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BLIND BROOK BEACON

A quarterly newsletter



REMEMBERING BRUNO M. PONTERIO

During a recent reception held on March 1, in the school building that bears his name, friends, colleagues, mentees and members of the Rye Brook community gathered to remember the late Bruno M. Ponterio, who passed away one year ago this month. They shared stories of his love for bagels, encouragement and embodiment of what it means to let people know they are valued. A new bench in his name was placed at the school.

Click here to read more







BBHS ALUM SHARES FILM

Guillerma Prieto IV, BBHS Class of 2020 alum, recently held a screening of his short film 'El Pumita,' which tells the story of his grandparents loving relationship. The film was originally his senior thesis project while a student at the NYU Tisch School of the Arts.

Click here to read more



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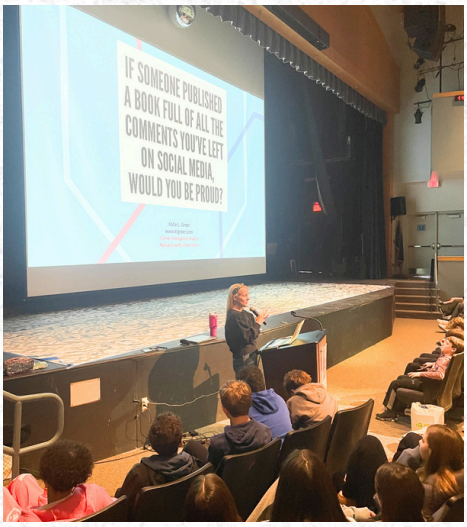
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SOCIAL MEDIA SAFETY IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Katie Greer, a former staffer in the Massachusetts State Attorney's Office and a Massachusetts State Police Intelligence Analyst, spoke to parents and students to help them navigate the realm of social media so that everyone can enjoy its positives and avoid the pitfalls. She recently visited the district, speaking to parents and students to help everyone better manage how to use these tools.

Click here to read more



ON STAGE AT BBHS

BBHS Theater to present 'Pippin,' March 13-15

The show schedule is as follows:

Thursday, March 13th 7PM
Friday, March 14th 7PM
Saturday, March 15th 7PM

Online sales will begin at 9am on Saturday, March 8 and end two hours before the start of the show.

Visit CUR8.com or click on this link CUR8 for direct access to ticketing - search BLIND BROOK.

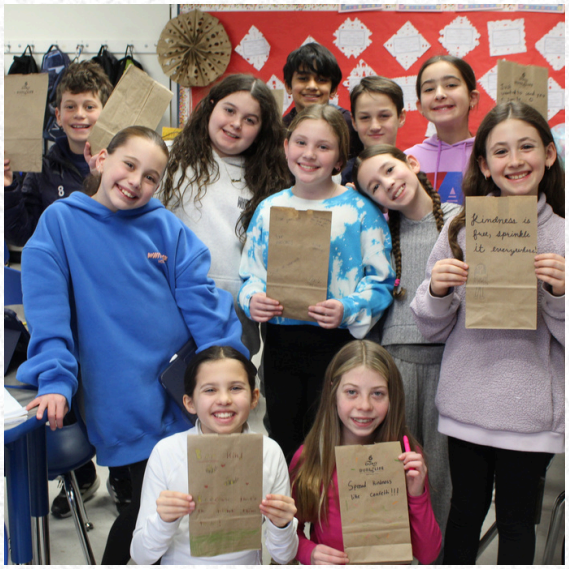
If available, tickets will also be sold the DAY OF the performances in the HS lobby one hour before showtime (cash or check ONLY). Tickets are priced at $18 for Orchestra Seats and $15 for Balcony Seats.

There is a nominal service fee per ticket purchased online.
This show is rated PG-13. If you wish to read more about the content before you purchase tickets, here is a link to the PG-13 RATING INFORMATION.

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PACKING UP INSPIRATION

BMPRSS STUDENT COUNCIL HELPS LIFTING UP WESTCHESTER

The BMPRSS Student Council had organized a school-wide collection of snack foods that will be donated to Lifting Up Westchester for their after-school program for students. Recently during one of their lunch periods more than 70 council members decorated small paper bags with positive messages and colorful designs before filling them with the donated snacks.

Click here to read more

STUDENTS TAKE LEAD IN MAKING BBMS A POSITIVE PLACE

The Blind Brook Middle School's newly formed Student Advisory Council is working with the Anti-Defamation League to become a No Place for Hate School, a program which helps create a more positive environment. The group has engaged in a number of activities to promote positivity in their school.

Click here to read more



CELEBRATING TELL AWARD WINNERS

The Technology in Education through Leadership and Learning (TELL) is an annual awards ceremony that allows us to celebrate and learn from educators and leaders from across the region who transform education. This year Blind Brook's very own Kathryn Gambino and Jenifer Vazquez are recipients! The ceremony will be held on March 6.



Kathryn Gambino



Jenifer Vazquez

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BMPRSS ENJOYS SCHOOL-WIDE PROJECT TO HELP THEIR WISHES COME TRUE



In the depths of winter, the courtyard at BMPRSS can look a bit dreary. The garden beds are barren, the seating is bare and often the weather is not conducive to spending time there.

The school, however, has found a creative way to infuse some color and hope to the space. Some of the trees in the courtyard are now festooned with colorful ribbons. Each one represents a wish from a student in each grade.

Click here to read more



ROBOTICS CLASS LEARNS HOW ROBOTS ASSIST WITH JOINT SURGERY

Orthopedist Dr. Jason Hochfelder visited Blind Brook High School and spoke to a robotics class about "ROSA," a surgical robot that assists with joint replacements.

Click here to read more

CHESS CHAMPS!

BBMS students Cole N., Brandon W., Irene S., Grace M., and Madison W., along with some students from BMPRSS, attended the National Scholastic Chess Foundation Bronxville Chess Tournament in January. Together, they brought home 3 trophies:

1st place team, Booster Section - Brandon, Cole, Irene
1st place, Booster Section - Brandon
4th place, Booster Section - Cole

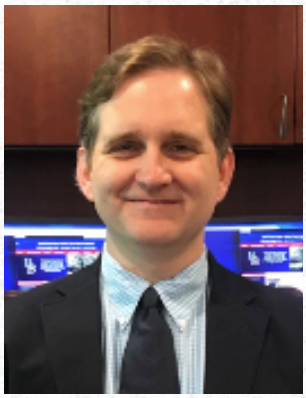


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A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



While we await the arrival of spring, it appears to me that our students and staff have found ways to learn and grow despite the cold weather.

There has been several activities that have benefitted our students. Our Middle School leaders are taking the initiative in becoming a No Place for Hate School, and I applaud their efforts to make their school a positive environment for all. Our elementary students have found a way to brighten up their learning space with a Wishing Tree, a school-wide project where students reflected and shared what they would like their world to be. And, our students at Blind Brook High School are flourishing not only in the classroom but through their clubs, athletics and extra curriculars — The Model UN recently had a very respectable showing at the Ivy League Model UN Conference held at Penn State, our Jellyfish Robotics team will be competing in the New York Excelsior Regionals tournament and several athletes reached milestones in their respective sports, along with our Boys Varsity team playing in the Finals of the Section 1, Class B Championship!

I want to extend my congratulations to Kathryn Gambino, an Instructional Technology Facilitator and Technology Staff Developer, Jenifer Vazquez. Both are recipients of the Lower Hudson Regional Information Center's Annual TELL Award, Technology in Education through Leadership and Learning. Awardees apply or are nominated by their peers for their innovative work. Both Ms. Gambino and Ms. Vazquez have worked tirelessly to help our students and staff learn and thrive with the new technology that is an important component of being a successful twenty-first century learner and leader.

There is still so much to learn and do this year, but I know June will be here before we know it! I encourage our students and staff to embrace all the opportunities they have before them, and to work hard.

Sincerely,
Colin Byrne
Superintendent of Schools

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BBHS MODEL U.N. COMES UP BIG AT UPENN CONFERENCE

Congratulations to the BBHS Model UN! Recently 36 BBHS students participated in the Ivy League Model UN Conference hosted by the University of Pennsylvania.

After weeks of research and preparation, they spent four days collaborating with students from over 100 schools. They represented BBHS in the best way!





Special shout-out to the following award winners:

Honorable Mention:
Noah Dweck
Chase Kraut
Evan Maniscalco
Jake Messafi

Verbal Commendation:
Ashley Brookman
Lily Cullagh
Daniela Dluzhevskiy
Danielle Elkowitz
Trevor Feist
Sara Levine
Dora Lopes
Rory Mayer
Richa Munjal
Jackie Rosen
Mallory Schwartz
Lenna Zacharoulis



THE JELLYFISH ARE MOVING ON TO REGIONALS!

During the Peekskill Qualifier tournament, the BBHS Jellyfish won three out of five rounds with their robot, Lovelace, and also placed first for the Innovate Award!

Their success qualifies them for the New York Excelsior Regionals tournament, which will be held in March in Utica, New York.

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BMPRSS BAND DIRECTOR LEADS CONCERT, TAKES FINAL BOW

The BMPRSS 5th Grade Band presented their Winter Concert just before the holiday break. The band performed three songs, "Christmas Proclamation," "The Nutcracker March," and "Celebrating Chanukah."

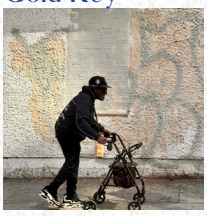
The performance was bittersweet as it was Band Director Katherine Sireno's final winter concert as she is retiring.

Click here to read more





Gold Key





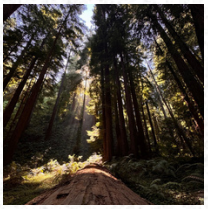




Silver Key

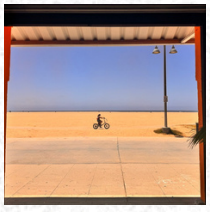


Honourable Mentions









SCHOLASTIC ART AWARD RECIPIENT: CHARLIE SINDELL

BBHS' Charlie Sindell is the recipient of several 2025 Scholastic Arts and Writing Awards! He received four Gold Key awards, 1 Silver Key and 4 Honorable Mentions.

The Gold Key award winning photos will move on to Nationals and that decision comes out in late March.

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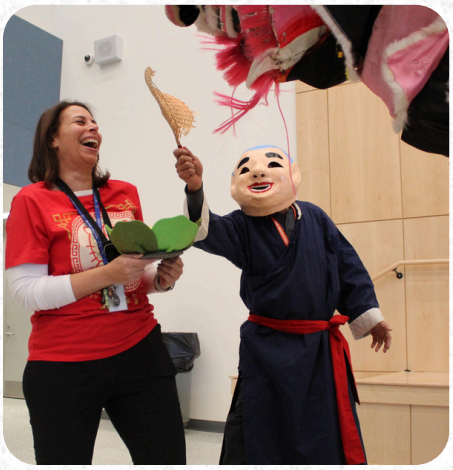
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A PEEK AT BLIND BROOK HAPPENINGS!







Students at BMPRSS were treated to a Lion Dance as part of a Lunar New Year celebration.













Blind Brook High School Band & Choir presented their Winter Concert "Arctic Ascent," led by Band Director Brian Lotze and Choir Director Jessica Cerasoli. The night included great performances by the Chamber Ensemble, Jazz Ensemble, BBHS Choir, Concert Band and Wind Ensemble.

ATHLETICS CORNER

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BOYS VARSITY BASKETBALL MOVES ON TO FINALS

The BBHS Boys Varsity Basketball team are headed to the Section 1, Class B FINALS! They beat Briarcliff 65-49 to advance. The team will take on Woodlands on March 9, 7:30 p.m. at the County Center!









Congratulations Nico, Noah and Tyler!



Congratulations to our Girls Varsity Basketball team on a great season!

They played their hearts out but their season ended with a 63-58 loss in the Section 1, Class B Semifinals on Sunday, March 2. We're looking forward to seeing what you do you next year!



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SENIOR ATHLETES SIGN LETTERS OF INTENT

With a quick swipe of the pen seniors Luka Cuk and Fernanda Julian signed their letters of intent. Luka will be heading to Dickinson and will play soccer, while Fernanda is on her way to the volleyball court at Bard.

Click here to read more

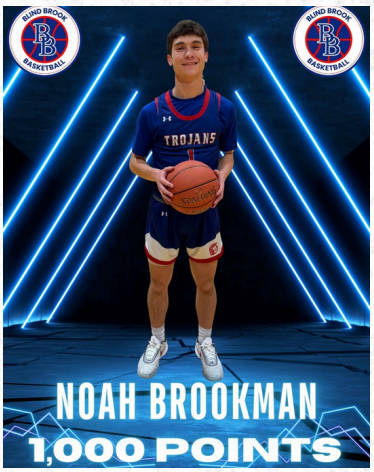


CONGRATULATIONS COACH CARLONE!



Coach Carlone has been named the New York Volleyball Association Coach of the Year for Section 1 Girls Volleyball!

This season Varsity Boys Basketball player Noah Brookman scored his 1000th point!





Congratulations to Coach Aguilar Boys Varsity Basketball Coach, who earned his 200th win this season!



Congratulations to BBHS Girls Varsity Basketball Player Kendall Konigsberg,
this season she scored her 1,000th career point!



The Titans secured their second League Championship, with the help of BBHS Senior Captain and Goalie CJ Stumpf!

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UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH 12, SEID WEBINAR, 7 P.M.

MARCH 13-15 BBHS SPRING MUSICAL, PIPPIN

MARCH 17-31, BMPRSS,4TH GRADE CIRCUS WEEK

MARCH 22, COMPREHENSIVE BUDGET MEETING, BBHS/MS LIBRARY, 8:30 A.M.

APRIL 1, BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING, 7:30 P.M., BBHS/MS LIBRARY

Latin and Italian students at BBHS recently celebrated the yearly Saturnalia Festival, an ancient Roman festival, celebrated with good food!







FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT OUR WEBSITE, WWW.BLINDBROOK.ORG
BLIND BROOK-RYE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
390 NORTH RIDGE ST.
RYE BROOK, NY, 10573
914.937.3600

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