

Greetings,

Is it just me, or has this four-day week felt like it lasted... about nine days? Maybe we're still recovering from the long weekend, or perhaps it's the endless stretch of gray skies that's making each day feel like a snooze button that won't quit. Yes, soggy lawns, and that perpetual feeling of "Do I need a jacket or not?" may have had us dragging a bit, but let's be honest: dreary days do have their upsides, particularly in keeping our students a tad more mellow. Silver linings, right? So I'm thinking it's a win for school climate, literally and figuratively. Whatever the case, I know many of us have been feeling a little extra tired this week even with the shortened week.

What truly brightened my week, however, were the outstanding concerts at Bellport High School. (I know I keep mentioning our concerts, but I really do love them!) This week, I had the privilege of attending two performances, and as always, I was blown away by the talent and dedication of our students and staff. One unforgettable highlight was a student-created slideshow that accompanied the piece *Godzilla Eats Las Vegas*; it was clever, funny, and totally engaging. Godzilla may have eaten Las Vegas, but our students owned the stage. (And I totally got a kick out of my cameo!)



Even more inspiring was seeing our seniors recognized during the concerts. All of them had something lined up for their post high school lives. We have a couple of students immediately entering the workforce or trades, and one heading off to the Airforce! Amazing! But almost all of them are heading off to college to study something unique - from engineering to art, from marine biology to music education. I was amazed at the variety of majors our seniors are pursuing in college. And this is not to mention that I also attended the Superintendent's Valedictorians

Recognition Luncheon with Keshavi Shah who earned a full ride to Rice University and will be studying mechanical engineering, one of three sisters who are engineers! And all Bellport High School graduates! That's a powerful testament not only to their individual passions and hard work, but to the strong foundation they've received throughout their K-12 experience here in South Country. That kind of preparation doesn't happen by accident, it's the result of your daily commitment, creativity, and care.

So as we wrap up this gray and sleepy week, let's take pride in the sunshine we bring to our students' lives every day. There's so much to celebrate in our schools, and so much more to look forward to.

Wishing you a restful weekend ahead. Let's charge up our batteries! We're in the home stretch and it'll already be June when we return on Monday!

As always, it really is a privilege serving all of you as your superintendent of schools!

Tony Santana
[#clipperPRIDE](#)