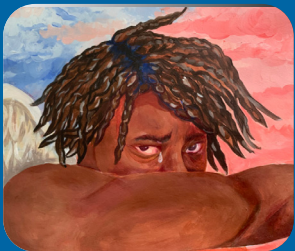


This Issue

- Education Academy
- 100 Days of Learning and More!
- Social Emotional Wellness Resources
- Senior Celebrations
- Dr. Shari L. Camhi
Future AASA President



Pictured above: The work of AP Drawing students, Jasmine Rebores and Jordan Brand. Jordan's work (bottom piece) was also recently featured at the Go APE Advanced Placement Virtual Exhibit.

More outstanding news featured inside! →

Education Academy Promotes Equity in Education and Prepares Tomorrow's Teachers Today

Since 2017, Baldwin UFSD has collaborated with Molloy College to establish the Education Academy, where Baldwin High School students take credit-bearing courses toward a teaching degree and gain hands-on K-12 teaching experience within Baldwin schools. The Education Academy is one of the seven different Academic Academies—the district's award-winning school-to-career program.

As of today, 30 students are enrolled in the Education Academy, and this number is expected to grow over the next few years. What makes this program especially unique is that it addresses many important issues in education: teacher shortage, diversity in the profession, and college debt.

Addressing Equity in Education and Teacher Shortage

One of the goals of the Education Academy is to help diversify the teaching profession. In addition, with the teacher shortage crisis, the demand for K-12 teaching jobs is expected to increase 5% per year through 2028.

"Equity in education continues to be an issue not just across state, but the entire country," explains Dr. Shari Camhi, superintendent of schools, who came up with the idea for the Education Academy just a few years ago after seeing a shortage of diverse candidates for teaching and administrative positions. "We have implemented a program that will help to provide Baldwin and other school districts with diverse, exceptionally qualified and caring educators."

In partnership with Molloy College, the Education Academy maps a direct path for students to successfully transition from high school into Molloy as sophomores and back to Baldwin UFSD to complete their student teaching requirements their senior year of college.

College and Career Readiness Decreases Student Debt

The goal of the Academic Academies is to provide students with a multitude of learning experiences

to gain the skills and knowledge necessary to succeed in the world of work. By allowing students the opportunity to start a career path prior to graduating high school, students will save on the costs associated with college and job training. In 2020, the student loan debt hit an all-time high of \$1.56 trillion, with the average student owing \$32,731. Students enroll in the Education Academy their freshman year, earn college credit at a reduced tuition and gain hands-on teaching experiences during their senior

year of high school, and ultimately enter Molloy College as sophomores. The Education Academy is also a great way for students to test the waters and determine if teaching is what

→ *Continued inside*



DID YOU KNOW?

Baldwin High School's award-winning **Academic Academies** school-to-career program takes learning to the next level by immersing students into a specific area of study. Students work alongside professionals within a given field.

>500

Any student can benefit from unique school-to-career program - all are welcome!

**HS STUDENTS
ENROLLED**



**TOTAL ACADEMIC
ACADEMIES**



7

Government & Law
Global Business & Entrepreneurship
New Media
Education
Medical & Health Sciences
STEM & Engineering
Fine & Performing Arts

>40

Includes Northwell Health,
Mercy Medical Center,
National Grid, Molloy College,
Hofstra University

**COMMUNITY
PARTNERSHIPS**



...Continued from front cover

they want to do for the rest of their lives. Some students may think they want to pursue a particular career but after participating in an academy, learn that it may not be the best fit before attending a four-year school. This opportunity helps students decide.

A change of degree can delay college graduation, cost credits, and ultimately, lead to more debt.

"I like that the program gives you a chance to get real world experiences and that it really helps you know what it is like working with kids," explains Baldwin High School sophomore, Emilia Rebores-Nardone.

"We had the opportunity to speak to teachers from outside of the classroom and get advice on going into this profession," added Lily Stuart, an 11th grader.

Developing Exceptional Educators

The required courses for the Education Academy are linked with field experience, interdisciplinary instruction, and projects, while electives provide career focus to existing curriculum to enhance the development of the skills required for the teaching profession. Courses include *Contemporary Topics in Education*, *Mindfulness*, *Introduction to Teaching*, as well as *Critical Issues in Education and Foundations of Education* – both of which are dual enrollment courses with Molloy College.

During *Introduction to Teaching*, which was added just this fall, students engage with students at the elementary level right within the district. The students focus on lesson planning, learn about state and national standards to form their lessons, as well as classroom management, professional expectations and certification requirements.

"I really like that the program is interactive and we actually get to work with the kids from different elementary schools. I have learned that being a teacher is not as easy as it looks, but this program does a really good job of providing us with the information and help that we need," said Tiara Gordon, an 11th grader.

Promoting Learning Under Any Circumstance

This year, the Education Academy students have had the unique experience of learning to teach virtually and finding creative ways to help students learn effectively in a remote environment. The students are working with a variety of tools that many teachers today have yet to master. The high school students have conducted lessons with Brookside students during recess and have also taught remote classes at Plaza Elementary School.

"With everything happening with COVID, we are still able to be involved and shadow classes virtually, which has been great! So far, I've learned a lot about specific teaching strategies and how to handle certain classroom situations. I've learned what I will need to do in order to prepare myself for college teaching programs. Having this academy available to students is super beneficial. I think it's an amazing opportunity for a head start," said Lily.

"We need to ensure we are preparing aspiring teachers to be the best educators possible and to be prepared for anything that comes our way. We recognized this in Baldwin, and so far, the feedback has been very positive," said Dr. Camhi. "Our hope is to see many of our students teaching not just here in Baldwin but throughout the country in the future."

For more information about the Education Academy, please visit the district website at:
www.baldwinschools.org/academies



Steele Launches Outside Activity Wheel

Physical education teachers, Mr. Joseph Billi and Mr. Richard Garguilo from Steele Elementary School hand-painted a 60x120 ft activity wheel, consisting of various exercise stations. **SCAN QR CODE TO WATCH VIDEO!**



Lenox Holds Kindness Week

Lenox Elementary School recently hosted a kindness week, sharing more than 250 kind acts!

Focusing on Racial Literacy

Baldwin UFSD has been working to ensure that teachers and staff are equipped with the knowledge, skills, and awareness to talk about race and racism. Most recently, more than seventy faculty members, administrators and clerical participated in deep and meaningful reflection about race in a two-day workshop called "Courageous Conversations."

These conversations continue monthly through July. This past November, faculty also participated in a professional development day with Cornelius Minor, renowned Brooklyn-based educator, who works with teachers, school and community-based leaders to support equitable literacy reform.



This work has also been incorporated into the curriculum this year. For instance, Baldwin Middle School

students have been studying the works of famous black author, Jason Reynolds. One project in particular was inspired by *Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You*, written by Reynolds and Ibram X. Kendi. Students in Mr. Chris Fahey's social studies class responded to the messages discussed throughout the book with art, poetry, short stories, as well as written essays, specifically depicting equality, acceptance, peace,

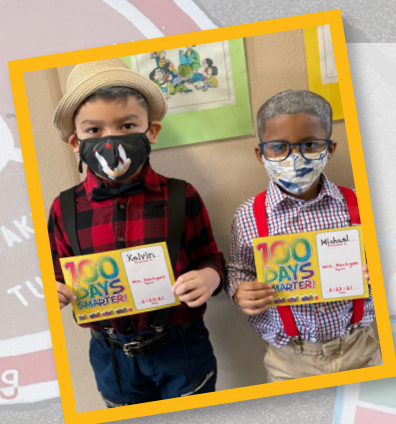
and unity. Additionally, with the help of the PTA Cultural Arts Program, students in grades 6-8 met virtually with famous civil rights activist, Ruby Bridges, the first African-American child to desegregate the all-white William Frantz Elementary School in Louisiana during the New Orleans school desegregation crisis in 1960. The district looks forward to continuing its focus on racial literacy amongst educators and students into the next school year.



Baldwin School District Opened for 100 Days and Counting!

This year's 100th day carried new meaning. Traditionally celebrated across the elementary schools, the mid-year milestone also signified that the district has successfully remained open since the first day of school despite all of the unprecedented obstacles due to the pandemic. We have so much to be proud of this year!

Some Recent Highlights!



100th Day of School Celebrations!

Keeping up with the annual tradition, the elementary students and teachers celebrated the 100th day of school in various ways. **Brookside** and **Plaza** teachers and students dressed up as “centenarians”!



Meadow Students Meet Author

Mrs. Campbell and Ms. Bascelli's remote third grade classes enjoyed a visit from the best-selling author of *Our Class Is a Family* by Ms. Shannon Olsen.

Baldwin High School Students Win First Place in Northwell Health Competition

Baldwin High School Government and Law Academy students Jessica Darcy, grade 10; Rochelle Saunders, grade 10; Reyna Palmer, grade 9; and Thalia Kontoleon, grade 9, won first place in the Northwell Health's ninth annual Medical Marvels competition.



Social Emotional Wellness Resources and Workshops with Molloy College

Recognizing that this year has taken a major toll on mental health, the district's Pupil Services department has created a new section on the website called **Mental Wellness and Support Services**, which is accessible at www.baldwinschools.org/mentalwellness. The section will be regularly updated with new resources.

Additionally, in partnership with Molloy College, Pupil Services has also organized “Social-Emotional Mental Health & Wellness Workshops” for students. The virtual workshops will be held monthly for each building level: elementary, middle school, and high school. The workshops are free of charge and will be run by the Molloy Mental Health and Wellness Center. More information is available on the district website.

Baldwin High School Senior Celebrations!

As we head into the remainder of the school year, Baldwin UFSD will begin celebrating the Class of 2021 through various events and activities. More information is available on the newly designated Class of 2021 site:

www.baldwinschools.org/classof2021



VISIT THE DISTRICT WEBSITE FOR MORE ACCOLADES AND NEWS

Go to www.baldwinschools.org/news or scan the QR code with your cell phone camera or QR reader app.

BALDWIN SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Mary Jo O'Hagan, President
Sue Cools, Vice President
Annie Doresca, Trustee
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Tom Smyth, Trustee

Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Shari L. Camhi

Public Information Officer

Mary Furcht

Current Resident

Reminder: Budget Beat and May Vote

The upcoming budget vote and school board election are Tuesday, May 18th, 7 am to 10 pm. Be on the lookout for the **Budget Beat!** Information will also continue to be updated on the district website.

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Superintendent Dr. Shari L. Camhi to Be Named Next President-Elect and Future President of National Organization

AASA President-elect



2021-2022

Dr. Shari L. Camhi, superintendent of the Baldwin Union Free School District, has been elected as the 2021-22 president-elect and future president of AASA, the national School Superintendents Association.

Representing more than 13,000 public school superintendents across the country, she is the first superintendent from New York state to be elected to AASA in 15 years. She will continue to serve as superintendent of Baldwin UFSD, but her involvement with AASA will allow the district access to greater resources, additional innovative partnerships, as well as national recognition.

"AASA could not be prouder of Shari Camhi and the work she has done to maintain the safety and welfare of the staff and students she serves. It is with pleasure that I congratulate her as our next president-elect," said Daniel A. Domenech, executive director, AASA. "Her track record as a champion for children and public education speaks for itself. As a time when the nation is crying out for innovative and bold leadership where public education is concerned, Shari Camhi exemplifies that approach."

"As our public school system leaders continue to navigate through the challenges as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and work toward finding new beginnings for their young learners, it is an honor to welcome Shari Camhi to this new

role," said Kristi Wilson, 2020-21 president of AASA and superintendent of the Buckeye Elementary School District in Buckeye, Ariz. "Superintendent Camhi defines what it means to be a futuristic leader—someone who is working diligently to prepare her students for the years that lie ahead of them while maximizing the potential of their learning capabilities."

"On behalf of the board, it is with great pleasure that I congratulate Dr. Shari Camhi on being elected the 2021-22 president-elect of AASA," said Ms. Mary Jo O'Hagan, board president for the Baldwin UFSD. "We are excited for her to represent educational leaders across the nation, as well as the Baldwin district. Her election to AASA speaks to her level of commitment, the extraordinary work occurring within our schools under her direction, as well as her advocacy of and passion for public education. Her dedication to building an equitable education system and preparing every student for the future has been made evident by the successes we

have seen in our district. Dr. Camhi is an innovator, an inspiration to educators and leaders nationwide, and overall, an incredibly caring and good person. We are extremely proud to have her as a leader and know that she will continue to open more and more doors of opportunity for all students in her role with AASA."

Dr. Camhi will be sworn in as president-elect in July at the summer meeting of the AASA governing board.

Visit www.baldwinschools.org/news to view full press release.

"At a time when the nation is crying out for innovative and bold leadership where public education is concerned, Shari Camhi exemplifies that approach."

- Daniel A. Domenech
Executive Director, AASA



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