



Blind Brook-Rye Union Free School District
A quarterly newsletter
WINTER 2024

***Take a chance, take a chance on this
super fun musical***

BBHS Drama presents "Mamma Mia"



Audience members are in for a real treat when they come in to see the Blind Brook High School Drama production of "Mamma Mia," which opens on March 7.

The show tells the story of a young woman, Sophie, who is about to marry and who well, has a dream, of meeting her father. The issue, however, is that there are three potential men who might fit that role thanks to her mother's interesting romantic past.

[*Click here for more information on the show and tickets*](#)

Teachers train to teach new Apple material to colleagues, students

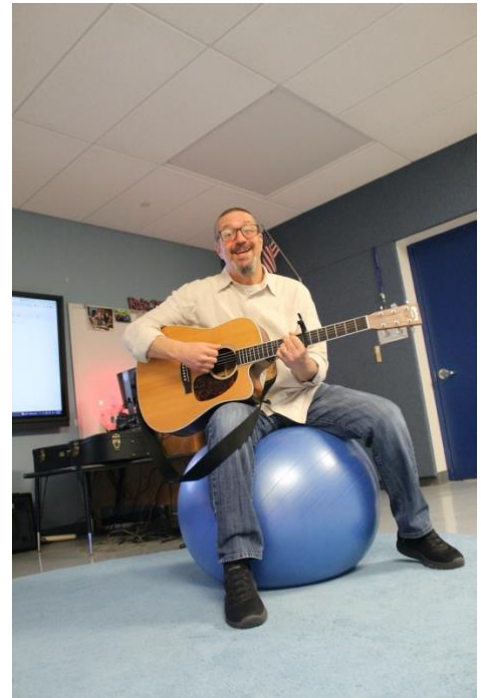
Every now and then teachers will step away from the head of the class and take a seat at a desk as they become a student. That is exactly what happened with a group of educators at the Bruno M. Ponterio Ridge Street School and their colleagues throughout the district, when teachers trained to be Apple Learning Coaches and Apple teachers.



[Click here to read more](#)

BMPRSS Music Teacher wins radio contest trip to Florida

Greg DiMiceli, who has been teaching in the Blind Brook-Rye Union Free School District for 25 years, knows the power music can have on people, helping them feel joy, grow, and heal. His passion for his profession and music are what prompted a member of the BMPRSS community to nominate him for the 106.7 Lite FM's Trip for Teachers contest. And he won!



[Click here to read more](#)

And they're off . . . to new, exciting athletic adventures

Winter athletics Signing Day has seniors looking forward

A festive atmosphere prevailed in the library on January 30th, where four young men sat anxiously at a table. They were the star of the show on this day as family, friends and teammates gathered to celebrate. As part of an athletic signing ceremony, the four signed their letters of intent to their respective colleges, where they will continue to play their favorite sport.



[Click here to read more](#)

Thank you BBMS Drama!

Blind Book Middle School put on an enchanting production of Disney's Finding Nemo, Jr. earlier this month!

The cast dove right into their roles, and in addition to learning the music and dance numbers, also had to learn how to manipulate the puppets that represented their characters.



A whale of an event at BMPRSS

First graders walked into the cafeterium at the Bruno M. Ponterio Ridge Street School and saw something they had never seen before: A life size replica of a Humpback whale.

Educators from the Massachusetts-based Whalemobile were at the school to share information about these fantastic sea creatures. They brought along with them an inflatable whale modeled after an actual whale found in the wild named Nile, who just turned 36 years old.



[Click here to read more](#)

Three BBHS science research students honored at WR-JSHS



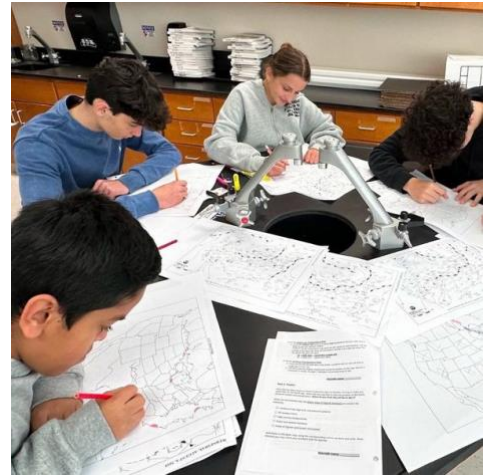
Thirteen Blind Brook High School seniors in the Honors Science Research Program presented their original research last weekend at the 22nd annual Westchester-Rockland Junior Science and Humanities Symposium (WR-JSHS) competition.

Blind Brook High School seniors Joaquin Otero and Jinju Prince placed third in their regional categories and advanced to the state-level competition as poster presenters. The two will present their research in Albany on Feb. 29. In addition, Brooke Barnett placed second in her local category.

[*Click here to read more*](#)

Weather Wonders

Wondering whether the weather is about to change? Ask an eighth grader at BBMS! Recently eighth grade science students have been analyzing weather maps over the course of consecutive days to identify locations of fronts, high/low pressure systems, high/low temperature, and high/low precipitation. Using the same skills as meteorologists, students are now learning how to make weather forecasts and predictions!



Toe tapping fun with Klezmer music!

Klezmer music was the focus of a recent assembly at the Bruno M. Ponterio Ridge Street School! Klezmerfest, consisting of Aaron Alexander, Brian Glassman, Zev Zions, Jordan Hirsch, and Greg Wall, shared traditional Klezmer music and discussed how Jewish immigrants brought the genre to this country from Eastern Europe.



Students not only clapped along, but some got up and danced!

BBHS students shine at regional DECA competition

The regional DECA competition, held at Rockland Community College on Jan. 4, was a success for Blind Brook High School members. The school had 34 members compete, and 22 of them were first year DECA members. Twenty-two students qualified to go to the state competition. DECA is an organization that helps high school and college students across the country prepare for careers in entrepreneurship, finance, and hospitality management.



[***Click here to read more***](#)

Congratulations to Blind Brook Middle School!

Blind Brook-Rye Middle School is ranked #31 in New York Middle Schools, according to U.S. News & World Report.

[***Click here to read more***](#)



A Message from the Superintendent

I've been wondering if winter break comes, can spring be far behind? We certainly had our share of wild weather, and I am hopeful mother nature will remain calm in the foreseeable future.

The winter months, however, bring with them a continuation of great work from our students and staff. The cooler months have been filled with music in the form of winter concerts and the Blind Brook Middle School delightful production of "Disney's Finding Nemo, Jr. More will follow with the high school's upcoming production of "Mamma Mia!"



I want to extend my congratulations to our Blind Brook High School seniors in the Honors Science Research Program. Blind Brook High School seniors Joaquin Otero and Jinju Prince placed third in their regional categories and advanced to the state-level competition as poster presenters. The two presented their research in Albany on Feb. 29. In addition, Brooke Barnett placed second in her local category.

Not to mention the great work by our BBHS DECA members! The school had 34 members compete in the regional competition, and 22 of them were first year DECA members.

Finally, the board and I have begun our annual budget discussions and I encourage all of you to keep an eye out for budget related information in the coming weeks for the 2024-2025 school year.

Sincerely,

Dr. Colin Byrne
Superintendent of Schools

BMPRSS celebrated the Lunar New Year with a special assembly

Squeals of joy emanated from the BMPRSS cafetorium on Tuesday as a huge red lion danced its way through the aisles in an assembly to celebrate Lunar New Year! The Chinatown Community Young Lions demonstrated their expertise in performing the Lion Dance, believed to ward off evil and bring good luck for the new year. Students learned the 30-pound paper maché and bamboo puppet was crafted by hand in China and mastering the ancient dance takes years of practice.

The Lion Dance, accompanied by a drum, gong and cymbals, culminates with the Lion eating lettuce and spitting it back out as a blessing of wealth and prosperity. Thank you to the Blind Brook PTA for funding this wonderful program! BMPRSS appreciates the support!



Winter Concerts!



BMPRSS 5th Grade Band



Blind Brook Middle School



Blind Brook High School

Upcoming Events

March 5, Board of Education Meeting, 7 p.m., BBHS, Budget
Draft #1

March 16, Budget Workshop, Draft #2



SAVE THE DATE!

Blind Brook High School 50th Anniversary

Saturday, May 18, 2024, 1-5 p.m. @ BBHS

***Email bbanniversary@blindbrookanniversary.org for
more information!***