

May 2022



Dear Families:

The month of May is here and we will be incredibly busy at the high school. From AP Exams ([click for schedule](#)) to Sports, Fine Arts, Clubs and Battle of the Classes, we are excited for your children and the opportunities that lay ahead. The end of the school year is quickly approaching as well and we would like to remind your children to take advantage of the [Regents Review Classes](#) that are available after school. **In the coming weeks we will be celebrating the end of year with concerts, honor society ceremonies, senior awards, prom, graduation, and more!**

Please enjoy our newsletter and remember that in addition to this monthly newsletter, our **Website** (www.mineola.k12.ny.us), **Twitter account (@mineolahs)** and **Instagram account (@mineolahs)** continue to keep you up to date with the latest news and “happenings” in and around the high school; including many of the exciting and new lessons, projects, and activities that your children are engaging in. We encourage you to follow us if you don’t already!

Newsworthy:

- **The Student Service Center (SSC): Computeers** had their last class of the year. Senior citizens were very grateful, and many are looking forward to the program next Fall. **Nursing Home Visitors and One World** volunteers worked on potted plants to deliver to Sun Harbor Nursing Home residents. The adorable pansies decorated with the MHS Rise students’ ladybug and bumblebee crafts. **INN Youth Board** volunteers attended their last meeting with the Mary Brennan INN. Please send all donations to the Student Service Center. **The Frank Reilly Food Pantry** will be receiving over 20 bags and boxes of food collected during our food drive. **Future Teachers** have been very busy this year, volunteering to engage children whose parents are attending meetings at the elementary schools within our district. **Peer Tutors** remain busy as the spring continues. Congratulations to **Julia Therassi** and **Natalie Laszewski** for winning the Good Deeds Award for Long Island Teenagers 2022. We are also so proud of **Urja Patela and Julia Therassi** for winning the 2022 Building Bridges Award. These awards recognize teenagers’ stellar contributions and outreach to their communities in order to celebrate their compassion and commitment to making the world a better place.
- **Student Organization (SO):** Student Organization is currently planning our 2022 Battle of the Classes Events for May 20th. Events this year will include relay races, soccer shootout, tug a war and hallway decorations. Students can sign up to participate in specific events using a link to be placed in Canvas. It costs \$5 to participate. In the days leading to Battle of the Classes, the school will participate in a Spirit Week. Students are encouraged to dress like the day's theme in order to get points towards Battle of the classes.

Monday, May 16th- Twin Day

Tuesday, May 17th- Dress Like a Celebrity Day

Wednesday, May 18th- Anything BUT a Backpack Day

Thursday, May 19th- Places Around the World Day

Seniors- USA

Juniors- France

Sophomores- Italy

Freshman- Brazil

8th - Greece

Friday, May 20th - Battle of the Class- Dress in your class color/shirts

Seniors- Black

Juniors- White
 Sophomores - Red
 Freshman- Purple
 8th graders- Blue

- **National Honor Society:** The National Honor Society selection committee will be reviewing and accepting students for the class of 2022-23 early this month. Accepted students will be notified. The induction ceremony for accepted students will be May 31st at 7 PM in the Auditorium. All accepted students MUST attend!
- **Key Club:** During the month of May, Key Club will be conducting Penny Wars! Classes will compete to raise the most money during the weeks of May 9th-May 13th and May 16th-May 20th. Proceeds will be divided between the winning class, the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, and future Key Club scholarships. Battle of the classes points will also be awarded to the winning class!
- On April 29th, the senior class and faculty celebrated **College Decision Day**. Seniors and staff wore college gear, representing colleges they graduated from or where they will attend in the fall. There were photo opportunities to document the day, with a "step and repeat" and photo booth props.
- The **Environmental Club** will be hosting their annual community cleanup on Tuesday May 24th (weather pending). Any student is invited to meet us in the lobby after school to pick up supplies. We usually collect over 100 lbs of garbage from our local community. Volunteers will receive a free t-shirt hosted by the Town of North Hempstead. Please join us! Community service hours will be approved.
- Mr. Pereira and Dr. Nagler visited **United Lisbon International School (ULIS) in Portugal** (www.unitedlisbon.school) over the weekend to coordinate an exchange protocol between our two schools for the 2022-2023 school year. Students from ULIS would visit Mineola in the Fall and MHS students would visit Lisbon in the Spring of 2023. More information on an interest meeting will be forthcoming.
- Last month, 9th graders worked hard on coding up brilliant projects for their **AP Computer Science Principles** Create Task. We loved watching them collaborate, solve hard problems, help each other with coding bugs and so much more. Most importantly, we loved seeing the pride in their faces when they completed!



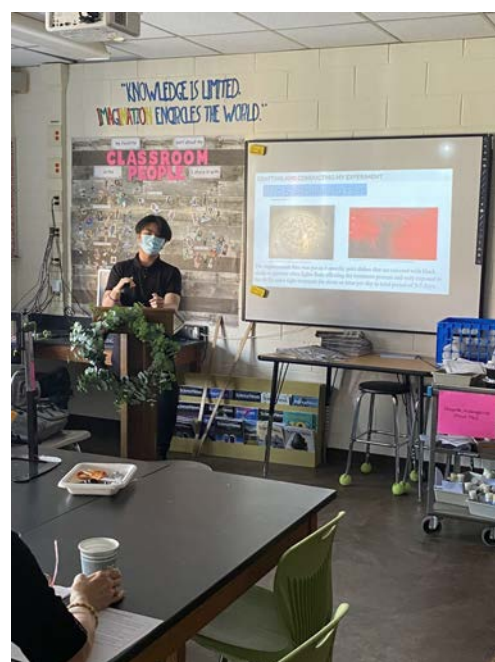
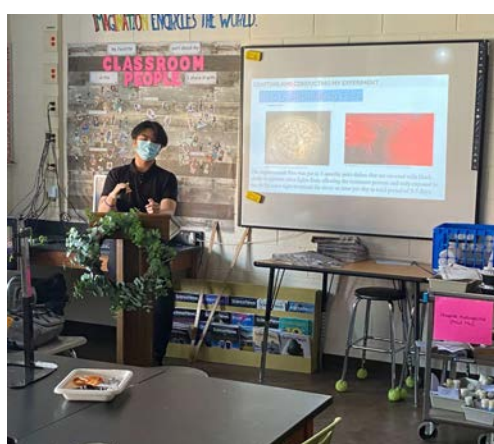
<p>A grocery shopping game:</p>	<p>A duck shooting game:</p>	<p>A jumping game that uses gravity:</p>	<p>A game about putting out fires:</p>
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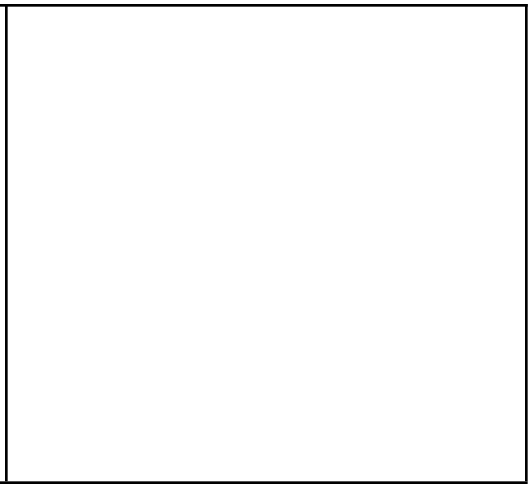
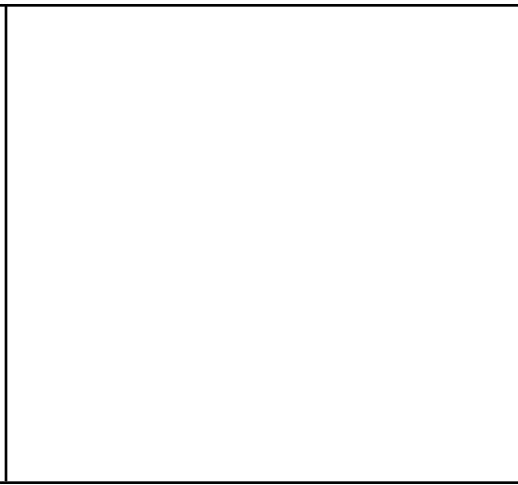
- **Research 8 Students** participated in both the Long Island Science Congress Junior division (LISC JR) and South Asian American Women's Alliance Science Fair (SAAWA). Good luck with your projects!
- **Introduction to Research** students are finishing up their independent research projects using their model organisms E. coli, California Blackworms and Fruit Flies. They are preparing their research boards to present at the Science Research Symposium on May 10th!

- **Advanced Research 1** students are continuing their work with developing their molecular biology skills as well as preparing to present at this year's symposium. On Sunday, May 1st, seven AR1 students competed at the South Asian American Women's Alliance (SAAWA) Science Fair. 10th graders also submitted their research to the virtual Long Island Science Congress (LISC) Senior Division Competition. Congratulations to all participants. We are eagerly awaiting the results. Winners will be announced at the awards ceremonies held later in May and June.



- **AP Research** students completed their AP Research projects and presented their 20 minute Presentation and Oral Defenses to a panel of teachers and administrators. On May 2nd they will submit the second half of their performance task, a 5,000 word research paper. These scholars are amazing!





- As seniors, the **Advanced Research 3** students are expected to leave something behind to share with the future students in the Mineola Research Program! We call these Legacy Projects! At this point in the year, seniors are finalizing their Legacy Projects and are beginning to plan the Research Symposium and Science National Honor Society Induction ceremony that will take place on May 10th.
- Congratulations to senior, **Keira Talty**, for being awarded Second Place in the Poster Session of the **60th Annual National Junior Science and Humanities Symposium** held this past week in **Albuquerque, New Mexico**. The National JSHS brought together 245 high school students who qualified by submitting and presenting original scientific research papers in regional symposium held at universities nationwide. Keira competed in the category of Mathematics and Computer Sciences and received a \$450 monetary award.



The Research Symposium and Science National Honor Society Induction Ceremony will take place on May 10th beginning at 5pm in the HS Cafeteria; 7pm Ceremony in the Auditorium.

- **MusBuyTangs** has just revealed its new spring product line of jewelry, shirts, license frames, tumblers and other unique products digitally designed and produced by their student team in our MHS Mac and Fab labs! Consider gift ideas for yourself, mom, dad and graduates and travelers with design themes including beach, celestial, travel and Mustang spirit colors! Visit our online shop www.musbuytang.com and in-person pop up shops on May 18 and May 24 at MHS on spring concert nights.



Students in the **Entrepreneurship** class are currently investigating the hundreds of other edCorps around the country and developing concept boards with new product ideas to individually pitch

for consideration in next year's products. Business Club members are planning for upcoming selling events. MusBuyTangs is continually exploring ways to meet its business mission and social entrepreneurship goals.

Follow on Instagram and Twitter @musbuytang

- **Class of 2022:** As we are approaching the end of the 2021-2022 school year, there are a few important dates to keep in mind. We will have meetings to decorate our Battle of the Classes hallway on May 4th, May 16th, and May 17th after school in room 329. Please reach out to your class officers regarding any questions or for different ways you can help participate. June 3rd is the last day of classes for seniors and all lockers must be cleaned out on or before this day. Tuesday June 7, 2022 is the senior boat trip! Permission slips and \$60 (cash or check) are due to the main office on Friday May 6th for anyone who would like to attend. It will be a sunset cruise! Wednesday June 8th is the Senior Awards Ceremony. Thursday June 9th we will have our Senior Prom at the North Ritz Club! Friday June 24th is Graduation Rehearsal at the Tilles Center, followed by Graduation at the Tilles Center on Saturday June 25th. Additional information can be found in the announcements section on Canvas under Class of 2022. Congratulations on all you have accomplished, we look forward to celebrating with you all in the upcoming weeks!

- The **Class of 2025** had two successful fundraisers in the month of April- a Panera fundraiser and a Battle of the Class T-Shirt Sale/Spring Clothing fundraiser. The class will also be hosting a Chipotle fundraiser coming up on May 10th from 4PM to 8PM at the Chipotle located at 528 Jericho Turnpike. To participate in the fundraiser bring the attached flyer when you go to order or use the code 8GZ2DZD when ordering online. (I don't know if you can add the flyer to the newsletter but if you can't I would instead say 'To participate bring the fundraiser flyer with you when you go to order, which can be found on the class of 2025 Instagram account, OR use the code 8GZ2DZD when ordering online).

Any 9th graders interested in participating in Battle of the Class field day events or hallway decorations should speak with Ms. Lebowitz if they have not already attended any of the planning meetings. All 9th grade students are welcome and encouraged to participate in this exciting school event!

- Congratulations to our students who had perfect attendance for the third quarter. **They will receive a certificate from the attendance office and coupon for a free sundae from Applebee's.**



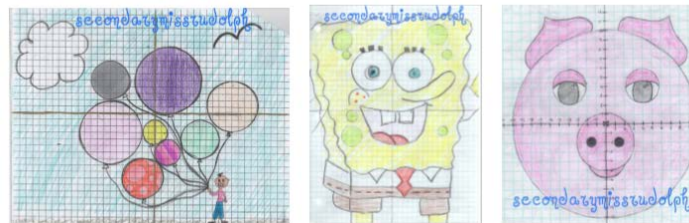
For online orders to count towards the fundraiser, they must be placed for pickup only from the restaurant location of, and during the hours of, the fundraiser. Delivery orders and gift cards do not qualify. \$100 minimum event sales required to receive any donation.

In the Classroom:

- **AP Seminar** - Students recently completed Performance Task 2 Presentations which included a 2,000-word research paper and an 8 min presentation. Student inspiration was grown out of the 2022 Stimulus Material, which focused on ritualistic synchrony and explored the role environmental circumstances play in conformity. Topics ranged from...
 - The Divergence of Culture in Second-Generation Americans
 - The Environmental Impact of Religious Traditions in India
 - Cultural Appropriation in Fashion
 - The Detrimental Effects of Sororities
 - Forced Conformity in Military Institutions

- Fast Fashion & its Impact on the Environment
 - Fixing South Korea's Housing Price Inflation Crisis
 - Gender Normalities, Conformity, and the Mental Health of the LGBTQ+ Community
 - Homeopathic Medicine, Bacteriophage Therapy, & Antibiotic Design
 - Using Germany's Dual-Track VET System to Save Vocational Education
 - The Consequences of Religious Fundamentalism in Healthcare
 - The Availability of Gender-Fluid Clothing
- **Global 10** - Students used Garageband to create Soviet Union Slogan Songs that were designed to represent a marginalized perspective during the Russian Revolution. Students were challenged to explain their rationale for selecting a slow or fast tempo to capture their slogan's energy. Students were also required to justify the instruments used in their song and had to explain how that type of instrument further enhances their slogan's message. For example, using a violin, played at a slow tempo, to create a somber memorial tune.
 - **In Geometry** the classes are completing the "Graph Me a Circle' Art Project. This requires learners to create an illustration of their choosing on a piece of graph paper or on an app of their choosing. In their illustration, learners must include a minimum of six independent circles that they will identify in their work using an appropriate circle equation. No one ever said that learning can't be fun! It is inGeometry...

Graph me a circle picture!



- In **Synergy**, Regents Prep is up and running! We continue to offer Regents Prep after school and encourage all learners to attend consistently to develop their skills. The schedule is as follows for our 9/10 group: Science- Monday and Wednesday at 1:30, Math- Tuesday and Thursday at 1:30, and Global- Tuesday at 2:30. For our 11/12 group, the schedule is as follows: US History- Monday at 2:30 and ELA- Tuesday and Thursday at 2:40. We celebrated the hard work learners have been putting in by holding a special breakfast before classes.

This month, we had the wonderful opportunity to learn from Susan Charney, a resilient Holocaust survivor who uses her life experiences to educate and support others every day. Synergy learners listened, empathized, and posed questions through Zoom. We are grateful to have had the opportunity to learn from such an inspiring individual!

Finally, Synergy donated \$225 to UNICEF in order to support the Ukraine relief efforts. We are #MineolaProud to aid in the financial struggle the country is experiencing.

- **RISE (Reaching Independence through Support and Education)** - The RISE class celebrated the arrival of Spring with a luncheon right before we left for a well deserved break. The students were placed in charge of creating the menu, looking for sales in the on-line circular, shopping online, and cooking the meal. The menu consisted of turkey with all the fixings and of course it wouldn't have been complete without chocolate chip cookies. The students are also utilizing the Unique Learning System (ULS). The Unique Learning System empowers students with complex learning needs to reach their full potential in a learning environment customized just for them. They utilized the ULS to explore Earth Day. The students planted flower seedlings in egg carton gardens while

exploring what environments that plants need to grow. The students then took the new plants home to transplant into pots. The students are continuing their community-based instruction, or authentic practice outside of the school setting with several trips throughout the community. This month's trip included a visit to Willis Ave/Central Administration to work together as a team to complete various office administrative tasks.

Department Highlights:

- **Guidance** - The [Guidance department](#) has finalized the student scheduling meetings for next year. Students will not receive their schedules until late August. If they have questions about the requests they put in or would like a change they can see their counselor. April 29th we celebrated Decision Day! Seniors wore college gear from the school they will be attending next year. We will be visiting the senior English classes the week of May 16 to administer our senior exit surveys for students to reflect on their time at the High School and let us know their plans for the future. The survey will have the students update where they will be attending so we can send their final transcript in July. Finally, we are excited to be planning a [College Road trip to Manhattan College](#) (flyer) on June 3rd. Any sophomores or juniors interested should visit the guidance office for a permission slip.
- **Nurse - 9th and 11th grade students: If you have not yet submitted the required physical, please do so at your earliest convenience. *Rising Seniors*:** A document showing that at least one dose of meningitis ACWY was received at age 16 or older must be on file with the Nurse's Office when school begins in September.
- **Athletics** - May ushers in an exciting time of year in our Spring Seasons. Senior recognition dates are as follows for the upcoming sports;
 - Girls Lacrosse 5/6 at 6:30 at Hampton field.
 - Baseball 5/9 at 4:15 pm
 - Softball 5/12 at 4:00 pm
 - Boys Lacrosse 5/18 at 6:15 pm at Hampton Field
 - Track and Field 5/24 at 3 pm
 - Please be reminded that we will also resume several award ceremonies including the following dates;
 - **Tri-Athlete Award Breakfast** May 17th at 7:15 AM
 - **College Signing Celebration** for all D1, D2 and D3 Commits May 17th at 2:30 - Parents of all commits are invited for refreshments and pictures in the HS Cafeteria
 - **JV Award Assembly**- May 18th at 2:30 HS Cafeteria
 - **Varsity Award Banquet**- June 6th at 6:30 at the Jericho Terrace

For future planning please be reminded that the start dates for Fall HS Athletics are as follows:

JV and Varsity Football- 8/22/22

All other HS Fall Sports- 8/29/22

All student athletes must be present for tryouts and practices to be eligible to play.

- **Fine and Performing Arts:** What an incredible time to be a part of the arts in our school district! May is always our busiest month, filled with celebrations of student learning and accomplishments. For the 14th consecutive year, the Mineola UFSD has been recognized by NAMM as a "Best Community for Music Education. This national award is a testament to our incredible music teachers, district support, student and family engagement in music and the arts. Continuing along with successes, our art students are shining! We have had 19 students have their work selected to be displayed at Five Towns College "Long Island Media Arts Show." We are so proud of: **Caroline Bridges, Natalie Cardoza, Amberlee Clarke, Sergio DaCunha, A.J. DeRose, Elizabeth Fernandez, Isabella Irequi, Bailey Jex, Joseph Gaimaro, Keira McCaffrey, Ava Murphy, Adrianna Nathan, Mackenzie**

Nikolic, Michaela Palumbo, Lindsey Parrado, Ariana Pearl, Sana Quershi, Andrew Shatz, Brianna Voyer. Our spring concerts will proceed as originally scheduled on the calendar – May 18 and 24 (reach out to your child’s music teacher if you’re unsure of which concert your child performs). Mineola HS is the host site of the annual area NYSSMA festival on May 20 and May 21; we look forward and are appreciative to having the Tri-M students demonstrate true Mineola hospitality to the rest of the county. Please mark your calendar for our 8th and 9th grade dramatic production; once again we will be in the Mineola Memorial Park on June 4th! The 8th and 9th graders follow in the success of Dirty Rotten Scoundrels, which played to rave reviews of excellent performances by cast, crew, and pit. Finally, we have our music awards ceremony which lines up with our art show on June 1st. Students who will be recognized with awards will receive invitations from the music teachers.

- **The Library** - As we enter the month of May, students are concluding their research projects, senior projects and AP exams and the library was glad to be an integral part of the High School’s team of dedicated staff and faculty offering support to all students who embraced our resources! We are beginning to enter our dive into Digital Literacy lessons for students. This mission empowers students to be

good digital citizens, learning about media balance and well being, privacy and security, their digital identity and footprint, news and media literacy, and relationships and ethical communication to name a few topics. In partnership with Common Sense Media, our curriculum of digital citizenship will continue with students across varying grade levels.



- We are also finalizing our book orders for next year and looking forward to our library renovation for the coming school year. We are hopeful in our planning that we will have something to read or engage with for all learners for many years to come.

- Finally we were excited to have student interns help us get our library laser cutter up and running. Built for libraries and the classroom, this awesome piece of technology allows students to cut simple materials and engrave their designs to compliment our 3D printers and other makerspace and creative resources.



- **High School PTSA** - The year is not over yet we still have so much planned. To recap on Saturday, April 9 the PTSA held their Annual clothing drive. We also collaborated with Faith Mission to pioneer Project Princess. We collected over 40 gently used dresses and gowns which will allow girls in our community to “shop” for prom. Both the clothing drive and the collection for Project Princess were a huge success due to the overwhelming support of this wonderful community! We would like to thank All

the students and Ptsa members who volunteered to help with the collection and with loading the truck. We also had our logo contest and we are in the process of judging the entries. The winner will have their logo featured on the hs “merch” for the spring! Please check out our store

https://teamlocker.squadlocker.com/#/lockers/mineola-high-school-ptsa-306304?_k=ff1zk8

We are currently busy with teacher appreciation week and we have some fun and exciting events. Students will participate in the Goose Chase scavenger hunt to complete missions which involve our wonderful teachers and staff. The top 5 students will win gift cards to local merchants. The luncheon committee is busy preparing for the staff appreciation on June 1. We will be asking for homemade desserts to be donated. Our next meeting is May 3rd and it will be IN PERSON starting at 7 pm with the budget presentation and meet the candidate night. We will have a special meeting to vote on whether or not to support the budget as a membership. We will then hold our regular meeting where we will vote on our slate for the 2022-2023 school year. We will also recognize our teacher representative Mr. Smith on his retirement. He will be missed but we wish him all the best!

Upcoming Events:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● May 2 - PTA/Meet the Board Candidate - 7:00pm @ HS ● May 3 - Voter Registration 4-8pm @ Willis ● May 3 - Booster Club Meeting - 7:00 pm ● May 5 - BOE - 7:00 pm @ Willis ● May 7 - SAT Exam ● May 9 - Computer Science Honor Society Induction Ceremony 7:00 pm ● May 10 - Science Symposium/ Science National Honor Society Induction 6:30 pm ● May 14 - Junior Class Car Wash 10:00am - 1:00pm ● May 17 - District Budget Vote 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● May 17 - BOE 7:00 pm ● JV Sports Awards - 2:30pm ● May 18 - Spring Concert I 7:00 pm ● May 20, 21 - NYSSMA Solos & All State ● May 20 - End Q4 Interim Period ● May 24 - Student Service Center Awards 7:00 am ● May 24 - Spring Concert II 7:00 pm ● May 25 - Junior Class Picnic ● May 25 - NYSSMA Majors (Hosting) ● May 26 - 30 - Schools Closed - Memorial Day ● May 31 - National Honor Society Induction Ceremony 7:00 pm
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On behalf of the faculty, staff, and administration I would like to wish you continued success! If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call the main office at 237-2605.

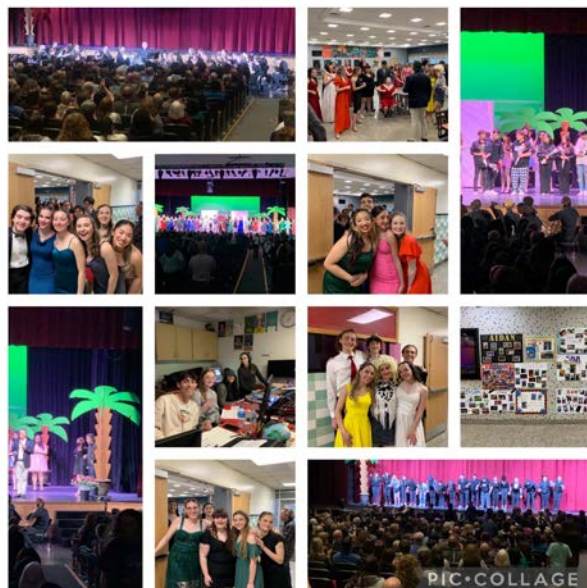
Sincerely,



Whitney Smith, Ed.D. | Principal

Picture of the Month:

Scenes from “Dirty Rotten Scoundrels,” our spring musical production



PIC-COLLAGE