

\*\*\*ECRWSS\*\*\*  
Resident  
Copiague School District

www.copiague.k12.ny.us

LEARNING LANGUAGES GIVES YOU WINGS



# New Electives, Initiatives Take LOTE to Next Level

## Language Offerings

The language program begins in the seventh grade, where students can choose between Italian, Native Spanish or Spanish language arts, depending on their language foundations and interests. Students can take Spanish 1 or Italian 1 during their seventh and eighth grade years and obtain a high school credit, one of the requirements for a Regents diploma. Students in a native program take two Spanish Language Arts courses in middle school, which earns them three high school language credits. As students advance to the high school, they can continue their language study program and can take Advanced

Placement classes and college-level courses offered through St. Joseph's University in both Spanish and Italian.

## Electives Create Excitement

"Our department has added several elective courses that have students excited," said Michelle Passeggiata, director of foreign language. "Last year, we started our Passport to Italy class which gives students a taste of Italian culture, including studying its multifaceted history, beautiful cities and delicious cuisine. The students have loved getting an opportunity to

study Italy, and the class has even inspired some to start an additional language study in Italian."

This year, the district added an Anime class, which has allowed students to explore the rich cultural aspects of this Japanese artform. The students attended an Anime conference in New York City in November. Thanks to a grant by the local Subaru dealership, each student was also given a sketchbook so they could express their learning through the arts.

## BOARD OF EDUCATION

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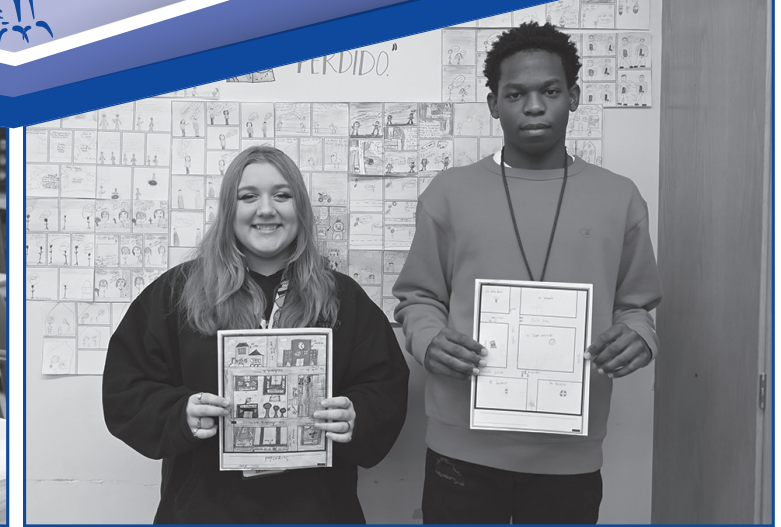
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# COPIAGUE *Connections*

A GREAT PLACE TO LEARN



# A Global Focus

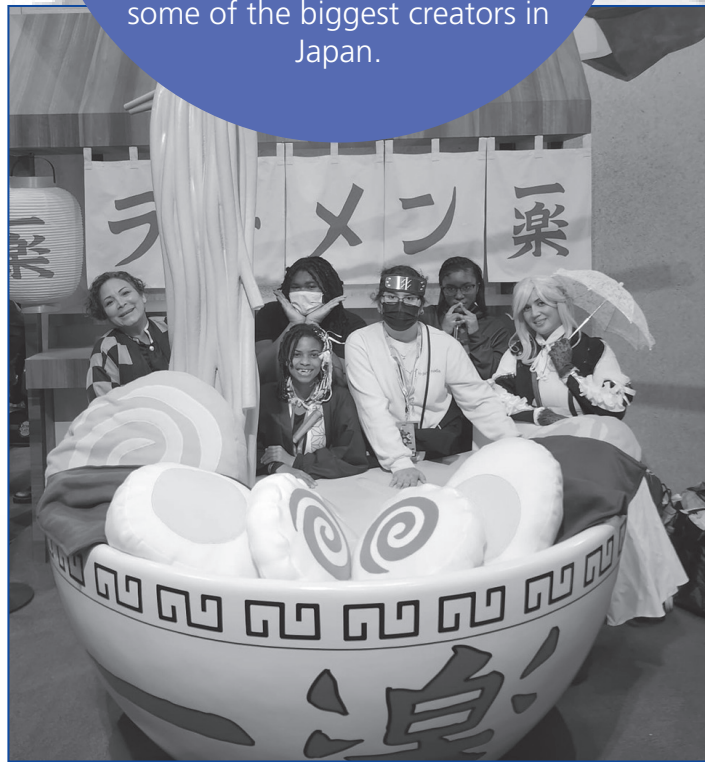
Copiague School District is proud of its rich and diverse student body and values the skill of bilingualism both in the community and as an asset that will make students stand out from others in their future chosen career paths.

Languages Other Than English (LOTE) learners are increasingly engaged in hands-on, real-world projects that help make a connection to the different countries they are studying. Here are some examples of what's happening in the classrooms in our middle school and high school.



# LANGUAGE LESSONS MAKE A *Real Connection*

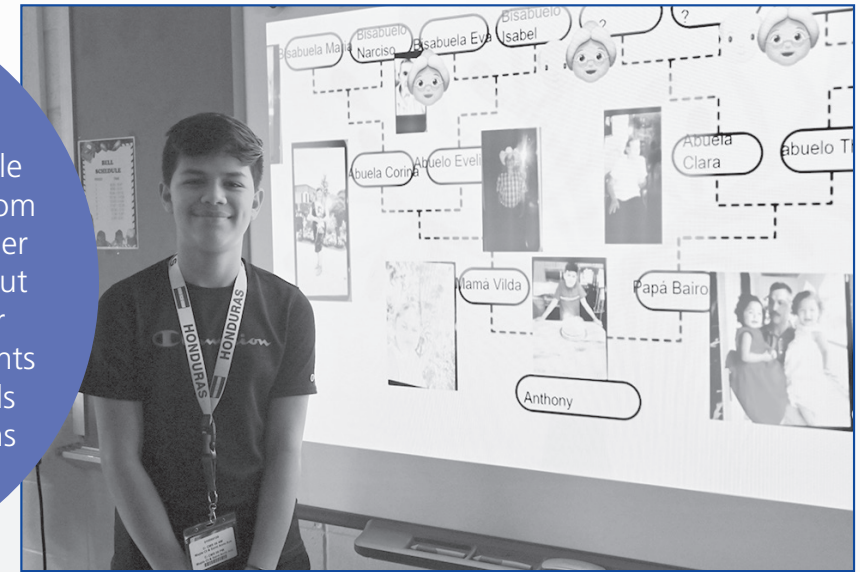
A new Anime class is offered this year at Walter G. O'Connell Copiague High School. Students recently attended an Anime conference in New York City. The conference showcased the best of Japanese pop culture with unique exhibits, exclusive screenings and appearances by some of the biggest creators in Japan.



Students in Ms. Accettella's Spanish Language Arts class at the Walter G. O'Connell Copiague High School are doing a gallery walk analyzing and reflecting on surrealist paintings, portraits and collages from artists from Spanish-speaking countries.



Eighth graders in Mr. Perna's Italian class at Copiague Middle School are answering emails from relatives coming in from another country, helping them figure out their holiday shopping list for various family members. Students are responding to those emails and then also asking questions back to them.



Students in Mr. Korn's Passport to Italy class recently learned about the beautiful cities and regions that make up the Bel Paese – culture, events, food, fashion, sports, movies, literature and even Italy's fight against the Mafia. Students are showing off their skills reading Dante's "Divine Comedy," which they are reading in class, and their projects on some of the many famous Italians like Dante Alighieri, Da Vinci, Ferrari and Galileo.



Students in Mrs. Hernandez's accelerated Spanish Language and Culture class are doing oral presentations to meet one of their Seal of Biliteracy requirements.



Seventh graders in Ms. Turcios' Spanish class at Copiague Middle School are learning about the history and cultural elements of the World Cup. Students created their own World Cup jerseys.

