mentees, helping to guide them throughout their years in high school. The district has also incorporated more professional development into the School2Career Program to help with students' personal growth, including:

- *Energeia*: The program focuses on developing social entrepreneurship in young students.
- *Build It, Create It, Be It with Morrison Mentors*: During a week-long intensive, students build a computer.
- *Girls Empowerment Summit*: Managed by the Family and Children's Association and the Hempstead Prevention Coalition, students present at the summit and over the course of four months, learn about self-advocacy while working with Nassau County leaders.
- *Northwell Health Virtual Certificate Program*: Through a virtual training, students engage in a curriculum focusing on healthcare careers and job search tips.
- *Gravity Seminar with Robert Browning*: Students attend a seminar, where they learn about space, gravity, and aviation from the real-life Iron Man.
- *SportsHi*: Through a series of authentic assessments, students become SportsHi Ambassadors and obtain inside access to scholarships, jobs, and professional athlete seminars.
- *Women Fly*: A total of 45 middle school girls registered for this event featuring guest speakers, inspiring presentations and hands-on activities about careers in aviation.

The district looks forward to seeing the continued growth of the School2Career program over the next year as new partnerships are established. To learn more about what School2Career means in Baldwin UFSD, visit the district website.



Combating Fake News

Baldwin Middle School and High School Students Learn How to Identify Misinformation and Become Civic-Minded

News literacy, also known as media literacy, is becoming an increasingly important skill to harness in the “Digital Age” between information overload, inaccurate news reports and “fake news” infiltrating the Internet. Baldwin Union Free School District started incorporating news literacy into the social studies and English framework back in 2020 after a grant was awarded through Stony Brook University’s “News Literacy Lighthouse District Program.” The district aims to help students master how to decipher misinformation and disinformation using a combination of lessons, research assignments, project-based work, and guest speakers, such as historians and journalists.

After receiving formal training through Stony Brook, social studies and English teachers prepared lessons aligned to the University’s Center for News Literacy to teach students how to astutely navigate the news media landscape, from

social media, to advertisements, to television programming. Baldwin UFSD and Stony Brook partnered on the news literacy curriculum for students in grades 6-12, as well as a college-credit course at the high school that launched this year school year.

Starting as early as 6th grade, all students learn four distinct lessons in news literacy in their social studies classes. These lessons range from teaching students the difference between what is considered journalism and what is not, how to distinguish fact from opinion, how to evaluate sources for misinformation and disinformation, and how to evaluate sources for fairness, balance and bias. In addition, at Baldwin Middle School, students focus on news literacy from a journalistic point of view in their English classes.

This year at Baldwin High School, the Social Studies Department rolled out “College Civics & News Literacy” through Stony Brook University in place of the traditional Participation in Government course. Students learn about the structure of the government and complete a semester-long civics action project in which they research a civics issue, apply their news literacy skills to evaluate their research, propose a solution to the problem and then take civic action. The lessons in this course are designed to empower students to think critically about what they are reading, what they share on social media and how they are contributing to this new digital information age. In addition to teaching news literacy curriculum, the course is designed to provide students with opportunities to become more civically engaged and will result in the New York State “Seal of Civic Readiness” upon graduation.

The district believes in helping not just students but also families to become “news literate.” Last spring, a Parent Academy Workshop focused on news literacy with guest speaker, Dr. Howard Schneider, the founding dean of the School of Journalism at Stony Brook University, who spearheaded the team that developed the proposal for SUNY’s first School of Journalism. Dr. Schneider previously served as editor at *Newsday* for nearly 20 years.

Ultimately, the district hopes that by teaching the skills associated with news literacy, students will be smart media consumers, understand the impact of choices, and help educate others along the way.

SCHOOL2CAREER

Recent Highlights

- **Baldwin High School Law Academy** students took home first prize in Northwell Health’s 10th annual Medical Marvels competition for the second year in a row.
- The **Isadora Duncan Foundation** awarded Baldwin UFSD a grant for students, 5-12, and the **Fine & Performing Arts Academy**, to take professional master classes of modern dance focused on building confidence and encouraging self-expression.
- **Baldwin High School** senior and **Junior Achievement Ambassador**, Chloe Cruz, interviewed Congresswoman, Kathleen Rice.
- **Baldwin High School Education Academy** has been featured in *Newsday* for its innovativeness and efforts to help increase diversity in education.
- Recognizing the national nursing shortage, Baldwin UFSD partnered with **Molloy College’s School of Nursing** to launch a new “Shadow Day,” where high school students can observe and learn from current nursing students.
- **Baldwin High School@Shubert** student, Datrell Williams, has been accepted into the **Harbor Freight Fellows** – a competitive national trades program – to study carpentry.

Example News Literacy Projects

Baldwin High School Students Create Custom Google Map

In Ms. Tayla Plotke’s “College Civics & News Literacy” class, Baldwin High School seniors worked together to build an interactive map of Baldwin using “My Google Maps” to educate others with the most up-to-date information on public services, businesses, museums, parks and demographics.

Baldwin Middle School Students Study News Literacy in Relations to War Propaganda

Students in 8th grade completed a propaganda project based on the lessons learned in their news literacy curriculum and the propaganda campaigns during World War I.



BALDWIN SCHOOL DISTRICT

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What's Bruin in ATHLETICS & ARTS

Baldwin UFSD Athletics had an amazing winter season! In case you missed it, the **Boys and Girls Basketball** teams were both declared Long Island Champions – a first for any Long Island high school. The Girls Basketball Team also won the State-Semi Finals. The **Girls Indoor Track 4x200 Relay** team – Breanne Barnett, Jahzara Emeli, Jillian Rickford, and Sariah Doresca – won All-State Honors and finished 2nd in the state. Baldwin High

School senior, **Steven Elcock**, was

a state qualifier in the 300 meters for Boys Indoor

Track. **Kwasi Bonsu**, a junior, won the Nassau County Wrestling Championship at 189 pounds and was featured as a *Newsday* "Athlete of the Week." Coaches **Mr. Darius Burton**, **Mr. Tom Catapano**, and **Mr. Peter Buckley** were each recognized as varsity "Conference Coach of the Year," while **Mr. Adango Longjohn** was named junior varsity "Conference Coach of the Year."

In addition, the performing arts are back in full swing this spring! Just recently, Baldwin High School musicians were thrilled to perform in the annual "Suites and Sweets" concert after a two-year hiatus due to the pandemic. A long-standing Baldwin tradition, the entertaining evening featured the **Band Percussion Ensemble**, **Low Brass Ensemble**, **Wind Symphony Percussion Ensemble**, **Symphony Band**, **Clarinet Choir**, **Wind Symphony**, as well as games, raffles and goodie bags stuffed with "sweets." The concert marks the return of many events hosted by the Fine & Performing Arts Department. Visit the district website for the most up-to-date schedule.



Paying for Private Tutors? Use Baldwin UFSD's FREE Tutoring Service Instead!

Baldwin UFSD's partnership with Paper, a free online tutoring service, launched in February, offering 24/7 1:1 tutoring in over 200 subjects in 3 different languages with carefully vetted educators for Baldwin UFSD students, 6-12. Baldwin UFSD is currently the only district on Long Island to partner with Paper. Tutors are at students disposal for as much time as needed.

Learn more: www.baldwinschools.org/onlinetutoring

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

ANNUAL BUDGET VOTE AND ELECTION

May 17, 2022, 7 AM to 10 PM, Baldwin High School

For More Information

Read the *Budget Beat*, attend an upcoming presentation, come to the Annual Budget Hearing on May 4, 8 PM, District Office, and/or visit our website:

www.baldwinschools.org/budgetinfo

UNIVERSAL PRE-K

Register for Lottery

Deadline: April 25, 12 PM

Learn More: www.baldwinschools.org/prek

STAY CONNECTED

Connect with Us on LinkedIn: Learn Why

For our latest job opportunities, alumni news, School2Career Program stories, and more, connect with us and Baldwin alumni at: www.linkedin.com/school/baldwinschools

Attention Community Members: Stay Informed

For Baldwin residents with no children in the district but would like to receive news about the schools, visit:

baldwinschools.org/notificationssignup

Update Contact Information

Ensure your most up-to-date contact information is provided to the main office of your child's school, including a cell phone number and email address, to receive emails, phone calls, and text messages from the district.