



BALDWIN
SCHOOLS

Baldwin Beat

www.baldwinschools.org

Fall 2018

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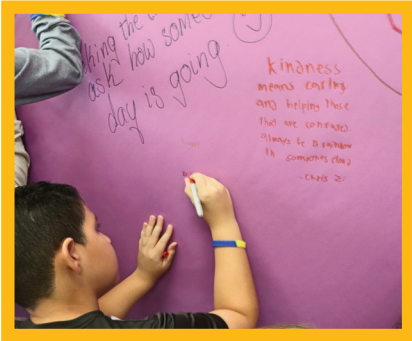


Homecoming 2018

As demonstrated by our recent win of the *News 12 Long Island School Spirit Showdown*, the Baldwin community knows how to show pride and school spirit, especially when it comes to Homecoming. Spirit Week at Baldwin High School culminated on Friday, October 5 with a Pep Rally on the football field. The event featured boisterous performances by the cheerleaders, step team, pep band—and even the athletes! The program concluded with

the announcement of the 2018 Homecoming Court and crowning of the king, Mutiu Shittu Jr., and queen, Yaa Achampong. On Saturday, the Baldwin Bruins played the Oceanside Sailors. While they were unable to declare victory, our team did not go down without a fight. During halftime, the audience enjoyed performances by the high school pep band, as well as the middle school combined band. **Go Bruins!**

Spreading Kindness All Around Baldwin



Decorating walls and banners with words of inspiration and kindness. Giving gifts of appreciation to security guards. Helping teachers clean their classroom during recess.

These are just a few of the countless acts of

kindness that resulted from Baldwin UFSD participating in Lady Gaga's Born This Way Foundation "21 Days to Be Kind" Challenge. Inspired by the idea that doing something for 21 consecutive days can help turn it into a habit, the foundation called on participants to practice an act of kindness—either to themselves or to others—each day. The Baldwin UFSD was named one of the official partners for the challenge.

"We often talk about our students being college and career ready, but as educators, we must also ensure that they are life ready," said Superintendent, Dr. Shari L. Camhi. "Through our partnership with the Born This Way Foundation, we have an opportunity to reinforce to our students that being kind is admirable and a great quality to possess. We should remind our kids that they're capable of doing

extraordinary things, academically and socially, in and out of school."

From the first day of school, various kind acts transpired across the district. In addition to following the Born This Way Foundation "Kindness Challenge Calendar," which listed suggested daily gestures, students regularly performed their own thoughtful deeds.

The middle schoolers, who are "kindness experts" (they successfully participated in the 2018 The School Superintendents Association (AASA) Middle School Kindness Challenge)



held an assembly at the end of the challenge to applaud everyone's participation. The event featured speeches from students in the Long Island Consortium for Excellence and Equity (LICEE), a performance by the middle school cheerleaders, the showing of our own

student-produced anti-bullying video, as well as remarks from Born This Way Foundation representative, Shadille Estepan. After saying how deeply moved she was by everyone's support, Ms. Estepan surprised the students with a personal video message from "Mama Gaga," Cynthia Germanotta, who expressed her gratitude for the district's unwavering commitment to creating a kinder world. "Just knowing that you are leading the way on Long Island with this challenge warms my heart so much," said Ms. Germanotta, blowing a kiss to the students.

The media attention that Baldwin UFSD has garnered speaks to the positive impact of our students and staff on others. Despite the 21-day challenge ending on September 25, many have committed to spreading kindness for the rest of the year, with talks of lessons centering on kindness, community service projects, and spotlights on kind acts during the morning announcements. Be sure to check out Baldwin UFSD's social media to see how kindness continues to spread throughout our district.

Brookside Unveils "Buddy Bench"



Brookside Elementary School recently unveiled its "Buddy Bench" as part of its Character Education Program. During recess, kids who are feeling disconnected or lonely can sit on the Buddy Bench

so that their classmates know to include them. During the unveiling, the Brookside "Character Club" explained how the bench will help students continue to spread kindness.



At Plaza, 20 students were recognized for their kind acts.



A "Kindness Bulletin Board" was created by Ms. Nancy Aquino's 2nd grade class to showcase their acts of kindness.



Baldwin High School teachers, Ms. Nicole Flynn and Ms. Gina Pane, helped spread kindness through a mural they painted for students, now on display in the High School Commons.

At the Middle School, Mrs. Maria Tobon's class made treat bags for the custodians.



Meadow's morning greeters stand at each entrance to welcome incoming students as a way to spread kindness at the start of the day.



Ms. Michele Dionisio's 4th graders at Brookside turned closed mindset statements into "Growth Mindset" statements as a reminder to always be kind to yourself and others.

Lenox students surprised their security guard with a banner filled with thank yous and messages of gratitude.



Baldwin UFSD Prepares All Students to Be **CAREER, COLLEGE, AND LIFE READY!**



Baldwin UFSD Partners with Simon Youth Foundation

The Baldwin Union Free School District (UFSD) announced an exciting new partnership with Simon Youth Foundation (SYF) during a ribbon-cutting ceremony at Baldwin High School @ Shubert. The public-private partnership, the first of its kind in New York State, will allow the district to collaborate and extend Baldwin's career and technical education program.

"The Baldwin Union Free School District is pleased to announce the collaboration with Simon Youth Foundation, which will bring additional resources and career opportunities to our students at Baldwin High School @ Shubert," said Superintendent Dr. Shari L. Camhi. "We pride ourselves on offering an education that can ensure all of our students are college- and career-ready. Simon Youth Foundation will help us achieve this goal."

In 1998, Simon Property Group employees founded SYF to break down barriers that prevent students from succeeding in high school and beyond. Since its inception, SYF has helped more than 17,000 students graduate high school.



In the 2017-18 school year alone, SYF awarded more than \$1 million in scholarships, which can be used to pursue college, career training, and other continuing education opportunities.

"The partnership with Simon Youth Foundation will support the student-centered environment we are creating at Shubert by helping us obtain the necessary resources to be innovative in the classroom. The foundation understands that every school and student is unique and has taken the time to get to know us in order to offer focused, need-based help," said Patrick Crea, principal of Baldwin High School @ Shubert.

For the past three years, Baldwin High School @

Shubert's curriculum has offered students in grades 9–12 the opportunity to fulfill New York State graduation requirements by earning both academic and Career and Technical Education (CTE) credits. The students benefit from the small class sizes, dedicated and caring teachers, instructors, and support staff, as well as rooms with equipment specifically

for CTE classes and work-based learning opportunities. Three areas of study are offered: Barbering, Medical Administrative Assistant, and Police Science. Baldwin High School @ Shubert has been made possible through partnerships with Nassau BOCES administration, teachers, and staff and now, SYF.

"We are thrilled to partner with Baldwin Union Free School District to support their efforts to provide non-traditional learning

opportunities for students in the Baldwin community," said Dr. J. Michael Durnil, President and CEO, SYF. "Due to the unique learning environment and support of our foundation, students realize they can achieve their dreams through education and lead successful lives." The students enrolled at Baldwin High School @ Shubert are thrilled, too, and

look forward to seeing new doors open.



Baldwin High School Starts Early College Partnership with Suffolk County Community College

To give eligible Baldwin High School students the opportunity to take college credits a year early, the Baldwin UFSD is currently collaborating with Suffolk County Community College (SCCC). What makes this new program unique from other Long Island school districts' early-college offerings is that Baldwin students are taking their classes *on* the actual SCCC campus rather than the high school to get the full college experience. So far, the program has been well-received by the students, administration, and their professors!

"This Early College Program partnership with Suffolk County Community College is a unique way to make sure that our students are prepared for college and their future," said Superintendent Dr. Shari L. Camhi. "We are excited to have the opportunity for our students to attend college and take courses on campus and get the true college experience. I believe this gives them the chance to gain the skills needed to be successful in their transition to college and in life."

Eligible students entering the 12th grade this 2018-2019 school year were presented with the option to attend SCCC. The eight Baldwin students who opted into the program are taking approximately 30 college credits—about five

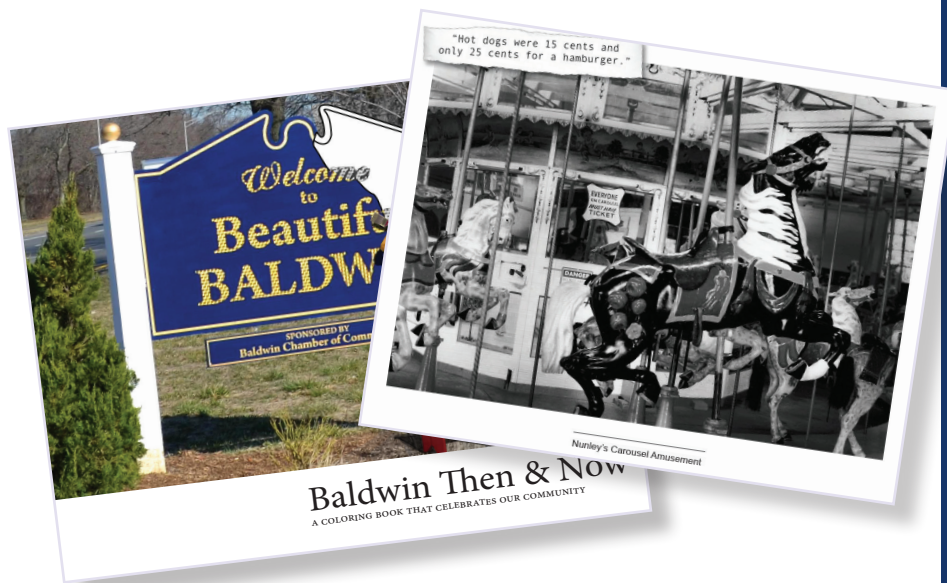
classes per semester. These classes are dual enrollment courses that were selected to align with high school graduation requirements. As a result, the students will simultaneously earn high school and college credits. The college credits will be transferrable to any State University of New York (SUNY) college and other colleges nationwide. Students may also continue their studies at SCCC and enter as a college sophomore upon successful completion of this program and graduating from Baldwin High School. Both options will save students time and money, as they will already have one year of college study completed whether they attend a two-year or four-year college or university.

"The first year is a small pilot group," said Dr. Camhi. "We aim to have more students participate in this program in the coming years. This partnership can save students time spent on working towards their college degree, as well as help shape their decision when selecting a degree. Our overall goal is to help guide our students and make sure they are college and career ready and able to obtain employment after college."

Monday through Thursday, Baldwin students take a bus to Suffolk's Michael J. Grant Campus in Brentwood from Baldwin High School. Then on Friday, the students work on their online college course, meet with their guidance counselor, and access additional support from Baldwin's high school library.

"Students are being given an opportunity to jump-start their higher education journey," said SCCC President, Dr. Shaun L. McKay. "Through Suffolk's admissions process, qualified students were enrolled in college classes taught by our professors, sitting beside Suffolk students. The on-campus, holistic college experience is an important component to teaching students the necessary skills for later success in higher-level academia."

More information about these innovative programs and more can be found on our district website! www.baldwinschools.org



Students as Producers: “Baldwin Then and Now”

A Historical Coloring Book about Baldwin

Baldwin Then and Now is a book about the history of Baldwin and is the result of a two-year district- and community-wide collaboration between Baldwin students, teachers, administrators, and residents. In addition to containing historical photos and facts, the book encompasses coloring pages of Baldwin today.

The collaboration is an example of an integrated social studies and writing project, which features student publication and presentation. Some of the book’s photos and tidbits include old images provided by the Baldwin Historical Society dated back to early 1900’s, old photos saved by teachers, and pictures from current Baldwin sites converted into coloring pages.

Behind the Scenes: Building the Book

Second grade teachers and students interviewed longtime Baldwin residents as part of their social studies and writing curriculum. Once those same students moved up to third grade, they wrote about Baldwin as it is today and how it has changed.

Poems were written based on the images gathered about Baldwin. Each child wrote their own verse, selected their favorite line, and shared it with their class. A composite poem containing all of these verses was then added to the book.

For the images, High School photography students and teachers, Ms. Iovine and Ms. Grant, took field trips to take photos around Baldwin, which were then transformed into “coloring” book pages. The Baldwin Historical Society, along with some teachers who have collected photos, including physical education teacher, Stephen Carroll, supplied old photos of Baldwin. Under the direction of Gayle Manchisi, assistant principal at the Middle School, High School and Middle School students wrote historical captions for the “old” Baldwin photos.

The *Baldwin Then and Now* staff consisted of Nomi Rosen, administrator for professional development, Andre Poprilo, director of Fine and Performing Arts, Gayle Manchisi, and Constance Foland, Baldwin writing consultant, 4th graders from all five elementary schools, and middle school and high school students.

Book Tour

Baldwin administration held a book tour at each elementary school to launch *Baldwin Then and Now*, where 4th graders, who were the authors of the book, signed each other’s copies.



Honors & Awards

Lenox and Plaza Elementary Schools Named National PTA Schools of Excellence



Lenox and Plaza Elementary Schools have each been recognized as a 2018-2020 National PTA School of Excellence! Lenox and Plaza are two of only 277 PTAs and schools nationwide to achieve this honor. National PTA Schools of Excellence support and celebrate partnerships between PTAs and schools to enrich the educational experience and overall well-being for all students. Both schools made significant progress to welcome and empower families to support student success

and school improvements during the course of the 2017-2018 school year.

Lenox Selected as 2018 Winner of New York State PTA PARP Program



Lenox's "Discover a New Universe with Books" Pick a Reading Partner (PARP) program has been selected as the 2018 winner of the New York State PTA PARP Award and Nassau Region PTA PARP Award. The PARP program encourages students to read with

a partner (parent, grandparent, babysitter, older sibling, cousin, friend, etc.) for at least 15 minutes daily to help reinforce that reading can be both fun and informative.

Steele Students' Work Published in Scholastic's Magazine

Ms. Christina Connell's third grade class at Steele entered a contest in Scholastic's *Storyworks Jr.* magazine called "One Word, Three Ways." Students Max Ascenio, Aislyn Baez, Kemari Blake, and Adinah Bonhomette, and their word "point" won the contest. Their work, along with their picture, was published in the October/November issue.

Baldwin Sends All-State Musicians to Perform at the NYSSMA Conference in Rochester

Rachel Lyons, an 8th grade orchestra student and accomplished pianist, was featured at the New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA) Conference in the "Piano Showcase" in Rochester, NY on November 29. Only 13 student musicians were chosen for this prestigious honor state-wide out of 110 applicants. In addition, six Baldwin High School students have been designated NYSSMA All-State performers out of thousands of participants across the state: Evan Batsford, Tenor II; Joshua Davis, French Horn; Jasmin Jean-Louis, Soprano II; Grace Lari, Soprano II; Charlize Ramirez, Soprano II; Jonathan Sayage, Mallet.

Faculty Recognition: Tom Catapano BCANY Coach of the Year

For the second year in a row, Tom Catapano, girls varsity basketball coach and Baldwin Middle School special education teacher, was named **Coach of the Year** by the Basketball Coaches Association of New York (BCANY). He is the first Nassau coach to receive this honor twice.

BALDWIN SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Baldwin, NY 11510
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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 "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)*, *Fios1*, and *News 12 Long Island*.

4) Visit Our Website Homepage

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

Baldwin UFSD in the News!

Baldwin UFSD continues to get regularly featured in the news for our innovative initiatives and incredible people. Since the start of the school year, we have been aired on CBS, NBC, ABC, WPIX, News 12 Long Island—we were named winner of the News 12 "School Spirit Showdown"—and published in *Newsday*, *Education Dive*, and the *Hechinger Report*. See our latest coverage by visiting our website or connecting with us on social media.

Upcoming Events

For the most up-to-date information on school events, including date and time changes, please visit our calendar on the homepage of the district website (www.baldwinschools.org).



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](https://www.facebook.com/BaldwinSchools))

Twitter ([@BaldwinUFSD](https://twitter.com/BaldwinUFSD))

Instagram ([@Baldwin_Schools](https://www.instagram.com/Baldwin_Schools))

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