



BRIDGEHAMPTON SCHOOL

2012 WINTER NEWSLETTER

ASPIRE: Bridgehampton's New After-School Program

This September, students in grades kindergarten through six were invited to enroll in a new after-school enrichment program introduced by Superintendent Dr. Lois Favre. The program, called ASPIRE (After School Program for Inquiry Research and Enrichment), aims to reinforce and expand upon skills being developed in the classroom, as well as to provide in-depth experience in particular subjects. Each quarter, students are introduced to a new and challenging theme.

The first unit of the year was *Insects*, affectionately known as bugs. For ten weeks, students identified, classified, drew, captured and wrote poetry about insects of all kinds. Math, science and language arts standards were reinforced during this session. Even the most skittish student found



Aleaze Hodgens makes Egyptian mummies with 1st, 2nd and 3rd graders.

a new respect for these six-legged tiny animals with exoskeletons.

The second theme of the year, *Around the World*, began in November with a voyage to Europe and Africa. Equipped with handmade passports, students set off on a plane to Europe, first stop England. After a tour of London and a

glimpse of the new royal couple, Will and Kate, students made delicious scones and peppermint tea for 4 o'clock High Tea. The second stop was Paris, France, where they indulged in patisserie and French culture. Rome was next on the itinerary, where they learned about gladiators and Italian justice in the Coli-

seum. Just before Holiday Recess, students travelled to Athens, Greece to participate in the Winter Olympic Games, and records were made and broken in jumping jacks, jump rope and sprinting races. In January, students set off to a new continent, Africa, where they went on safari in Kenya and explored the Pyramids in Egypt and the wonderful, natural sites of Victoria Falls, South Africa and Madagascar.

The current session carries on with *Around the Rest of the World*. Asia, Australia, Antarctica, and South America will be explored before we return home to North America and the United States. In the global society we live in, it is truly important for our students to know about other countries, cultures and customs. In this program, the students are having fun becoming international citizens.



Lindsey Sanchez with 4th, 5th and 6th-grade ASPIRE students. Right, Judiann Carmack-Fayyaz and assistant Jurisha Ross with the kindergarteners.

From the Desk of the Superintendent

DR. LOIS R. FAVRE

February marks the end of the second semester and the halfway point to our school year. Spring is only a promise, and the winter doldrums often set in. Excitement, however, is brewing here at Bridgehampton. BULA – senior Ben McLaughlin’s project that will bring a computer lab to Fiji – will be on its way in a few short weeks. The opportunities this project will bring to Bridgehampton are promising, and we look forward to eventual communication with Fiji students on a variety of topics.

The Killer Bees basketball team continues to bring passion and sportsmanship to every game and make us proud. Under the direction of Coach Carl Johnson, they have come together as a cohesive unit, and the cheerleaders, under the direction of Latisha Ellis, always energize the crowd!

Bridgehampton continues its work with Michelle Obama’s *Chefs Move to Schools* initiative with Bryan Futerman of Foody’s Restaurant in Water Mill. Aligning with the



recommendations from the initiative, we continue our Wellness Committee, have made the school a healthy workplace, incorporate good nutrition and physical education into the school day, and have planted a garden that provides healthy, local options for our cafeteria. This spring we will join the HealthierUS School Challenge, a commitment we make to health and wellness in our school (<http://teamnutrition.usda.gov/team.html>). In April we will continue our tradition of an annual Health and Wellness Fair, and we hope you will watch for more information and consider joining us.

February also finds us in the middle of the most difficult budget season school districts have seen in many years. With a 2% limit on the tax levy, districts throughout the state are scrambling to keep programs, cut costs, and consolidate services and programs. Bridgehampton is doing the same and working to assure that once again the Bridgehampton School Board delivers to the public a sound budget, built on public trust

through transparency.

In the next few weeks, we will continue to provide information to the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) of Bridgehampton, host a Town Hall meeting on February 8th on the budget and what the 2% Tax Cap is all about, hold a Board of Education meeting on February 29th on budget issues and work closely with our Bridgehampton Teachers Association (BTA) and our Civil Service Employees Association (CSEA) to assure that all stakeholders remain informed of the budget process.

We will host a visit from the Middle States Accreditation team in March. Accreditation will be a true testament to the ongoing work on curriculum, facilities, and communication here at Bridgehampton by our remarkable staff. We look forward to announcing our success at this award in the next newsletter.

Remain hopeful for spring! It is on its way.

Out on the Town



In November, grades 7 through 9 attended Bay Street’s production of *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Harper Lee’s famous story of Depression-era racism and miscarriage of justice in the Deep South. This year’s installment of the remarkable Literature Live! series that brings classroom classics to life on the stage, the play was followed by a Q-and-A with actors and director, Murphy Davis. As a special treat, students posed for pictures on the set with the cast.



On one of several stops throughout town in December, The Caroling Group performed on the front lawn of The Hampton Library for the annual tree-lighting ceremony. Read more about the Music Department’s busy winter season in the centerfold spotlight.

Principal's Message

by John Pryor



"Sometimes the questions are complicated and the answers are simple." — Dr. Seuss

We often make things much more complicated than we have to. Often, there are simple solutions to our problems, and we try too hard to solve them. Hard work, honesty and strong moral character are basic qualities that can make our lives much less complicated. Try it out and see what happens.

PBIS ROCKS On!

Bridgehampton's Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) program gained momentum throughout the fall and continues full-steam this winter, empowering and rewarding students who continue to set the right example. Students "caught being good" have earned a wealth of ROCKS tickets from administrators, faculty and staff members, redeeming them for coveted prizes, special privileges and rewards.

The nationwide program, rolled out for K-6 students in the fall, began with the first two core value ROCKS themes of Safety and Kindness. December continued with Cooperation, January with Organization, and February takes on the fifth and final theme, Respect. Each

week, the seven-member PBIS team—Mr. Pryor, Lauren Sebor, Jeff Hand, Laura Keenan, Jessica Rogers, Ken Giosi and Jeff Neubauer—instructs students before school on behaviors and procedures relating to each theme, sitting down with each grade in what are known as hive huddles. Class leaders—those students currently holding the highest amount of ROCKS tickets—take on special leadership roles in the huddles.

Marie Hand's 6th Grade is the "winningest" class so far this year, boasting 3 MEGA recesses and two repeat Top Bees (students earning the most ROCKS tickets in the school each two-week period), four-time winner Montse Udave, and two-time winner Jayln Hopson. These "downstairs seniors" were recently honored with a visit from the principal and members of the PBIS team, who commended them for the positive examples they were setting for younger students. Shown a video of a recent morning in the gym, students saw how their excellent organization and team work—lining up their backpacks and sitting in a row—began to be emulated by the classes behind them. Ken Giosi and Jeff Neubauer underscored their position as role models, and Mr. Pryor pointed out the dramatic improvement in the gym in terms of organization, kindness



Marie Hand and Mr. Pryor at the 6th Grade PBIS Forum



Role models caught on video: 6th-graders setting a front-row example of organization



Mr. Pryor congratulates Top Bee Montse Udave

and respect. Mornings begin on a quieter, calmer note, and announcements can be clearly heard. In general, students have noticed less bullying and arguing—and have made fewer trips to the principal's office. Instead they see more supportive efforts to bring classmates on board and to motivate each other to do the right thing. Marie Hand said motivation to get tickets has spread to other areas: students were working better as a class,

were better organized in general, and seemed happier. In one of the most telling comments of the forum, a student said the program "makes me feel good about myself."

Congratulations to this year's other Top Bees—Jesse Garcia Soto, Nava Campbell and Melissa Villa—and to all the students in Jeff Hand, Michelle Scaramucci, Nina Merkert and Annette Rivera's winning classrooms.



Actresses Anika Hochstedler and Allison Koral with playwright Ciena Quinn (center) in the Avram Theatre lobby.



Seniors Shine On Stage At Avram Theatre

In a 7-week program this fall, students in 12th Grade English worked with theater professionals from Stony Brook University's Young American Writers Project (YAWP) to create original one-act plays. Cienna Quinn's

dramatic and poignant "Sisters," in which two estranged siblings are trying to come to terms with a life-threatening situation, was selected to be staged at the Avram Theatre on the Southampton campus. Remarkably performed by Anika

Hochstedler and Allison Koral, the play is viewable on YAWP's YouTube channel. Bridgehampton students in grades 9 through 12 attended the Friday matinee dress rehearsal performance on December 9th, and the official public performance

of the play took place on Saturday, December 10th. Congratulations to Ciena, Allison and Anika, and to all the 12th-grade playwrights who successfully completed a one-act play for the Young American Writers Project!



THE JOYCE MANIGO FEAST

Before the start of a bountiful Thanksgiving feast at the Bridgehampton Community House, students and staff gathered on the school lawn for a moment of silence around a magnolia tree, which has been planted in honor of Joyce Manigo, who sadly passed away in the spring of 2011. Joyce, a graduate of Bridgehampton School, served as the District Clerk for many years and was also the organizer of the annual feast, now renamed in her honor. Aleta Parker and Helen Smith organized a wonderful tribute to Joyce at the Community House with music, singing and readings by her family members. The tree and a bench gifted by the Board of Education will be placed in a student-designed memorial garden behind the middle school.



WE'VE GOT THAT HOLIDAY SPIRIT

Students, faculty, administration and members of the community celebrated the start of the holiday season at the Student Council-sponsored Annual Holiday Luncheon on Thursday, December 22nd. Parents and faculty donated delicious dishes for the much anticipated event. With the help of faculty advisor, John Reilly, Student Council members Devin Brevard, Anajae Lamb, Brian Pina and Jerome Walker organized a food drive at the school and worked with staff at the Bridgehampton National Bank to collect gifts from community members to give to local residents in need.



TUNEFUL CHEER AT BRIDGEHAMPTON

Winter is a very busy season for our Music Department, beginning with community caroling performances throughout December. This year, The Caroling Group brought their tuneful cheer to the Bridgehampton Nutrition Center, the Bridgehampton Post Office, the Bridgehampton National Bank, and the Hampton Library for their annual tree-lighting event. After two dazzling and well-attended Chorus, Band and Marimba Winter Concerts in the school gym, bees participated in the Hampton Music Educators Association (HMEA) Festival for middle and high school

students, and traveled to East Hampton in late January for a 7th Grade Marimba Ensemble Performance at the Guild Hall Student Arts Festival. Finally in early February, students took part in Suffolk County Music Educators Association (SCMEA) Day of Percussion at Sayville High School.

Bridgehampton musicians were especially well-represented this year at the HMEA Music Festival at Eastport-South Manor High School in mid-January. The festival includes performances in chorus, band, world music drumming and orchestra, and provides a wonderful learning experience for all attending. Bridgehampton middle

schoolers participating in world music drumming included 7th graders Ameer Brunson, Cecilia Calieca, Kevin Feliciano, Madi Koral, Sarahi Negrete and Tyler Stevens, and 8th graders Robert Aquí, Harriet DeGroot and Matthew Hostetter. Concert Band participants were 7th grader Nia Dawson on percussion, and 8th graders Elizabeth Hochstedler and Laura Uribe on clarinet. High schoolers, performing the following weekend in Concert Band, were Jennah Hochstedler on percussion, Hayley Lund on clarinet and India Hemby on trumpet.

Congratulations to India Hemby and Jennah Hochst-

edler, who were accepted to the East End Arts School Music Masters Fellowship, a first for Bridgehampton musicians and an honor to have been chosen from the many choral students who auditioned. This select choir, which will tour several venues on the East End, will give India and Jennah the enviable opportunity to perform with Grammy Award-winning singer and composer Lauren Kinhan, founding member of the vocal jazz group New York Voices. Performance dates to come . . .

Special thanks to Dave Elliott and Lindsey Sanchez for their dedication, hard work and talent in bringing beautiful winter music to Bridgehampton!



Learning Disabilities Worldwide Conference

Response to Intervention (RTI) was the theme of November's Superintendent's Day Conference. RTI is a New York State Education Department mandated program whose goal is to improve student performance and behavior through "a combination of high quality, culturally and linguistically responsive instruction, assessment, and evidence-based intervention." With a focus on both academic and behavioral components, the program's objectives are to provide all students with the best opportunity to learn, and to identify and address learning disabilities and behavioral issues that impede learning.

Organized around Learning Disabilities Worldwide's Annual Conference, our November conference featured keynote speaker, Jim Wright, with panelists Florence O'Connor, Harry Dean, Erin Ax, Susan Nozza, Mary Reynolds, Karen Russo, Phil Paterno and Micheline Malow conducting a series of interactive workshops and tutorials on best practices and implementation strategies for RTI. Bridgehampton's own PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports) team presented the behavioral supports portion of



the program and created an instructional video showing workshop members how RTI is working with great success at our school.

Highlights of the impressive workshops offered throughout the day included Literacy Strategies and Interventions presented by Karen Russo of St. Joseph's College, showcasing engaging instructional techniques that can be used to motivate struggling readers and writers in kindergarten through sixth grade. Micheline Malow of Manhattanville College ran a workshop on the need to encourage positive behavioral change through positive re-



inforcement and rewards, while Erin Ax discussed the importance of collecting and analyzing data so that it can be used effectively to directly enhance learning in the classroom. Other presenters spoke about the implementation of the RTI model on a

district-wide level, interdisciplinary approaches, and the need to share best practices. The day was a great success, arming our staff with new resources and inspiring all to try new approaches to enhance learning in the classroom.

Bridgehampton School's Mission And Belief Statements

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.

BEELECTIONS!

November was election month, and The Hive was busy with High School Student Council elections. After back-to-back years in office, the Pink Panthers did not reenter the race and two new tickets emerged, the Presidentials and the GIRLS (Genuine, Intelligent, Responsible, Leading Students). With the theme of *realistic change*, both teams proposed to make Bridgehampton School a better and more effective and fun place to be for students.

The Presidentials (Brian Pina, Jerome Walker, Anajae Lamb and Devin Brevard) proposed better learning opportunities for students and suggested the creation of more student-friendly work and recreational spaces. They also proposed that seniors have more privileges and be allowed to have flexible schedules, which would allow them to arrive later in the morning or to leave earlier in the

afternoon, if they had no classes. The GIRLS (Allison Koral, Genevieve Kotz, Vanessa Cruz, Angelica Uribe, Bryzeida Perez and Tatyana Dawson) spoke about the importance of getting all students engaged and of getting new ideas for fun activities and Spirit Week themes. They also agreed that the senior class should have more privileges and said they would be willing to speak to the Board of Education to suggest changes.

After each team presented PowerPoints, made opening statements and fielded questions, faculty, staff and students participated in the democratic process of voting. When all was tallied, the high school vote—which alone determines the winner—gave the Presidentials a significant majority to become this year's Student Council. Congratulations to Brian Pina, Jerome Walker, Anajae Lamb and Devin Brevard!

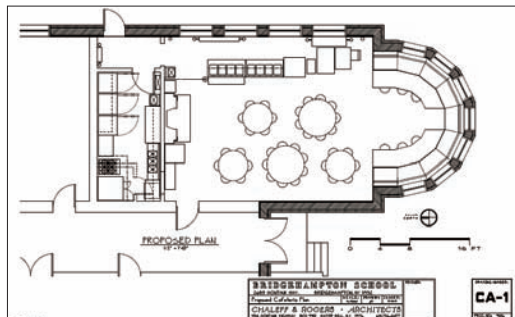


Building Works: The New Cafeteria

This summer, renovations will begin on a new and improved cafeteria to serve breakfast and lunch to our students. The new space, which will be located in the classroom previously occupied by the kindergarten, will seat an additional 15 to 20 students and will feature much improved cooking facilities. The new fully code-compliant kitchen will consolidate most of what was previously spread over the current cafeteria and the gymnasium stage, freeing the stage for musical and theatrical performances. It will include: new electrical and plumbing systems, a commercial gas range, a new exhaust hood with fire suppression system and newly tiled floors and walls. At present, kitchen staff members have only a mobile oven in which to prepare food. The new facilities will allow

Bridgehampton to expand its menu and continue efforts to provide healthier, more nutritious meals to students and staff.

From an architectural point of view, the dining/service area will preserve its historic features, including the built-in wood seating in the rotunda area and the quaint fireplace at the opposite end of the room. In addition to providing a more comfortable and safe dining space, the expanded area will help solve some of the scheduling issues with elementary, middle and high school lunch periods. Most of the existing service equipment will be moved to the new cafeteria, at minimal expense to the district.



Work on the new facility should be completed by summer's end for the start of the school year in September 2012.

Bridgehampton Union Free School District

Central Administration

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Dr. Lois R. Favre

School Principal
Mr. John L. Pryor

School Business Administrator
Mr. Robert Hauser, CPA

District Clerk
Ms. Jeannine Stallings

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WINTER SPORTS 2012

Thirty-four of our students participated on seven different winter sports teams this year at Bridgehampton, Sag Harbor and East Hampton Schools.

CHEERLEADING - VARSITY

Tanethea Clark
Tatyana Dawson
India Hemby
Jennah Hochstedler
Hayley Lund
Bryzeida Perez
Jada Pinckney
Angelica Uribe

BASKETBALL – BOYS VARSITY

Devin Brevard
Zavé Brodie
Caanan Campbell
Davion Cooper
Tylik Furman
Brenden Hemby
Jason Hopson
Anajae Lamb
Joshua Lamison
Jerome Walker

SWIMMING – BOYS VARSITY

Christian Figueroa
Claudio Figueroa
Robert Rewinski

VOLLEYBALL – GIRLS 7 & 8

Aries Cooks
Nia Dawson
Elizabeth Hochstedler
Tyler Stephens
Laura Uribe

BASKETBALL – BOYS 7 & 8

Juan Alejandro
Isaiah AQUI
Ameer Brunson
Kevin Feliciano
Matthew Hostetter
Jhon Matute

BASKETBALL – GIRLS 7 & 8

Nia Dawson

WRESTLING

Henry Kotz