



# BRENTWOOD BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

SUMMER 2025

## CLASS OF 2025 SOARS READY FOR COLLEGE, CAREER AND BEYOND



## Congratulations, Graduates!



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*This publication is designed to inform residents of the Brentwood School District community of news about your schools. For further information, call (631) 434-2334.*

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# CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL STUDENTS ON MOVING UP!



Shepherd's Gate Academy Universal Pre-K graduates were all smiles on the day of their moving-up ceremony.



Kindergarten graduates from East Elementary School sang several songs for families and staff.



Pine Park Elementary School kindergarten graduates joined Principal Rosa Nieves in saying the Pledge of Allegiance.



Hemlock Park Elementary School students cheerfully said the Pledge of Allegiance.



Zahmari Pierrot, who graduated fifth grade from Southwest Elementary School, was all smiles holding his moving-up certificate.



Students eagerly listened to remarks given by Assistant Principal Ana Briones at North Elementary School.



Loretta Park Elementary School Principal Robert McCarthy shook hands with students at the school's fifth grade moving-up ceremony.



Laurel Park Elementary School Principal Dr. Eric Snell handed out certificates and medals at the school's fifth grade moving-up ceremony.

# CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL STUDENTS ON MOVING UP!



Students were honored for their individual contributions to the community at the Twin Pines Elementary School fifth grade moving-up ceremony.



Oak Park Elementary School students joined faculty on stage to say the Pledge of Allegiance at their fifth grade moving-up ceremony.



High-fives were plentiful at Gail E. Kirkham Northeast Elementary School's fifth grade moving-up ceremony.



Teachers and students were all smiles outside Frank J. Cannon Southeast Elementary School's fifth grade moving-up ceremony.



North Middle School music students performed the national anthem at the school's moving-up ceremony.



South Middle School students proudly crossed the stage at their moving-up ceremony to signify their progression to high school.



Hugs were shared throughout East Middle School's heartfelt moving-up ceremony.



Five proud West Middle School students earned the Eighth Grade Principal's Award at the school's annual moving-up ceremony.



27 scholar-athletes committed to playing collegiate sports in 2025.



Graduates from Brentwood this year include Suffolk County girls varsity basketball champions.



25 graduates are entering a branch of the United States military upon graduation.

929 graduates entering college with at least one college credit already earned through Graduation PLUS+ initiatives.

# Congratulations

CLASS OF





287 graduates with workforce industry certifications.



# Congratulations!

## 2025



20 students graduated in 2025 having earned a full year's worth of college credit, or a minimum of 30 credits.



341 graduates obtained the New York State Seal of Biliteracy – the largest figure in district history.



# THE PLUS+ THAT POWERS THE

27 scholars received College Board Distinctions.

**Diamond Harris:** "I think Brentwood is so unique not only because of its diversity, but also because of how far every staff member is willing to go for the students. As someone who wasn't born and raised in Brentwood, I can say with pride that there's no other place I would have rather been these past few years."



**Jade Marie Borges:** "Brentwood makes the impossible possible. There are endless opportunities available for all students and all kinds of career paths. If you want to go to college, there are early college programs, dual credit courses and AP classes. If college isn't your thing, BOCES offers a wide range of trades to explore."

The Graduating Class of 2025 has reported receiving approximately \$2,080,780 in scholarships from the school they are attending or through outside scholarship awards combined.

**Aleuris Lantigua:** "Lifeguarding has shaped who I am in so many ways. It's brought me friends, valuable skills and a job that I love. Helping my community is something I've always wanted to do, and the Brentwood Lifeguard Program gave me that opportunity."



**Michelle Leal:** "The Stony Brook HOPE Program helped me feel prepared for my career path by introducing me to a variety of health care careers and ultimately leading me to biomedical engineering. The Farmingdale Smart Scholars Program also got me ready for college – I took real college classes over the past four years and earned credit. Brentwood offers so many unique opportunities you don't find in other districts."

# FUTURE:

## MORE THAN A DIPLOMA, BRENTWOOD GRADUATES LEAVE WITH A PLAN AND PURPOSE



**Andres Rodriguez:** "What sets Brentwood apart is how much opportunity there is for students to grow not just academically, but as leaders and individuals. Here, I didn't just attend school I was part of a community. From the support of staff to programs like My Brother's Keeper and a range of clubs and cultural events, Brentwood gave me the platform to dream big and the tools to achieve those dreams. I don't think every district offers that same sense of belonging and empowerment that I found here."

Four graduating My Brother's Keeper (MBK) fellows received \$6,000 worth of scholarships as well as brand new laptops.

**Maria Salgado:** "I will always stand by Girls Inc. as an amazing organization for young women. I came into Brentwood as a shy freshman and walked out smart, strong and bold. During those four years, I learned that women can be in power and that you can become whoever you want to be. People will try to tell you no or bring you down, but every time you rise, you come back stronger."



This year's graduating class includes 67 SUNY Promise Applicants.

**Elizabeth Cruz:** "Based on my experience, what sets this district apart is the wide range of academic and extracurricular programs that prepare students for the real world – whether they choose to go to college or take a different path. Brentwood makes sure every student has the opportunity to succeed after high school, which is what makes this district the best."



**Samuel Hasfal:** "Brentwood High School has given me countless opportunities that helped prepare me for college and beyond. The AFJROTC program equipped me and my fellow cadets with essential life lessons – discipline, leadership and the tools to thrive. The HOPE program broadened our horizons, helping us explore careers we might not have considered, especially in the medical field. It offered a glimpse into new possibilities and supported thoughtful career decision-making. BOCES was another incredible experience – whether or not students plan to attend college, it provides hands-on trade skills and certifications that are immediately useful after graduation."



# VALEDICTORIANS & SALUTATORIANS OF THE CLASS OF 2025

## Sonderling Center *Valedictorian* **Farah Alzafarani**

Farah achieved a 108.2 GPA and will be attending Stony Brook University with the Simons STEM scholars program to study biology. She served as a student advocate with Students for Climate Action, a nonprofit organization that supports climate policies and renewable energy initiatives, as well as president of the English Honor Society and editor of the Pow Wow high school newspaper.



## Ross Center *Valedictorian* **Marlie Reno**

Marlie achieved a 105.9 GPA and will be pursuing a degree in biology from Carnegie Mellon University. She served in the National, Math, Social Studies and English honor societies, acted as secretary of the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers, and was actively involved in Girls Inc. and Mock Trial in partnership with Touro Law School.



## Sonderling Center *Salutatorian* **Josue Flores**

Josue achieved a 104.2 GPA and will be attending Massachusetts Institute of Technology to study mechanical engineering. He served as vice president of the National Social Studies Honor Society, was a member of the Tri-M Music Honor Society and played on the varsity boys tennis team.



## Ross Center *Salutatorian* **Karina Fuentes**

Karina achieved a 105.8 GPA and will be attending Stony Brook University to study health sciences. Her leadership shined in the prestigious Green Machine Marching Band, where she served as a section leader, and in the Advanced Orchestra and her church choir. Beyond music, she plays a vital role in her family and community, volunteering her time and excelling in clubs like the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers and Mock Trial in partnership with Touro Law School.

