

# Hurricane Watch

A publication designed to share the excellent stories of the Brooklyn City Schools

Summer 2024

*Tradition. Pride. Excellence.*



**Superintendent  
Dr. Theodore Caleris**

Dear Hurricane School Community,

As we bid farewell to this academic year, let us celebrate the achievements, milestones, and memories that have enriched our lives and strengthened our bonds as a school community. I am immensely proud of what we have accomplished this year, and excited for the opportunities of growth in the school year to come.

To the Class of 2024, it has been an absolute honor to be your Superintendent and I cannot wait to see what great things you will accomplish in your future endeavors. To our students who will be returning in the fall, enjoy the summer - stay active and take some time to reflect on your goals for the next school year! Once again, congratulations to the Class of 2024 for your hard work, determination, and accomplishments throughout your time in the Brooklyn City School District!

As we come to the end of another school year, I want to take a moment to express my gratitude to those who play an integral role in the success of the Brooklyn City Schools. Thank you to the Board of Education for all of the leadership and support you have provided throughout the school year.

Thank you to all of our administrators, faculty and staff who supported our students, families, and each other, throughout the school year. Thank you for your unceasing commitment and delivery of quality instruction on behalf of our students. This work could not have been done without you!

I would also like to thank the community for your continued engagement and support of the district. Please take a few moments to read this publication to learn more about the latest news and achievements taking place in the Brooklyn City Schools.

And lastly, thank you to our students, parents and families for your constant and unwavering support throughout the school year. I hope you are able to take time this summer to relax and recover from the busy school schedule. I look forward to seeing everyone in August!

Have an amazing summer break!

Warm regards,

*Dr. Caleris*

Dr. Theodore Caleris, Superintendent  
Brooklyn City Schools

## EIGHTH GRADERS NAMED SCHOLASTIC ART AND WRITING AWARD WINNERS

Three Brooklyn High School students had the distinct honor of being named Scholastic Art and Writing Award winners for their impressive artwork. Congratulations to Maryam Al-Baghdadi, Calissa Schillinger, and Jackie Rodriguez for this outstanding recognition! Artwork by Maryam and Calissa received Gold Key recognition and advanced to the national awards competition for consideration. The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards is the nation's longest running and one of the most respected programs that recognizes the creativity of teens. Please take a moment to view the artwork below by our talented Brooklyn student-artists!



**Jackie Rodriguez**  
*Blue Jazz*  
Art: Painting  
Silver Key



**Maryam Al-Baghdadi**  
*All in My Head*  
Art: Digital Art  
Gold Key



**Calissa Schillinger**  
*Harmony*  
Art: Drawing & Illustration  
Gold Key





# Class of 2024 *Spotlight*



## COMMENCEMENT SPEAKERS

NaSan Bruce

Madison Orlosky

Desiree Gailes

Tyler Morgan

## TOP 10% OF CLASS OF 2024 (in alphabetical order)

Iman Boukenken

Ashlyn Dyson

Zachary Messeri

Idajia Simpson

Mayhem Crowley

Desiree Gailes

Tyler Morgan

Pakavon So-By

Jennifer Do

Isabella Hinkle

## HONORS DIPLOMA RECIPIENTS

Mayhem Crowley

Rebecca Fagiani

Desiree Gailes

Tyler Morgan

Ashlyn Dyson

Marina Figueroa Perez

Isabella Hinkle

Madison Orlosky



# Join the Inaugural

## Brooklyn High School Alumni Association Committee

**Calling all Brooklyn High School Hurricane Alumni! We are looking for a group of dedicated Brooklyn High School graduates that are interested in becoming a part of the inaugural Brooklyn High School Alumni Association Committee. The Alumni Association is looking to rediscover the bonds that shaped our past and ways to inspire and support our future Hurricane Alumni. If interested in being a part of the Brooklyn High School Alumni Association Committee, please email Dr. Theodore Caleris, Superintendent, at [ted.caleris@bcshurricanes.org](mailto:ted.caleris@bcshurricanes.org).**



**ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, FACULTY, STAFF AND STUDENTS -  
THANK YOU AND AND BEST WISHES ON YOUR RETIREMENT!**

*You are Forever a Hurricane!*

**Patrick Yarman, 4th Grade**

**Elizabeth Hansen, High School Math**

**Diane Fleming, Food Service**

**Mary Ellen Sefchik, Transportation**



### **Students Present Research at First Ring Student Leadership Institute**

A select group of Brooklyn High School students had the opportunity to develop their leadership and research skills through participation in the First Ring Student Leadership Institute (FRSLI). BHS students Malak Chafki, Youssef Elouardighi, Ryan Hilcu, Samadhi Holton, and Angel Torres worked as a team to select and address the topic of cultural diversity at Brooklyn High School. After conducting a Google survey of fellow students and analyzing the data, the student team identified several proposed solutions and presented on their research findings at the final FRSLI meeting on May 6th. Advisors Kim Cramer and Scott Urig shared that the students "worked well together to design a plan to raise awareness of cultural diversity in the Brooklyn City School District," and "represented themselves and Brooklyn High School tremendously during their presentation." Congratulations to our student presenters on a job well done!



*Brooklyn students presented their research at the First Ring Student Leadership Institute.*



# BROOKLYN CITY SCHOOLS

## MASTER FACILITY PLAN

As part of the district's Vision 2030 Strategic Plan, the Board of Education adopted an updated Master Facility Plan in August 2023. This plan outlines a roadmap for updating the infrastructure of the district's campus, including proposed renovations at Brooklyn High School, Board of Education Office, and the Hurricane Alley Stadium Athletic Complex.

### PROPOSED AREAS FOR RENOVATION

- Improved Security and Visual Enhancements at Exterior Entrances
- Brooklyn Athletic Complex Enhanced Recreational and Competition Areas at Hurricane Alley
- Community Walking Path at Hurricane Alley
- Band and Choir Wing Renovation at Brooklyn HS Campus
- Energy Efficient Initiatives - Window Replacement at Brooklyn HS Campus & Board Office



*Proposed Community Walking Path*



*Proposed Renovated High School Entrance*



*Proposed Renovations of Band Room at Brooklyn HS*



*Proposed Renovated BOE/Auditorium Entrance*



# BROOKLYN CITY SCHOOLS

## MASTER FACILITY PLAN

### PROPOSED AREAS FOR RENOVATION

- Renovation of Brooklyn HS Campus Science Labs
- Renovation of Auditorium
- Renovation of Restrooms at Brooklyn High School Campus
- Various Common Area Interior Improvements at Brooklyn High School Campus
- Main Gymnasium Renovations at Brooklyn High School Campus
- Renovations Associated with Converting the Existing Brooklyn Library to a District Facility



*Proposed Renovations of Choir Room at Brooklyn HS*



*Proposed Renovations of Brooklyn HS Science Labs*



*Proposed Renovations of Brooklyn Auditorium*



*Proposed Main Gym Renovations at Brooklyn HS*



*Proposed Athletic Wing Entrance*





## Brooklyn Recognizes State Qualifiers

Brooklyn was proudly represented by several state qualifiers in academic and athletic endeavors during the 2023-24 school year. Sophomore Adam Cowper earned a trip to the OHSAA Bowling Division II State Tournament where he placed seventh overall and was named Second Team All-Ohio. The superb finish capped off a successful season for Adam during which he was named a Second Team All-Star by the Greater Cleveland Interscholastic Bowling League and First Team at the CVC Tournament.

Brooklyn seventh grader Morgan Cummings and eighth grader Calissa Schillinger had the distinct honor of qualifying for the Power of the Pen State Tournament which was held at Ashland University on May 17, 2024. During the competition, Morgan and Calissa competed against other Ohio student qualifiers in their grade level. On behalf of the Brooklyn City Schools, congratulations to Adam Cowper, Morgan Cummings, and Calissa Schillinger on their noteworthy achievements!



*Adam Cowper placed in the top 10 at the State Bowling Tournament.*



*Under the guidance of advisor Kathleen Mack, Morgan Cummings and Calissa Schillinger earned a trip to the 2024 Power of the Pen State Tournament at Ashland University.*



## Junior Florin Socol-Boeriu Selected for Competitive Engineering Internship at Swagelok



*Brooklyn HS junior Florin Socol-Boeriu.*

Brooklyn junior Florin Socol-Boeriu has the proud distinction of being selected for one of only two engineering summer internships offered at the Solon-based headquarters for Swagelok, a global leader in mechanical engineering. Through the upcoming internship, Florin will gain valuable hands-on experience and exposure to real-world engineering projects. The recommendation of a friend who completed the same internship at Swagelok last summer along with the opportunity to gain lifelong connections and real-world experiences led Florin to apply for the highly competitive internship. This prestigious career development opportunity is a testament to Florin's strong work ethic, professionalism, and dedication to the field of engineering. Florin credits Brooklyn City Schools with helping to prepare him for the internship at Swagelok by providing him the opportunity to learn about different engineering fields and discover his true passions.

In the future, Florin plans to pursue a degree in the field of engineering with a minor in music at a college or university located near a major city in Ohio. After graduation, he will seek to make a positive impact by working in an engineering role. An accomplished trombone player in the marching band, concert band, pit orchestra, and jazz ensemble, Florin will also seek to continue his love of music after graduation through a variety of options, including possibly teaching music lessons or performing. Congratulations, Florin, and thank you for being a shining example of excellence in the Brooklyn City Schools!



## Brooklyn Achieves Second Place Finish at Polaris Robotics Competition



## Celebration of the 2023-24 School Year

A group of three people posing in a basketball gym. On the left, a man with a beard and a black jacket is making a hand gesture. In the center, a woman wearing a white 'BROOKLYN' basketball jersey and white leggings is holding an orange basketball. On the right, another woman in a black turtleneck and grey pants is also making a hand gesture. The background shows a basketball hoop and a wall with 'BROOKLYN HURRICANES' written in large yellow letters.







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## BCS District Financial Update Summer 2024



**Treasurer**  
**Robert Schirhart**



In May 2024, the Brooklyn City Schools released an updated Five-Year Forecast Financial Report. The primary purpose of the twice-yearly report is to share with the Board of Education and community a long-range snapshot of the financial realities of the district. All public schools are required to file this report with the state. Doing so prompts a heightened level of accountability and requires constant monitoring of the budget, which the Brooklyn District Financial

team does on a regular basis. The current Five-Year Forecast also includes a potential renewal levy that may be placed on the ballot in in the Spring of 2025 to maintain current school operations and fiscal stability. This issue is **not a tax increase**. Brooklyn's Five-Year forecasts are available online and can be discussed by the public at any time by contacting our office. Please visit [www.bcshurricanes.org](http://www.bcshurricanes.org) and select the *Treasurer* page located under the Departments heading for more financial information.

## Welcome Back to School 2024 Hurricane Community Rally

**Wednesday, August 21st, 6:00 PM at  
Brooklyn Stadium**



-  **6:00 PM - Student-led parade featuring the BHS Marching Band and Various Student Groups and Teams** (*parade route starts at the High School*).
-  **6:30 PM - Program begins at Brooklyn Stadium and will feature food and refreshments, student group performances, kindergarten parade, and more!**

**Join Us for a Celebration of Hurricane Pride!**

