



**BALDWIN
SCHOOLS**

Baldwin Beat

www.baldwinschools.org

Fall 2019

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Baldwin UFSD Launches Two New Programs to Boost Readiness and Long-Term Success

The Baldwin Union Free School District (UFSD) introduced two unique programs this past summer, adding to its scope of innovative partnerships and rigorous curriculum while continuing to embrace the model of developing a program for every student.

A Jumpstart to Kindergarten

The Jumpstart K Program introduced incoming kindergarten students, who needed additional



support with developing key competencies in literacy and mathematics and their overall readiness, to the expectations associated with all academic and behavioral elements embedded in a school



day. The program served as an opportunity for children to learn school routines and stretch their current understanding of fundamental skills through

active learning and play. Jumpstart K also strengthened their social-emotional skills. Administrators and teachers collaboratively developed the program with the goal of fostering kindergarten readiness as well as a love of learning. “Our Jumpstart K Program was implemented to help those students who may benefit from further

academic, social, and emotional growth to ensure they are able to transition seamlessly into school,” said Mr. Anthony Mignella, assistant superintendent for instruction. “The feedback from parents has been extremely positive. We look forward to continuing the program next summer.”

From studying colors and counting to ten to walking in a line and raising their hand, students left the program confident and excited to begin the next chapter of their education. The results were evident on September 4th, when kindergarten students proudly marched into... *Continued on page 2 >>*



INNOVATION 2020

Planning for Our Children's Future

We Need Your Feedback

Based on feedback from the Baldwin community during the October 2016 Community Input Forum, the Baldwin UFSD administration, along with the Board of Education, has drafted the Innovation 2020 proposal. Innovation 2020 focuses on our capital improvement initiative and supports critical enhancements to our facilities and resources for our academic, performing arts, and athletic programs, allowing us to continue to prepare our students for their future on a 21st century school campus. The Baldwin community is invited to join an online discussion to help determine the most effective way to move forward with Innovation 2020.

This is an opportunity to join a respectful forum to share and rate thoughts.



Scan this QR code with your cell phone or go to bit.ly/baldwinschools2020 (enter code 225-305-767 if prompted)

Visit our website for more information about this capital improvement initiative: baldwinschools.org/innovation2020

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their classrooms for their first time, eager to learn and work together!

“The Jumpstart K Program was extremely successful in its first year. It not only taught academic skills but effectively prepared the students for the procedures associated with a typical school day,” said Mark Coccarelli, the assistant principal at Meadow Elementary School, who served as the program administrator. “We are excited to see the program grow and develop, and the positive impact it will have on

our students’ academic success.”

Cradle of Aviation Stimulates Summer Learning for Middle School Students

District administration gave Middle School students the opportunity to learn in a hands-on,

stimulating learning environment outside Baldwin. Adding to the district’s innovative partnerships, the Cradle of Aviation Museum offered select incoming 7th and 8th grade students, who would benefit from an academic summer program, a unique, engaging, and active learning experience. The museum features more than 75 air and spacecrafts, from a hot air balloon to an actual Apollo Lunar Module, and an array of galleries focused on aerospace. A total of 80 Baldwin Middle School students attended the four-week program.

“The Cradle of Aviation Summer Program gave Middle School students the opportunity to accelerate their literacy, mathematics, science, social studies, and technological skills through inquiry learning activities, empowering the students to question, challenge, and process various scientific approaches and creations,” explained Mr. Mignella. “The program aimed to enhance a child’s readiness for the 2019-2020 year.”

Baldwin UFSD administration collaborated with the Cradle of Aviation educational department on a curriculum that would help energize student participation and cultivate an engaging learning environment to enhance student understanding and skillsets in order for them to be more successful in the upcoming school year. Some of the material that was covered in students’ core classes was introduced through the different learning experiences.

Overall, the students really enjoyed the program. For the 50th anniversary of the Apollo moon landing, the participating students even met and conversed with former NASA astronaut, Captain William Shepherd. He discussed his experiences in outerspace and the hard work and perseverance it took to get where he is today so that the students could see firsthand how knowledge and dedication is “power.”

More Innovation to Come

Baldwin UFSD will continue to launch new programs that will ensure there is an opportunity for all students to succeed and achieve college, career, and life readiness. As of August 2019, the high school’s graduation rate is 98%.

Homecoming 2019: Another Bruin Victory



Homecoming festivities commenced Friday, October 4th with a pep rally at Baldwin High School which featured spectacular performances by our student athletes. The 2019 Homecoming Court was announced, and Ronnie Marchese-Silano and Adriela Ramos were crowned king and queen. On Saturday, October 5th, after a lively parade that included



Baldwin Friends of Music & Arts (BFOMA), the school PTAs, and various sports teams and clubs, and the presentation of the colors by the Marine Corp., the Homecoming football game kicked off! The soundtrack was provided by the talented middle school band and high school pep band. The Bruins pulled off a stunning 33-7 victory over the Hicksville Comets.



Latest Accolades

Baldwin students, faculty, and staff have begun the school year on a high note, garnering one accolade after another:

- Mary Jo O'Hagan, vice president of the Board of Education for Baldwin UFSD, won the New York State School Boards Association's Highest Honor—the 2019 Everett R. Dyer Award for Distinguished School Board Service
- Baldwin High School seniors Ava Bandel, Peyton K. Mahler, and Patrick Mulvey were named Commended Students in the 2020 National Merit Scholarship Program
- Kaleena Guadalupe, Alyssa Hillian, and Elena Randolph were selected for Long Island's Top 100 Soccer Players in *Newsday*
- Michele Leonardo, Baldwin High School teacher, was named Outstanding New Business Educator Winner
- Baldwin High School students Zulnie Floreska and Marcia Trice-Noel were named NYSSMA All-State Performers
- Plaza was designated a 2019-2021 PTA School of Excellence
- Meadow was named the Nassau County PARP Winner
- Baldwin High School's Future Business Leaders of America club won 1st prize in the annual Nassau County Comptroller Competition
- Renee MacDermott, teacher at Lenox, was selected for the elite New York State Master Teacher Program
- Scott Prager, Baldwin High School senior, was named National Hispanic Recognition Program (NHRP) Scholar by the College Board
- Baldwin High School seniors Trevor Watts and Alexa Stegmuller were named 2019-2020 Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance Nassau Zone Outstanding Physical Education Students of the Year
- PBS selected Baldwin High School to feature on a future "Metrofocus" episode

For more information about all of our awards and other news, please visit the district news section:

www.baldwinschools.org/news



Professional Learning Lab and More: Baldwin UFSD Transforms Classrooms into Collaborative Learning Environments

Baldwin launched several more redesigned learning spaces this fall. Among them, a Professional Learning Lab, which serves as a professional development workspace for administrators and teachers to use during their in-house



training sessions and meetings. From collaborative lounge-style seating to markerboard tabletops, the flexible environment boasts state-of-the-art technology used for educational purposes, such as the Samsung flip interactive whiteboards. Modeled after major tech companies, like Google and Mashable, the Professional Learning Lab gives faculty the opportunity to train in a contemporary office space, helping them to effectively prepare Baldwin students for a successful transition to the world of work. Like students, Baldwin believes teachers should always be learning. The district provides in-house training to enhance teaching techniques, including the use of technology in the classroom, curriculum development, and other essential pedagogy skills.



More information about these innovative programs can be found on our award-winning district website! www.baldwinschools.org

BALDWIN SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Current Resident

Winter Weather Alerts



Be sure you receive Baldwin UFSD messages about school closings or delayed openings by doing the following:

1) Update Your Contact Information

Check that your most up-to-date contact

information is provided to the main office of your child's school including a home number, cell number, and an email address. This way you will receive emails, calls, and texts from the school.

2) Sign Up for District Website Alerts

Sign up for the district website to receive alerts and news. Go to www.baldwinschools.org, click "WEBSITE SIGN UP" in the upper right corner and subscribe to the areas of the website that interest you.

3) Check TV and Radio Stations

Check television and radio stations for the listings of schools that are closed or delayed on CBS (880 AM & Channel 2), WINS (1010 AM), NBC (Channel 4), ABC (Channel 7), WNYW (Channel 5), and News 12 Long Island.

4) Visit Our Website Homepage

Messages will be posted on the homepage of the Baldwin UFSD website (www.baldwinschools.org).



Stay in Touch: New Alumni Information Form

To help stay in touch with our Baldwin alumni, we created a form (www.baldwinschools.org/alumniform), accessible from the Public Information/Communication Channels section. We plan to start highlighting alumni stories on our website, social media, and in future *Baldwin Beats*. If you are interested in being featured, please complete the form! We look forward to hearing from our alumni.



Connect with Us!

Be sure to connect with Baldwin UFSD on social media for the latest news about our extraordinary people and endeavors happening across the entire district.

Facebook (@BaldwinSchools)

Twitter (@BaldwinUFSD)

Instagram (@Baldwin_Schools)

Tag us in your posts about Baldwin UFSD and use #WhatsBRUINinBaldwin