

A New Formula for Success

HOW
BALDWIN UFSD
IS **REIMAGINING**
MATH
EDUCATION



The New York State mathematics curricula have undergone essential changes to adapt to the 21st century learner, shifting from traditional rote memorization to conceptual understanding. Driven by educational research and technological advances, including A.I., today's approach prioritizes the "why" behind mathematical equations and operations rather than focusing solely on the "how."

Baldwin Union Free School District continues to enhance the K-12 mathematics curriculum while aligning with the New York State Next Generation Mathematics Learning Standards. Students are encouraged to articulate their thought processes, analyze problems thoroughly, and establish meaningful mathematical connections. The district's math curriculum incorporates inquiry-based approaches, with an increased

emphasis on problem-solving and the application of math in real-world situations. Students are encouraged to employ multiple strategies and visual aids, such as drawing models or using manipulatives like blocks and counters, to cultivate a deeper comprehension of mathematical concepts. This approach cultivates critical thinking skills and adaptability, essential for thriving in a technology-driven world.

"Our mathematics curriculum speaks to our administrators' and teachers' commitment to fostering strong problem-solving skills and learning confidence in every student," stated Mr. Anthony Mignella, superintendent of schools for Baldwin UFSD. "These modifications to the curriculum provide our learners with a deeper understanding of math, equipping them with the skills needed to address future equations and word problems. By building a foundation of number sense and developing an early appreciation for mathematical concepts, our curricula will ensure students are 'math articulate' and

future ready across all grade levels."

Engaging Learners in Grades K-5

At the elementary level, students form strong mathematical foundations through Eureka Math²—Baldwin's primary mathematics curriculum. Lessons are crafted to be engaging, hands-on, and developmentally suitable, aiding students in gaining both skills and confidence. Digital tools like i-Ready and

(...Continued inside ->)

Have You Heard?

BALDWIN UFSD ELECTED TO LEAGUE OF INNOVATIVE SCHOOLS

Baldwin UFSD is among the 175 districts across 35 states to be accepted into a network of forward-thinking leaders in education.

The district was chosen from a highly competitive pool of applicants for its educational leadership, innovative vision, and commitment to excellence and collaboration.

**League of
Innovative
Schools**

(...Continued from front cover)

Magma Math offer targeted support and enrichment to address individual student needs. The young learners are especially captivated by the innovative hands-on learning methods.

"This fall, we focused on making math visible for students and families through initiatives like the Grade 2 Math Olympics and our Parent Academy," explained Ms. Miguelina Ortiz, elementary math coach for Baldwin UFSD. "During the Math Olympics, second graders applied their measurement learning in a hands-on way, such as the cotton ball toss, exploring how ten 10-cm units make one meter, and participating in meter jumps."

From the "Standing Long Jump" to the "Meter Stick Relay"—each station was designed to enhance their understanding of measurement, thereby producing a much deeper learning experience.

Additionally, the district's fall Parent Academy Workshop offered a comprehensive overview of Eureka Math², New York

State numeracy briefs, and evidence-based instructional strategies used in K-5 classrooms. Led by both elementary math coaches, Mr. Michael Smyth and Ms. Miguelina Ortiz, families received practical advice on supporting math learning at home.

"At Parent Academy, we emphasized positive math language and affirmations, reinforcing that we are all capable of doing math, even if we approach it differently," said Mr. Smyth. "We also highlighted how the revised Eureka Math

curriculum supports students through multiple strategies, spiral review, and the Practice Partner, which serves as a helpful homework support at home."

Building Confidence and Skills in Grades 6-8

Middle school students further their education with Eureka Math², supplemented by teacher-designed units and expanded algebra coursework. Instruction is enhanced by IXL, Delta Math, Castle Learning, and i-Ready, enabling teachers to tailor instruction and foster student development.

In 6th grade, students continue to strengthen their foundational math skills and conceptual understanding through the Eureka Math², while in 7th grade, instruction transitions to a district-developed curriculum intentionally designed to prepare students for Algebra I. As a result, the majority of students will take the Algebra I Regents examination at the end of 8th grade, opening the door to advanced mathematics coursework throughout all four years of high school.

Expanding Opportunities in Grades 9-12

After completing Geometry and Algebra II, high school students select from a wide range of mathematics pathways tailored to their interests and goals. Options include AP Precalculus, AP Calculus AB and BC, AP Statistics, and elective courses that connect mathematics to technology and real-world applications, such as Applied Coding and Computer Science Principles, and AP Computer Science A. Instruction is also enhanced through the use of digital tools. In addition, all courses integrate collaboration, communication, and technology to ensure students graduate well prepared to apply mathematical thinking across disciplines and beyond the classroom.

A District-Wide Commitment to Student Success

Through a robust curriculum, innovative tools, and dedicated educators, the district will continue to empower students with the skills, confidence, and problem-solving abilities necessary for current and future success.

SCHOOL2CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

Learning Beyond the Classroom



Baldwin Union Free School District's School2Career programs and curricula continue to successfully connect classroom learning to real-world, hands-on professional experiences across various fields that include business, education, healthcare, law, media, STEM, and the arts.

Notable activities this fall encompassed immersive "Leaving2Learn" experiences

at the **Federal Reserve Bank of New York**, **Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory's DNA Learning Center**, **Bloomberg, NYC's Diamond District**, **Hofstra University Museum of Art**, and the **Cradle of Aviation Museum**. Students

also demonstrated their skills through prestigious competitions such as **DECA**, **Virtual Enterprise**, **Stock Market Challenge**, **Grow-NY Youth Competition**, **American Debate League**, and state and regional leadership conferences.

Follow the district's social media and check the website for the latest news about School2Career in Baldwin!



NEW CURRICULUM OFFERINGS PROMOTE COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS

New Science Research Program, Along with Several AP Courses, Set to Launch Next School Year

Baldwin High School will launch several new courses for the 2026–2027 school year, including a new Science Research Program through the STEAM Academy. With the addition of these new course offerings, Baldwin High School students can now choose from a catalog of more than 30 AP courses.

This expansion of course offerings reflects the district's strong commitment to college and career readiness. Baldwin High School is currently rated 9 out of 10 overall on GreatSchools.org, with a 10 out of a 10 in "college readiness." Most recently, for the third consecutive year, the national College Board named Baldwin High School to the AP[®] Program School Honor Roll with a "Silver" distinction.

Building for the Future

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

Rendering for Front Entrance of New Athletic Center at Baldwin High School



The Baldwin Union Free School District continues to make progress with advancing the multi-year capital improvement plan which focuses on innovation, safety, and long-term sustainability. Supported by general fund transfers, capital reserve funds, grant opportunities, as well as the successful bond referendum, the strategic approach emphasizes effective financial planning, project sequencing, while minimizing disruptions to students' educational experience, including athletics and arts programs.

Several major capital projects have recently been completed or are nearing final closeout, including district-wide fire alarm replacements, multiple roof replacements, and restroom renovations across elementary, middle, and high school buildings. Construction is currently underway on key infrastructure projects from the electrical service upgrades at Baldwin Middle School and all elementary schools to the kitchen renovation at Plaza Elementary. These improvements lay the groundwork for future building enhancements, including expanded air-conditioning capacity.

Looking ahead, numerous projects are preparing for bid or are in active bidding, with awards anticipated in March 2026. These include additions and renovations to cafeterias and kitchens at several elementary schools, roof replacements at Baldwin High School and Middle School, a new turf field at the Middle School, and Phase 1 of the Bond: Baldwin High School's Athletic Center addition. Longer-term projects tied to the bond referendum—such as the performing arts additions—are in various stages of design and planning.



VIEW TIMELINES, UPDATES ON PROJECTS AND MORE!

Visit www.baldwinschools.org/capitalimprovements or scan QR code!

NEW LEARNING SPACES UNVEILED FOR 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR

Baldwin UFSD unveiled seven new learning spaces this fall, including a state-of-the-art business lab, marking another step towards a more future-focused, innovative school system.



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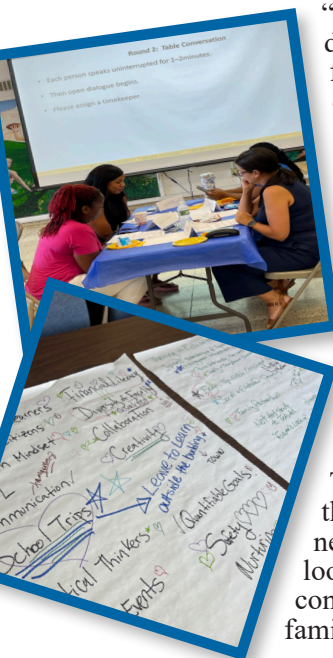
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BALDWIN UFSD SUPERINTENDENT HOSTS LISTEN & LEARN SERIES WITH BALDWIN FAMILIES

Superintendent Mr. Anthony Mignella began his tenure this year by engaging in open discussions with the Baldwin PTAs. As an educator, he understands teaching and learning are reciprocal processes, thus, leading him to launch a Listen & Learn Series called “Coffee & Conversation.”

“Our commitment to creating a school district that is innovative and future-focused is one that needs to include our families as partners,” said Mr. Mignella. “These open discussions are invaluable, and I am grateful for this opportunity to engage directly with our community and look forward to continuing these important conversations to ensure that the needs of every student are fully supported.”

The inaugural meeting provided a platform for each school's PTA representative to share their thoughts, hopes, and dreams. The collaborative effort will help the district in implementing any necessary improvements. The district looks forward to continuing these open conversations and collaborations with families.



Common Themes from "Coffee & Conversation"

Following small group discussions during "Coffee & Conversation," themes emerged from the *gallery walk*—a collaborative activity in which ideas are displayed around a room, and participants move from station to station to review and reflect.

Empower • Empathy • Collaborate

Shaping Positive Student Experiences



Prepared & Innovative

Tools for the Future



Community Engagement

Valuing Every Voice



Excellence in Education

Dedicated Teachers, High Standards



Clear & Multilingual Communication

Connecting Families & Staff



Leaving2Learns

Exploring & Learning Beyond the Classroom



Innovative Feature

STUDENTS RECEIVE MEDICAL TRAINING USING AI-POWERED SIMULATION ROBOTS

Medical & Health Sciences Academy students are gaining hands-on learning experience assessing patient health using AI-enabled medical simulation manikins right within the classroom. Baldwin UFSD is among the first K-12 school districts in the country to integrate this innovative technology into the curriculum.



YOU SAW
BALDWIN
SCHOOLS
USE IT FIRST!

Scan the
QR code to view
the patient
simulators in
action!

