## TRUMBULL BEI

TRUMBULL'S BUSINESS-EDUCATION INITIATIVE

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR



## Another Year of Rebuilding and Revitalizing

In the 2023-2024 school year,
Trumbull BEI continued to build back
the momentum and strength lost
during the pandemic. Student job
shadowing and field trips have
returned to pre-pandemic levels,
and THS academic teams continue
to demonstrate their strength at
both the state and national levels.

- Academic Teams
- Pre-Apprenticeship Programs
- Career Shadowing
- Guest Speakers
- Internships
- Campus Field Trips
- Organization Site Visits



BEI: The intersection of business and education

# Michael Lye LICONI All Charles Lye LICONI

THS alumnus and former BEI Club president, Fairfield University student, Michael Lye, spoke to students at a meeting.

## TRUMBULL HIGH BEI CLUB

The Trumbull High BEI Club continues to thrive, with over 100 members this year.
Monthly meetings bring in guest speakers from local companies, as well as THS Alumni. This year's meeting topics included public speaking, interview skills, and learning about credit scores.

## PRE-APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

The Connecticut Pre-Apprenticeship High School Training Program exposes students to 5 different careers in the trades (carpenter, electrician, iron worker, laborer, and operating engineer) as well as gives them the opportunity to be certified in Flagger, First Aid/CPR/AED and OSHA standards. This program runs weekly after school from March to May with current high school juniors and seniors. The program will conclude with a field trip to the Operating Engineers Union in Meriden, CT. BEI partnered with the Connecticut Department of Transportation to provide funding for this high-impact learning opportunity.



# THS + Jane Ryan = A Winning Combination!

For the past eight years, Jane Ryan School has offered an internship for THS juniors and seniors who are exploring teaching as an area of study in college. Spending time in the classrooms allows THS students to more deeply explore their planned career and obtain valuable experience. Jane Ryan students benefit from additional classroom support and modeling, and Jane Ryan teachers have a helping hand in the classroom! The program also hosted the THS UConn Individual and Family Development class for a half day visit.



Students from the THS UConn Individual and Family Development Class visit Jane Ryan

#### **MODEL CONGRESS**

The THS Model Congress team traveled to Washington, DC. for a competition in February. They spent over 20 hours in committee sessions and worked to pass legislation they created in committee, and many of them went on to pass it in full Senate and full House committees! The team met CT Representative Jim Himes on the steps of the Capitol and toured Senator Murphy's office with members of his staff.

Congratulations to their advisor, Ms. Boland, and special congrats to seniors Jash Desai and Rashas Kulkarni on winning Honorable Mention (2nd place) in their committee.



Model Congress students competed in Washington, DC







The Model UN Club competed at the Ivy League Model UN Conference at UPenn

#### **MODEL UN CLUB**

The THS Model UN Club competed in the prestigious Ivy League Model UN Conference hosted by UPenn in Philadelphia. 20 delegates participated in challenging geopolitical debates with high school students from around the world.

Delegate Audrey Zelezniak-Berezowski was given a verbal commendation award for her role as Chief Marin in the California Gold Rush Crisis Committee.

## WE THE PEOPLE: STATE CHAMPS!

Once again, Trumbull High's We the People team was crowned State Champions! This is Trumbull's 28th state title in the 36 years since the program's inception in 1988.

The team went on to represent Connecticut at the National competition in Washington, DC. The students spent two days competing against the top schools in the country and earned the



We the People Competes at Nationals

Unit 3 Award. The students were also able to meet with Senator Murphy in his office, tour the monuments and museums, and visit George Washington's home, Mount Vernon.

#### **DECA CLUB**

The DECA Club (Distributive Education Clubs of America) took 53 students to the AquaTurf in March to compete in the state competition. Students competed in the day-long competition in categories including Business Law & Ethics, Marketing, and Entrepreneurship.

Their success at the state level qualified 24 students to attend the International Career Development Conference in Anaheim, CA in late April.



## MIDDLEBROOK MENTORS

Almost 40 students in Grades 3-5 from Middlebrook Elementary School have been serving as mentors for grades K, 1 and 2 throughout the 2023-2024 academic year.



Through a grant from BEI, Middlebrook was able to form a partnership with Fairfield University and their College of Education. On April 15, mentors spent the day at the university learning about the college experience and what the future can offer students. They engaged in a scavenger hunt style tour of the grounds, ate lunch alongside current college students, attended a Q & A with university professors, and were treated to a workshop with a writing professor. Middlebrook students were able to articulate their hopes and dreams for their future, and many expressed an interest in pursuing Education as their possible career.





Trumbull BEI proudly recognized the following community members for their contributions last year:

### <u>Make-a-Difference Award</u>, for significant time contributions to BEI:

- -Anne Berte, Jane Ryan School
- -Cory DeWeese, The Marketing Arm
- -Josh Lippman, Alpha Prep

Ray Avery Award, for showing generosity with resources and being quietly committed to young people's needs:

-Jenn Record, IMPACT Trumbull







Last year's event also showcased a sampling of the groups we support: DECA, Model UN, BICEN and the THS Robotics Club.

#### Interested in joining us?

Trumbull BEI would love your support! We are always searching for new members and partners for our students. If you are interested in sharing your time and talents with our students, please contact our Executive Director Dan Neumann at <a href="mailto:dca120@sbcglobal.net">dca120@sbcglobal.net</a>.

# TRUMBULL BEI: BY THE NUMBERS

#### College and Career Readiness Programs

Trumbull BEI is proud to support the work of Trumbull High's College & Career Readiness programs. The College and Career Center at THS is open to all students and continues to impress. Student contact numbers and selected examples:

1,728 Students have seen guest speaker presentations. Topics have included the Virtual Financial Reality Fair, Sophomore Alumni Career Panel, and Career Explorations in: marriage & family therapy, athletic training, the military, psychology, and various trades.

**7** Students participated in one-day job shadows

**47** Students engaged in internships/service learning projects

2,397 Students participated in college readiness programs:
College List "Lunch & Search", and Sophomore Check-in
Lessons

214 Students participated in field trips: Jane Ryan Elementary, UConn Storrs (Individual & Family Development Class), Park Avenue Medical Center, Culinary Institute of America, January Digital



UConn Campus Visit: Child Development Labs



Ms. Southard's Accounting class visited Trumbull entrepreneur Dave Rugtiliano at his Fairfield restaurant, LOCAL

# TRUMBULL BEI: GRANT SUMMARY

#### Mini-Grants 2023-2024

Trumbull BEI's Mini-Grant program is open to all public and private schools in Trumbull. We encourage all educators and administrators to apply for grants!

#### This year's grant recipients included:

- FBLA State Leadership Conference
- DECA State Competition
- Community Food Service program
- Ivy League Model UN Conference
- Middlebrook Mentors
- THS Robotics Club
- Construction Career Day
- Panther Pals
- DOT Pre-Apprenticeship Program
- DC Model UN Conference
- Sophomore Planning Day
- We the People Nationals
- Healthcare Career Day
- DECA Nationals (Anaheim)



Over \$10,000 in funding awarded this year!

#### **Trumbull BEI Officers, 2023-24**

Chairman: John Annick Executive Director: Dan Neumann President: Vince Fini, Whittlesey Vice President: Al Carbone, Avangrid

Recording Secretary: Linda Paslov, TPS Agriscience and Biotechnology School

Treasurer: Will Costello, AICPA

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Newsletter Editor: Jen Kehley, Trumbull High School