



BRIDGEHAMPTON SCHOOL

2013 SPRING NEWSLETTER

Bridgehampton Bees Claim Suffolk County Class C-D Titles

In early March, Boys Varsity Basketball capped off one of their best seasons in recent memory. With just a 7-player roster and a starting 5 who rarely rested, the defending Suffolk County Class D Champions of 2012 pulled off an 8-6 season in league play, and clinched the D title for a second straight year, defeating Shelter Island, 53-40. In short order, the boys went on to take Class C-D with a playoff win against Stony Brook, 54-42.

Though the Bees lost to Babylon in the B-C-D playoff,



Bridgehampton's graduating star, Jason Hopson, made 1st Team All State

they went on to defeat Coleman Catholic, 71-55, in the Class D Regional Semifinal at Center Moriches, and hopes were high they would make it to the Final Four for the first time in years. That had been Coach Carl Johnson's goal for the season: ride last year's momentum and make it to the States. But the Bees fell just short of that shot in the Class D Regional Final at New Rochelle, with a heartbreaking, last-minute 2-point loss to Martin Luther King of Westchester County, 44-42.

"The year got off to a bit of a rocky start," Coach Johnson said, "with some injuries and other setbacks. We struggled in the beginning, but through it all, I thought the players showed true character, worked really hard and didn't give up. Then we had a tremendous run at the end of the season and throughout the playoffs."

Senior star and team co-captain Jason Hopson, who aver-



(Standing) Adit Nugraha, Anajae Lamb, Jerome Walker, Tylik Furman, Josh Lamison; (sitting) Jason Hopson, Devin Brevard

aged nearly 20 points a game, said, "It was sad it ended that way, but it was still a great season, and the best season for me in all my years playing for Bridgehampton." He extended special thanks to Coach Johnson and Assistant Coach Zucker "for being there and keeping us together for the rough times and the good times." Jason finished his last year with a truly impressive list of honors: as a senior, he made 1st Team All State—one of the top 5 players in New York State Class D—as well as All League, All Conference, All County and Player of the Year League 8. Freshmen standouts Josh Lamison and Tylik Furman, who each averaged about 12

points per game, also made All League, and co-captain Anajae Lamb made All Academic.

Big shout outs also to Jerome Walker and Devin Brevard, who, along with Anajae, will be next season's seniors with viable playing experience, to this year's senior Adit Nugraha, and to scorekeeper Joshua Hostetter.

And let's not forget our Junior High Boys Basketball team, honored for outstanding sportsmanship this season, as selected by opposing teams in Section XI. Congratulations to Coach David Holmes, Ameer Brunson, Justin LaPointe, Kevin Feliciano, Isaiah Aquí, Michael Smith and Juan Yanez.

Join Us for Relay for Life of the South Fork, May 31 – June 1

"Relay for Life is a celebration of survivorship – an occasion to express hope and our shared goal to end a disease that threatens the lives of so many people we love."

Bridgehampton School will host the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life of the South Fork from **6 PM Friday, May 31 to 6 AM Saturday, June 1**. In this overnight, family-friendly community fundraising walk, teams camp out around a track, with members taking turns walking laps. Food, games and activities provide entertainment and build camaraderie. Events include a Survivor's Lap, a Fight Back Ceremony, and a Luminaria Ceremony in which candles are lit inside personalized bags and placed around the track as glowing tributes to those who've been affected by cancer. Relay events also recognize and celebrate caregivers, who give time, love and support to their friends, family, neighbors and coworkers facing cancer. To find out more about how you can join a team or support an existing one, visit the school website or www.relayforlife.org/southforkny.



From the Desk of the Superintendent

DR. LOIS R. FAVRE

Difficult times make for difficult decisions. Each November, when we are barely into the school year, district central office staff, together with the building principal, begin crunching numbers for the next budget season. In doing so it always feels to me that we are wishing away the current school year—frustrating at best. We do this so we can effectively deliver to the Board of Education a rollover budget, based on things just as they are, and begin to recommend changes, so the Board can bring to the community a budget they can support, only six months later.



This year the crunch of the 2% tax levy limitations was felt. We watched as area districts predicted layoffs and loss of programs, and we knew we would have to reduce staffing to get where we needed to be. In our first review of the numbers it appeared likely we would need to reduce our professional staff by three positions.

We worked numbers with regard to a retirement incentive and offered it to the administrative team, to the teaching team and to our non-certified staff. We planned to combine a clerical position, in order to put support in the school building with mandates on attendance and data. We secured one retirement from the BTA, and an offer to consider the retirement incentive by the Principal, if he were to resign (permitting him to keep working). The Board considered the savings and approved the retirement and the resignation based on recommendations at the Community Meeting indicating that we reduce the administrative team. With the resignation of the principal and the teacher retirement, the Board could answer the call of the community and have the budget come within the 2% tax levy limitations – all without layoffs or loss of programs.

Difficult times make for difficult decisions. Teachers will work to assure that

program-
ing remains constant for students, even with the loss of one teacher, and I will work to assure that the duties of the principal are handled along with the duties of the superintendent. Working as the Superintendent/Principal will no doubt have its challenges, but if it means keeping our current teaching staff and programs, I'm certainly game. The team will need to continue to become stronger – but this is and always has been a winning team – and, despite the loss of its current leader, will continue to work to assure the best for our students. We wish Dr. Pryor the best as he moves onward and upward in his educational career. We thank him for his years of service in promoting and improving the educational program here. We will miss his wit and wisdom, but know that he has left us better off than when he arrived. We will continue to work to do the same!

The New York State Department of Education has created a new website, Engage NY, to provide parents, teachers and administrators with tutorials and information regarding the move to the new Common Core Standards and the new state assessments. There is an enormous amount of information on the site that familiarizes stakeholders with the process, timing and changes that are coming in teaching, learning and assessment. Visit the



www.engageny.org/parent-and-family-resources#toolkit

site to keep up with the changes. You can hear Commissioner King explain the timeline, see a "Backpack Guide to the Common Core," get ideas for helping your child learn, and view videos that explain this new revolution in education.



Seniors in Florida this month, about to board the Hollywood Rip Ride Rockit roller coaster at Universal Studios

Find us on Facebook



Bridgehampton UFSD has a new Facebook Presence, where we highlight upcoming events and celebrate and keep everyone informed of all that happens here at school. Please become a part of the Bridgehampton Facebook Family and share our page with alumni, family, friends and neighbors. Let's celebrate our wonderful school community!

IT'S BUDGET VOTE AND ELECTION TIME: MARK YOUR CALENDARS

May 14, 2013: Meet the Candidates at 6 PM in the Gym

Budget Hearing at 7 PM followed by the Board of Education Workshop Meeting

May 21, 2013: Budget Vote and Election from 2 PM – 8 PM in the Gym

Watch for the Budget Newsletter and Six Day Notice coming soon to a mailbox near you!

Principal's Message

by Dr. John Pryor



I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for eight years of collaboration as we have worked to make the Bridgehampton School a wonderful place to receive a quality education. During those eight years, we started Advanced Placement courses, built a greenhouse, structured an outstanding music and arts department, increased test scores and improved our reputation in the educational community. We would not have been so successful if we had not worked in harmony, with a shared focus and a commitment to excellence.

As many of you already know, I will resign as the Principal of the Bridgehampton UFSD at the end of June. My decision to leave Bridgehampton is solely my own personal decision. The students, staff and teachers of Bridgehampton are outstanding, and any principal would be delighted to have had the opportunity to work with them.

Over the years, I have received hundreds of compliments regarding the behavior of our students—whether during field trips, assembly programs, or school events. On many, many occasions, people went out of their way to tell me how polite, respectful and cheerful our students are. Teachers, staff, parents and all the Bridgehampton community should be as proud of them as I am. They are this way because they come from good homes and are instructed by polite, respectful and cheerful teachers and staff members.

I appreciate your allowing me to be part of your lives, and I wish you all the best in the future with much love, happiness and success.



The New Doctors Are IN

Two very impressive career and education milestones were reached this year when Principal Pryor and ESL teacher Carrie McDermott finished their dissertations at St. John's University and became Doctors of Education, with prestigious Ed.D.s now trailing their names. Dr. Pryor's dissertation, *Rethinking New York State School District Organizations*, explains how districts, working with outdated models, have sacrificed efficiency for independence, and calls for looking at present unsustainable organizations through a new lens. Dr. McDermott's *A Case Study of Long Island Schools* focuses on what exactly a 21st-century school is and what it should look like. Is it coincidence or kismet that the two will



graduate together on May 14th? Hearty congrats, and, in the words of one of our other favorite doctors, "Oh, the places you'll go!"



Bridgehampton Foundation Secures a Town Grant for ASPIRE

In an effort to provide enrichment opportunities and more instructional time for our students, the Bridgehampton School began the After School Program for Inquiry, Research and Enrichment, better known as ASPIRE. It runs throughout the school year from 2:45 – 4:30 PM, providing a homework haven as well as opportunities for critical thinking, hands-on learning, art, and outdoor fun with a purpose. In an effort to support ASPIRE, members of the Bridgehampton Foundation wrote a proposal for a Town of Southampton grant and were awarded \$1000 for activities, materials and supplies for the program. Special thanks to the Bridgehampton Educational Foundation for their ongoing support.

BRIDGEHAMPTON'S NIGHT ON BROADWAY!

On April 11 and 12, the Bridgehampton School and community were treated to two very special evening performances of *A Night on Broadway*, a musical revue featuring songs from *Annie Get Your Gun*, *Cats*, *A Chorus Line*, *Wicked*, *The Music Man*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, and *Rent*. Set on the gym stage, the show, directed by chorus teacher Lindsey Sanchez, featured the singing and acting talents of juniors India Hemby and Jennah Hochstedler, and 9th-graders Elizabeth Hochstedler and Laura Uribe. Laura also lent her ballet and choreography



The extraordinary cast and crew, from left: Karen Hochstedler, Elizabeth Hochstedler, Laura Uribe, Jennah Hochstedler, India Hemby and Lindsey Sanchez

talents to the production, while Musical Director Karen Hochstedler played piano for all the numbers. Bridgehampton's inau-

gural musical theater production was a remarkable success, garnering raves from audiences and generous, glowing spreads in the

Sag Harbor Express and *The Southampton Press*. A DVD of the show is available for purchase; please contact Lindsey Sanchez.

Focus on Bridgehampton Artists

Bridgehampton is the small school that can, and, with high per capita talent, this is evident in the Arts. Nurturing and expert guidance are essential for this type of success, and Robin Gianis single-handedly runs the Art Department as the Art teacher for grades K through 12. Under her guidance, students create a variety of quality projects each year and regularly showcase their work. Beyond the extensive lobby displays erected in tandem with the winter and spring music concerts each year, our student art travels to an impressive and increasing number of East End



Robin Gianis at this year's Student Exhibition at the Parrish Art Museum

venues, including the Parrish Museum, the Celadon Gallery in Water Mill, Guild Hall Museum and the LongHouse Reserve in East Hampton. This February, Bridgehampton School artists acquired a national audience. Photographs of their handcraft-

ed relief tiles created in conjunction with a field trip to the Longhouse Reserve, appeared in Robin's article "Tile Inspirations" in *Arts & Activities*, "the nation's leading art education magazine." In the magazine's generous spread, Robin outlines



Students' circle designs surround a ceramic mask created by sophomore Jada Pinckney.

the step-by-step process by which she incorporates the delicate and patient craft of tile-making into the high-school visual-arts curriculum and relates it to the experience of visiting the LongHouse. For more, visit www.artsandactivities.com.

Out on the Town



On April 13th, Bridgehampton faculty, students and families were among the almost 2,000 people crowding West Water Street in Sag Harbor for the annual **Katy's Courage 5K**. The event, which honors the memory of Katy Stewart, beloved niece of Spanish teacher Nancy Bagshaw (pictured with Christian and Claudio Figueroa), raised money for the Katy Stewart Scholarship Fund for local students.



In April, Bridgehampton high schoolers journeyed to **Westhampton Beach Performing Arts Center** for Shakespeare & Company of Massachusetts' wildly entertaining rendition of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. After the show, students met the talented, athletic young cast, gathering on the set for a magical-woodland photo op.

Students Celebrate Reading, Writing and Authors



Left to right: Rosemary Cline, Will Chandler, Paulina Bravo, Autumn Street, Bing Johnson, Sarah Azzara. Kneeling: Patricia Figueroa, Jayln Hopson, Jesus Reyes

Bridgehampton seventh graders wrote one-act plays with working artists Will Chandler and Sarah Azzara from Stony Brook's **Young American Writers Program**. Autumn Street, Paulina Bravo, and Bing Johnson performed Autumn's "Time for a Change" at Avram Theatre in Southampton on April 12th and 13th. Rosemary Cline directed with the assistance of Patricia Figueroa, and Jesus Reyes and Jayln Hopson contributed as stage crew. Kudos to all the 7th Graders, including Justine LaPointe, Montse Udave and Talon Indilla, whose comic play "Anger and No Love" was runner-up.



Autumn Street and Paulina Bravo take to the Avram stage



On April 27th, 7th and 9th graders joined a Hampton Library trip to St. Joseph's College in Patchogue for the 3rd annual **Authors Unlimited**, an exciting all-day literary event that gives hundreds of Long Island teens the opportunity meet a dozen of today's most popular young adult authors. Stopping before the hawk mascot were, from left: Dylan Breault, Laura Uribe, Harriet DeGroot, Juan Yanez, English teacher Tom House, Bing Johnson, Jalyn Hopson and Patricia Figueroa.



On the evening of Friday, April 5th, AIS teacher Jessica Rodgers and Library Media Specialist David Holmes hosted a **Read-A-Thon** in the gym, where students from K-5, some in pajamas, settled in to enjoy fiction and nonfiction stories, with a school-wide goal of reading 100 books. Speech and language pathologist Aleaze Hodgins joined in as chaperone.



Spring Bees in 6th, 7th and 9th grade filmed the first of a series of Bridgehampton productions at **LTV Studios** in Wainscott. Coming soon on your LTV and SeaTV channels are "Beeswax Poetic," in which students read and discuss favorite poems in celebration of National Poetry Month, and "A Tribute to Marijane Meaker," showcasing 5 of our 9th graders as they read from and discuss Marijane's beloved novel, *Gentlehands*, written under the name M.E. Kerr. In the photo taken by Kyril Bromley for *The East Hampton Press* are: (standing) Isaiah Aqui, English teacher Tom House, Matthew Hostetter; (seated) author Vincent Lardo, Laura Uribe, special guest Marijane Meaker, Harriet DeGroot, author Rob Stuart and Lizzy Hochstedler.



Nina Merkert's first-graders wrote original fiction, which they prepared in bound, beautifully illustrated editions for an afternoon **Authors' Tea** on May 2. The charming young writers sat behind their desks, arranged in a large open square, as students, faculty, administration and staff, and, in some cases, members of their own families, poured into the classroom, reading and signing their books—all while partaking in a delectable spread of cookies and beverages.

Bridgehampton School's Mission and Belief Statements and Profile of a Graduate

Mission Statement:

It is the mission of the Bridgehampton School to inspire lifelong intellectual curiosity and respectful individual expression by reaching beyond our school community and teaching all students the essential skills to actively participate in the global community and to flourish in the 21st Century.

Belief Statement:

We believe that our children will shape the future by expressing their intelligence, curiosity, compassion, leadership and invention by reaching beyond our small school community and working to their fullest potential to preserve and improve our world.

Profile of the Bridgehampton School Graduate:

The Bridgehampton graduate will be a reflective, compassionate and motivated individual who combines academic prowess and social tolerance in order to become a successful member of society. The following attributes shall be indicative of the Bridgehampton graduate:

- An effective communicator in written and oral expression;
- An analytic problem solver – resourceful and efficient when addressing local and global issues;
- A technologically- advanced individual, able to meet the challenges of 21st century society;
- An individual who will face life's challenges responsibly;
- An intrinsically-motivated citizen who inspires others to work for the greater good;
- An individual who effectively uses time management and organizational skills;
- A critical thinker who blends life experiences with intellectual scholarship;
- A creative thinker who welcomes opportunities to engage their curiosity of the arts, sciences and humanities;
- A respectful and willing individual who embraces cultural diversity; and,
- An individual who actively pursues foreign languages to effectively and diplomatically communicate the exchange of ideas in our global environment.

Congratulations, Seniors, on Your College Acceptances!

Samantha Broadmeadow

New England Institute of Technology*

Vanesa Cruz

Adelphi University
Ithaca College*
Mitchell College
SUNY Brockport
SUNY Plattsburg

Christian Figueroa

Farmingdale State College
New York Institute of Technology
SUNY Fredonia 3+3 program
with RIT*
SUNY New Paltz
SUNYIT
University at Buffalo

Alvaro Garcia

Rutgers University Professional Golf Turf
Management School*

Jacob Hostetter

New England Institute of Technology*

Joshua Hostetter

Drew University
Manhattanville College*
Nazareth College
St. John Fisher College
SUNY Plattsburgh
Wittenberg University

Brian Minchala

SUNY Cobleskill
SUNY Delhi
Suffolk Community College

**planning to attend, as of May 1*

Adit Nugraha (Valedictorian)

SUNY Alfred
SUNY Fredonia 3+2 program
with Columbia University*

Bryzeida Perez (Salutatorian)

New York Institute of Technology*
SUNY Alfred
SUNY Delhi

Angelica Uribe

Drexel University
Loyola University
Susquehanna University*

Samuel Vallejo

SUNY Morrisville
Buffalo State College

Vanesa Cruz Sponsored by Soledad O'Brien and Brad Raymond Foundation



Special kudos to senior **Vanesa Cruz**, 1 of 12 candidates nationwide to receive the remarkable opportunity of **sponsorship from the Soledad O'Brien and Brad Raymond Foundation**. "A bridge between obstacles and opportunity," the foundation gives exceptional, hard-working young women of color

"the resources to overcome barriers and reach their highest potential." Vanesa is part of the Scholars Institute, which provides tuition assistance, mentoring, internship and life skills enrichment—everything it takes to succeed. "I consider myself very lucky," Vanesa said. "It's like I won the lottery." The scholarship enables her to

attend her first choice of schools, Ithaca College, where she plans to study speech and language pathology. "Knowing I'll be able to continue my education with the support I need is a dream come true." (For more information about Vanesa and the foundation, visit www.obrienraymondfoundation.com.)

2013 SCOPE AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE

On March 18, 2013 at an awards dinner at Villa Lombardy in Holbrook, 5 Bridgehampton staff, faculty and community members were among 110 nominees from 28 Nassau and Suffolk county school districts to receive Awards for Excellence in service to our school from SCOPE Education Services. Congratulations to our *Shining Stars!*

Support Staff

Ninfa Boyd serves the Bridgehampton school district as a teacher's aide, a volunteer PTO president, and a senior class advisor, often fundraising and supporting our students at events. A bilingual, she works predominantly with our ESL students, and serves as translator for notices that go home, as well as for phone calls and meetings. Ninfa knows our families well through her interactions as a liaison with our Spanish-speaking families, and is often the advocate assisting staff with cultural understandings, and all around communication with our parents and guardians. She works tirelessly to assure relevant programming for parents and students here at Bridgehampton, and assures that our parents understand the importance of being a part of the school community, so vital for our students' success. Ninfa's passionate dedication to our students and their families makes her a shining star in the Bridgehampton School' Community.



Teacher Service

Ken Giosi is a student advocate who appreciates the importance of designing pro-

grams that meet the needs of students who learn differently. He is a go-to person for our PBIS program, and for our students, parents, teachers and administrative team for all that is special education/special programming in our district. Ken goes above and beyond to always come to decision-making meetings with solutions rather than problems. He never complains about the extent of the workload in the Pupil Personnel Services office, and works diligently to assure that our students have the programming and supports they need. Ken's passion for students who learn differently and his dedication and commitment to excellence for our special education program make him a Bridgehampton shining star.



Administrator Service

Robert Hauser serves the Bridgehampton School District well as the School Business Official. In this difficult time of tax levy limitations and dwindling funding, Bob keeps a sense of humor and, most importantly, a focus on the students as budget decisions are made. He has reorganized our business office, and streamlined processes and procedures to assure efficiencies in the work force, as well as efficiencies in spending. He has continually taken on more responsibilities as the work force dwindles due to budget cuts, and manages to get it all done. Bob's respect for the value of public education for his own children helps him to keep students at the center



of all budget decisions and recommendations—for this he is a shining star at Bridgehampton.

School Board Service

Elizabeth Whelan Kotz has served the district well as a Board member and president, and is a parent and student advocate committed to ongoing improvement through a shared decision making model. As a Board member, she was instrumental and persistent in assuring that district staff members complete the process for Middle States Accreditation, which was accomplished through her leadership. She also worked tirelessly for improvements to guidance, improved programming for students, increased activities for students, and improved communications with families. Although Elizabeth chose to end her tenure on the Board recently, she remains a strong member of our Action Committee on Communication and continues to serve on our Audit Committee. She remains visible at all school activities and is a constant support to the district. Elizabeth's commitment and dedication to students makes her a shining star in Bridgehampton School District history.



Community Service

Jeff Mansfield, proud father of three—two Bridgehampton students and one on the way—has made a far-reaching impact in the few years he has been in our district. Jeff doesn't miss a school-related activity, and has become actively in-



involved in our Bridgehampton School Foundation, writing and securing a grant for funding of our after-school program. He was a major player on our Middle States Accreditation team, remains involved on our Facilities Action Committee, and is a member of the Budget Advisory Committee this season. He is an advocate for the district and works hard to promote a positive perception of our school within our community, trumpeting the wonderful things the district is trying to accomplish. Jeff shines as a student and school advocate. He supports the mission and belief system of the district, and shows that support through his gift of time and energy.

Bridgehampton Union Free School District

Central Administration

Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Lois R. Favre

School Principal

Dr. John L. Pryor

School Business Administrator

Mr. Robert Hauser, CPA

Director of RTI

Ms. Aleta Parker

District Clerk

Ms. Jeannine Stallings

Board of Education

President

Nicki Hemby

Vice President

Ronald White

Members

Gabriela Braia

Jo Ann Comfort

Douglas DeGroot

Lawrence LaPointe

Lillian Tyree-Johnson

Newsletter Staff

Tom House

Dr. Lois R. Favre



Bridgehampton Union Free School District

2685 Montauk Highway
PO Box 3021
Bridgehampton, New York 11932

NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
BRIDGEHAMPTON, NY 11932
PERMIT NO. 51

**Postal Customer
Bridgehampton, NY 11932**

SPRING SPORTS 2013

Bees participate on seven spring sports teams this year at Sag Harbor and East Hampton Schools.

7&8 GIRLS SOFTBALL

Cecilia Calieca
Madi Koral
Sarah Negrete
Montse Udave

VARSITY BOYS LACROSSE

Anajae Lamb
Michael Smith
Jerome Walker

7&8 BASEBALL

Kevin Feliciano

JUNIOR VARSITY GIRLS LACROSSE

India Hemby
Jennah Hochstedler
Hayley Lund

7&8 GIRLS LACROSSE

Patricia Figueroa

VARSITY BOYS TRACK

Christian Figueroa
Claudio Figueroa

7&8 GIRLS TRACK

Autumn Street

Special congratulations to our student athletes who earned awards for their participation and excellence in winter sports. Basketball: Jason Hopson 1st Team All State/All League/All Conference/All County/ Player of the Year League 8, Tylik Furman All League, Joshua Lamison All League, and Anajae Lamb All Academic. Swimming: Robert Rewinski All League 400 Freestyle Relay. The 7th and 8th grade boys' basketball team placed first in their league for Sportsmanship.



8th-grader Giselle Carmona took 1st place in school-wide Bee Logo Contest

SAVE THE DATE!
HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION CEREMONY
Sunday, June 23rd at 4 PM