

### Para traducir a otro idioma...

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### To translate into another language...

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## Superintendent's Message

### Dear Bound Brook School Community,

Our school district is at a pivotal moment – we are creating a new strategic plan that will carry us forward on a purposeful path for the next five years. I invite each of you *personally* to play a role in shaping that path.

At the first two Strategic Planning community sessions in February, the energy and excitement in the room was palpable. Community and school leaders, parents and non-parents, teachers and staff, and students came together to discuss the strengths and needs of the district. Their input inspired me and reminded me of why I show up every day for our students and community.



[Please join us](#) for the final session on Monday, March 11 at 6 p.m. in the Bound Brook High School cafeteria. The final session, facilitated by the New Jersey School Boards Association, will guide us toward a shared vision for the district going forward.

Thank you for helping the district set goals that will support our current and future students as they chart their own academic and life paths!

Sincerely,

Alvin L. Freeman, Ed.D.

*Superintendent of Schools*

**STRATEGIC  
PLANNING**

**2024**

***Join us in the final planning session!***

**11 MAR**

6 P.M. in the Bound Brook High  
School cafeteria



## CMS students “bee-come” top spellers in front of peers and teachers

How fast can you spell “incandescent” with zero errors? The Bound Brook School District celebrates three students who shined their talents at the recent Spelling Bee competition at Community Middle School. Read more about these extraordinary spellers:





### **Farida B.**

On the way toward earning first place, seventh-grader Farida used several methods to help her prepare, including writing words repeatedly to memorize the spelling and using the app, Wordclub, to help her recite words and with pronunciations.

As the winner of the CMS Spelling Bee, Farida will move onto the County Bee next month, where she plans to use similar methods to prepare. If she wins, she'll be entered to the Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington, D.C.



### **Stephanie R.**

Stephanie, an 8th grade honors student, achieved an astounding runner up place in the CMS Spelling Bee. She credits her twin sister and CMS English Language Arts Teacher, Mr. Crowley, who both played a large role in helping her prepare.

"It was a nerve-wracking moment for me when I was on stage in front of my peers, but I slowly loosened up as we went through more words," she said. "It was my time to show them what I can do."



### **Victoria R.**

Victoria, an 8th grader at CMS, landed as the second runner up of the event and lauded the generous support she had before and during the competition.

"I really want to thank the multiple teachers who motivated and supported me leading up to the competition as well, such as Mr. Sanders, Mr. Leh, Mrs. Barrows and Mr. Heiser," said Victoria. "They were all so helpful throughout the process."

**Read more about the CMS winners!**

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## **Smalley students "bee-come" wordsmiths at Spelling Bee event**



### **Angeline P.**

First-place winner, sixth-grader Angeline thanks her mother for helping her prepare. Despite the nerves, she landed the top spot by spelling "incandescent" correctly on the first try!

As the Champion at Smalley, Angeline hopes to continue her winning streak in the County Bee. If she wins the County Bee, she will be entered to the Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington, D.C.



### **Frankie C.**

Fifth-grader Frankie earned his place as the runner-up of the competition with cool stride and pride. While admitting to a few nerves, he was determined to do his best. Frankie's award is now proudly framed and displayed inside his home, thanks to his grandmother.



### **Carsen D.**

Fourth-grader Carsen celebrated his second runner-up recognition with his classmates, who all watched the competition virtually and cheered for him once he returned to the classroom! Outside of classwork, Carsen is involved in extracurricular activities at Smalley like the Art Club and Gardening Club.

**Read about the top spellers at Smalley!**

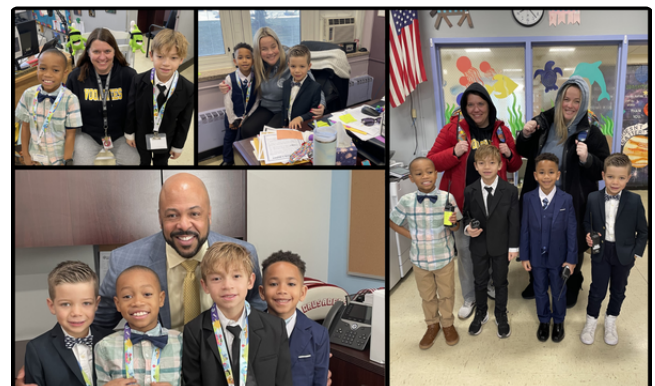
## **More #BoundToAstound Stories...**



### **Preschool & Kindergarten Registration Information Meeting**

**Feb. 29 5-5:30 p.m. at LaMonte Gym**

Please join us to learn more about Bound Brook School District's preschool and kindergarten programs and how to [register](#) your child.



### **New Principals and Counselors at Lafayette**

Check out Lafayette's new principals and counselors: Principal Mason (Grade 1), Principal Aldo (Grade 2), Counselor Thiago (Grade 2), and Counselor Clifford (Grade 1).

Online registration begins March 4. The high-quality preschool program is available for three-year-olds and four-year-olds.

Learn more: [Bound-Brook Pre-and-K-Enrollment Flyer \(bbrook.org\)](https://bbrook.org)

Lafayette recently had a contest where students could share why they wanted to be principal or counselor for the day. Chosen by a committee, the four students dressed to impress and played their roles perfectly during the 100th Day Spirit Week and on Career Day. Ms. Kinney and Ms. Kehayas joined the fun by becoming students for the day, too!

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## Celebrating Black History Month

Across the school district, staff are incorporating Black History into enriching lessons and projects. Students at all levels got creative to learn about influences and challenges throughout history.

- **Lafayette** students recognized contributions of different historical African American figures during the morning announcements.
- **Smalley** students researched influential Black scientists and inventors and watched the movie *Hidden Figures*.
- **BBHS** students celebrated with a door decorating contest and an exciting performance celebrating African culture by Zuzu Acrobats.



English Language Arts classes at **CMS** read the book *We Beat the Streets* and discussed overcoming obstacles and hardships.



**LaMonte** students sang songs about acceptance while learning about different music genres influenced by Black culture.



**CMS Knightly News** produced segments about key historical figures and events in daily segments throughout Black History Month.

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# #BoundToAstound

[bbrook.org](http://bbrook.org) (732) 356-2500

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Have a #BoundToAstound day!

