



Baldwin Beat

www.baldwinschools.org

Special Baldwin Pride Issue - Spring 2016

#InABaldwinMinute

New Communications and Educational Initiatives

At any minute in every school day, Baldwin students are immersed in creative learning this year within a variety of innovative educational initiatives!

Take a snapshot tour in this Spring issue of *The Baldwin Beat*, and then stay up-to-date with district programs, events and awards by following our communication channels:

- ❑ Look through the new interactive district website, www.baldwinschools.org. Please be sure to bookmark this web address and delete the old "baldwin.k12.ny.us" URL so that Google searches will more readily find the current one. And be sure to sign up for the website so you can subscribe to web pages of interest to you and receive e-alerts when content is updated.
- ❑ Check Superintendent of School's Dr. Shari L. Camhi's inaugural *State of the District Report*, which may be viewed on the district website under "Superintendent" on the "District Office" channel. The report outlines Baldwin signature programs and accomplishments over the last year and a half.
- ❑ While you are on the superintendent's web page, check the archive of "Superintendent's Shout Outs," which spotlights a particular class or program within the district that reflects the new Baldwin tagline of "We are Innovative! We are Inclusive! We are Involved! We are Baldwin!"
- ❑ Dr. Camhi has also started a blog called "Thoughts on Education," which will dig deeper into what the classroom for 21st century learning looks like.
- ❑ Then follow Dr. Camhi on Instagram @ InABaldwinMinute where she posts photos and short videos of the Baldwin schools in action. Share our district hashtags #WeAreBaldwin and #InABaldwinMinute.
- ❑ And, follow the district and individual schools on Facebook and Twitter, including the very active Baldwin sports Twitter handle @baldwin_bruins by Director of Athletics Eduardo Ramirez where you can find out the scores and title wins of the varsity teams.

Dr. Shari L. Camhi Recipient of National "Superintendents to Watch" Award



Superintendent of Schools Dr. Shari L. Camhi has received the 2016 Superintendents to Watch Award from the National School Public Relations Association (NSPRA) as one of 25 new superintendents nationally who use communication technology in innovative and effective ways. She is the only superintendent on Long Island, and one of two in the state, to receive this award.

Dr. Camhi's goal is for communication technology to more widely publicize and market all that is happening in the Baldwin schools and position Baldwin as a recognized model for teaching and learning.

Groundbreaking Baldwin-Molloy “Collaboratory”

Baldwin High School and Molloy College have created a New Media “Collaboratory” that will partner high school students, Molloy undergraduates, and entrepreneurial professionals. The program, recently featured in *Newsday*, will encourage the advancement of digital media and literacy. The new state-of-the-art TV studio serves as the foundation for a New Media Career Academy at the high school. Additionally, Molloy College received a \$300,000 state grant and will supply specialized media equipment and redesign the second floor of Shubert School into an open work space. The Collaboratory will provide internships and develop practical skills for students that will be in demand in the current and future job market.



At the ribbon cutting for the TV studio, guests had a tour of the “green room” by the students in the News and Broadcasting class who had a first place win at the Locust Valley Film Festival

Career Academies Highlight Skills in Competition



The Law/Government Academy’s Mock Trial Team rests its case



Breanna Ortiz with her winning poster in the SPARK! Challenges

SUNY Vice Chancellor Jill Lansing visited Baldwin’s four-year Career Academy program this spring and was impressed by the students discussing the program, including career electives, shadow days, internships - and competitions:

The Robotics team in the STEM/Engineering Academy earned a quarterfinal finish and first place in scaling in the **New York City FIRST Regional Tournament**. The STEM/Engineering, Medical/Health Sciences, and Global Business/Entrepreneurship Academies provided six of the 30 teams participating in the **Northwell SPARK! Challenges**, and Baldwin student Breanna Ortiz, representing the Culinary/Nutrition team, won third place and \$1,000. The Global Business/Entrepreneurship Academy also formed three teams in the **Nassau County Entrepreneurial Challenge** with the “Chip In” team winning second place and “Safe & Stored” receiving an honorable mention. The new Law/Government Academy advanced to Level II of the regional competition of the **New York State Mock Trial Tournament** where they lost in a very close match to last year’s county winners in their first year of competition.

College-Credit Course Offerings

In addition to the variety of Advanced Placement (AP) courses available at Baldwin High School, this year students have the opportunity to choose from 13 college-credit courses offered through Syracuse University, St. John’s University, and Molloy College. Students pay reduced tuition for the college classes that earn transferrable credit. Among these courses are College Business Management, Engineering, Sociology, and Public Affairs. Next year, there will also be a college-credit course in Anatomy and Physiology for the Medical Career Academy sequence. By participating in Public Affairs, Baldwin student Giselle Pintada was selected to attend a state government workshop called “Students Inside Albany” to shadow legislators.



Nassau County Legislator Laura Curran talked politics with the Public Affairs class in the “Legislators Back to School” program last fall

Bridging Success from Middle to High School

This year, there is a unique program of study called the “Bridge” program for selected ninth graders designed to ensure their “bridge” to success in high school. The program focuses on social-emotional learning and has an enriched curriculum that includes both innovative and accelerated classes. Students take American Sign Language, Creative Drama, and Participation in Government, which is typically taken in twelfth grade. They have a Leadership course first period to start each day on a positive note. There is also extracurricular chess club and peer mentoring with students in the National Honor Society who also visit during homeroom and participated in an outdoor adventure program at BOCES to foster teamwork. The Bridge program will expand to include both ninth and tenth grades next year.



Ninth graders and National Honor Society seniors have the chance to bond and learn critical thinking skills over chess

Pre-Academy Enrichment at Baldwin Middle School



Odyssey Official Bill Monahan and adviser Dana Fischer with BMS teammates Isabella Kling, Angelique Sparagna, Meyghan Figueroa, Janessa Vizcorrondo, and Kailey Alter

To add an enrichment component to the ninth period and provide a better transition to the high school Career Academy program, a Pre-Academy program for eighth graders was started at Baldwin Middle School this year. The offerings ignite a love of learning, add innovation and creativity, and help guide academic choices for high school. The 12 classes revolve quarterly throughout the school year and include Robotics, design and architecture, business/stock market, journalism, public speaking, video production, sculpture, and theater improv. Thanks to a partnership with the Baldwin Civic Association and Hofstra University, there is also a Pre-Academy class in the “Raspberry Pi” coding program. In addition, the Odyssey of the Mind Pre-Academy competed in the “Stack Attack” competition and came in second place in the division in its first year of competition!

Creative Learning Thrives in the Elementary Schools

Thanks to the donation from the Herman Auerbach Foundation, Baldwin elementary students are internalizing a sense of wonder for the natural world and a deeper cultural awareness. The students are studying trees, water, and soil, using digital microscopes, watching ant farms, and learning about the production of maple syrup. They are also integrating school gardens into the environmental curriculum, taking trips to the Nassau County and Hofstra Museums to observe artifacts and link art and history, and helping to “Bash the Trash” by building musical instruments from recycled materials. In addition, storytellers Daniel Carlton and Nambi E. Kelley will provide a six-week residency with third and fifth graders in a project combining playwriting, movement, improvisation, voice and diction, and journaling, culminating in a performance. And a South African youth ensemble, Soweto Melodic Voices, will visit the schools to tell the tale of the Rain Queen Modjadjji through song and dance.



Students tapped into science, sound, and sustainability while crafting musical instruments from recycled materials and commanding an in-class band in the “Bash the Trash” program

Important Dates

May

- 16 Spring Concerts: Meadow (4-5), 7 pm; Plaza (3-5), 7 pm
- 17 Spring Concerts: Lenox (K-3) 9 am; Meadow (K-3) 1:30 pm
Board of Education Election & Budget Vote, HS, 7 am-10 pm
SEPTA Bake Sale, District Art Show
PTA Meeting, Brookside, 7 pm
- 19 Unity Day (G5), HS
National Junior Honor Society, MS, 7 pm
- 20 Spring Concert (K-2), Brookside, 9 am
- 21 Steele Centennial Celebration
- 23 Spring Concert (4-5), Lenox, 7 pm
PTA Meetings: Plaza, 7 pm; MS, 7:30 pm
- 24 PTA Meeting, Meadow, 7 pm
Sports Awards, HS, 7:30 pm *DATE CHANGE
- 26 Spring Concert I, HS, 7:30 pm
- 27 EARLY RELEASE DATE: Schools let out 15 minutes earlier
- 30 SCHOOLS CLOSED
- 31 Varsity Banquet, Coral House, 7 pm *DATE CHANGE

June

- 1 Academic Awards, MS, 7 pm
- 2 Spring Concert 2, HS, 7:30 pm
- 3 8th Grade Dance, MS, 7 pm *DATE CHANGE
- 8 Board of Education Meeting: Honoring Retirees, MS, 8 pm
- 10 Jazz Night, HS, 7 pm
- 13 Fourth Quarter Ends, HS & MS
Sports Awards, MS, 7 pm
- 14 PTA Installation Dinner, HS & MS at HS, 7 pm
- 15 PTA Installation Dinners: Lenox; Plaza, 7 pm
- 16 PTA Installation Dinners: Brookside; Meadow; Steele 7 pm
- 23 Elementary Schools, AM Session Only
Moving Up Ceremonies, MS, AM & PM
- 24 LAST DAY OF SCHOOL
Moving Up Ceremonies and Report Cards (K-5)
High School Graduation, HS, 5 pm
- 30 Report Cards, HS & MS

We Are The Champions! Congratulations Girls and Boys Varsity Basketball



Congratulations to Baldwin High School's Girls and Boys Varsity Basketball teams for creating a record for both teams winning the Nassau County Championships in the same year for the second year in a row. Boys Varsity Basketball also won the Long Island Championship this year. The two teams were recognized at the April Board



of Education meeting with certificates, citations, and cake from the board trustees, State Assemblyman Brian Curran, Nassau County Legislators Laura Curran and Kevan Abrahams, and Town of Hempstead Councilwoman Erin King-Sweeney. Way to go Bruins! #WeAreBaldwin #WeAreBruins #InABaldwinMinute



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