



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

Happy Anniversary Blind Brook High School!

How things have changed in the building was a popular theme among the former graduates, faculty, friends, and family who gathered at BBHS on May 18 in recognition of the schools 50th anniversary.

Click [here](#) to read more



CreatiCon 2024

It was a night of impressive imagination and creativity for the students throughout the district. During CreatiCon, held on May 16, families and friends visited Blind Brook High School for a look at the creative work that has been going on in the schools.

Click [here](#) to read more



Bluebirds how does your garden grow? With love and enthusiasm!

This spring the courtyard at the Bruno M. Ponterio Ridge Street School has been transformed from an under-utilized space to a thriving outdoor classroom, complete with a garden.

Students in all grades have played a role in planting and maintaining the flowers and vegetables that are being grown there.



Click [here](#) to read more

Senior athletes ready to make a splash in their collegiate careers

Blind Brook High School seniors Sydney Goldberg and Neelam Govindaraj have a few things in common, they are both graduating in June and are athletes. Mostly, they both love spending time by the water — Sydney in the pool, and Neelam rowing on the water.



Click [here](#) to read more

Remembering Ashley ***Greenhouse dedication pays tribute to education supporter***

Ashley Welde, a former board of education member and community activist, was honored on Friday April 26, Arbor Day, as the greenhouse at the school was dedicated in her memory. Family, friends, school administrators, Rye Brook village and town officials, county officials and more gathered to remember her.



Click [here](#) to read more

Fiona Chen winner of National Merit Scholarship for 2024



When senior Fiona Chen was informed that she was the recipient of a 2024 National Merit Scholarship she said she was super surprised. In the fall Fiona will be attending Amherst College where she plans on studying neuroscience. Officially she was the recipient of the National Merit Public Service Enterprise Group Scholarship.

Click [here](#) to read more

Second Annual Oscar Night Brings out the stars



Hurray for Hollywood, or at least hurray for Blind Brook High School Students Honors Shapers of the World course!

On April 26, the class, along with friends and family gathered in the auditorium of the school for a special evening of glitz, glamor, creativity, and celebration for the Second Annual Honors Shapers Oscars night.

Click [here](#) to read more

Middle School students scream for ice cream!

I scream! You scream! Blind Brook Middle School students scream for ice cream! Now that the state testing is all done, middle schoolers had an opportunity to take a well deserved break and enjoy a cool treat! Ice cream from Jimmy's Ice Cream truck was served up and enjoyed on a beautiful spring day. Thank you to the PTA for sponsoring the event!





Students and staff in the district had fun checking out the Solar Eclipse that came to the area on April 8, 2024!

Love of reading and writing helps Iris Chen win several awards

This spring Freshman Iris Chen learned she was the recipient of a three Silver Keys and one Gold Key for her works: *Souvenirs of the Past*: Silver Key (Personal Essay & Memoir), *Five Minus Two*: Silver Key (Science Fiction & Fantasy), *The Legendary Taming of the Belching Bovines*: Silver Key (Humor) and *The Dark Side of Kidfluencing*: Gold Key (Critical Essay).

Click [here](#) to read more



A Message from the Superintendent

There are always so many amazing things happening as we wrap up another school year! There are gardens growing, concerts being played, and hard work being recognized!

I'd wanted to wish "Happy Anniversary" to Blind Brook High School and extend my thanks to everyone who helped organize the commemorative event. It is a special milestone in our district's history and was certainly worth the time to reminisce about our past as we look to the future.



As the weeks continue to fly by, I encourage you to keep an eye on your child's calendar as there are so many fun and exciting things taking place and we would not want you to miss any of them.

Finally, a reminder that the Board of Education and Budget Vote will take place on Tuesday, May 21. The polls are open from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m., and voting will take place in the Old Gym at the Bruno M. Ponterio Ridge Street School. For details on the 2024-2025 budget, please visit our website.

Sincerely,

Dr. Colin Byrne
Superintendent of Schools



Up and Coming Science Research Students get noticed

A huge congratulations to ninth grade students Iris Chen, Michelle Hamlet, and Eva Bao, from Adam Ballard's Introduction to Science Research class at Blind Brook High School!

This team of brilliant minds received an Honorable Mention in the regional Toshiba/NSTA ExploraVision STEM competition, placing their entry in the top 10% of all projects submitted.

Their innovative team project, titled "Magnetic Stimulation Suitcase," impressed the judges with its forward-thinking vision of technology 20 years from now. The team meticulously researched current technology,



envisioned its future evolution, and detailed the development steps, pros & cons, and obstacles. Such dedication and creativity are truly inspiring. ExploraVision is a fantastic platform for students in the U.S. and Canada to develop critical thinking, creativity, and collaborative skills. We're incredibly proud of our students for shining bright and representing our school with such distinction.

Italian card game teaches culture, fun

Shouts of “scopa!” could periodically be heard in an otherwise quiet classroom. There were bragging rights at stake, and students in Madeleine Salvatore’s Italian 4 class were taking no chances.

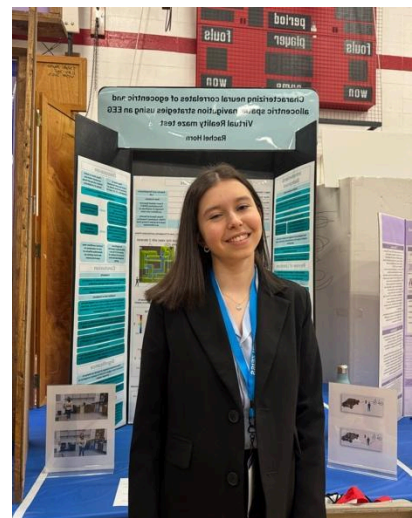
The students were engaged in a popular Italian card game, called Scopa, that they had learned as part of their study of leisure activities common in Italy. After learning the game, they divided into small groups and engaged in a tournament. Winners received gift cards.

Click [here](#) to read more



Congratulations Charlie!

Freshman Charlie Sindell has a passion for photography, so it is no surprise his work was recognized. It was recently



announced he is the recipient of several Scholastic Art & Writing Awards for photography, including five Silver Key awards and one Gold Key!

Click [here](#) to read more

Congratulations to Rachel Horn!

A junior in Honors Science Research at Blind Brook High School, Rachel won second place at the virtual Tri-County Science & Technology Fair in the category of Physiological/Experimental Psychology for her original research, titled "Characterizing Neural Correlates of Egocentric and Allocentric Spatial Navigation Strategies Using an EEG Virtual Reality Maze Test."

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, May 21, Annual Budget Vote and
Board Member Election
7 a.m. to 9 p.m., Bmprss Old Gym

Science Research Symposium, Blind Brook High School,
Thursday, May 23, 7 p.m.

Friday, May 24 to Monday, May 27, Schools and District Closed
for Memorial Day

Middle School Drama Club "From the Page to the Stage",
Friday, May 31, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, June 4, Board of Education Meeting, 7 p.m.

Bmprss 5th Grade Night of Music Performance,
Friday, June 14, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, June 19, Schools and District Closed for Juneteenth

Moving Up Ceremonies and Graduation
SUNY Purchase Performing Arts Center
Thursday, June 20

BMPRSS 5th Grade Moving Up Ceremony, 12:00 p.m.

Blind Brook Middle School Moving Up Ceremony, 3 p.m.

Blind Brook High School Graduation, 6 p.m.