

BEACON HIGH SCHOOL

# GRADS - GRAM



BULLETIN

June 2018

Volume 3, Issue 3

## The Principal's Message

The end of the school year is upon us. As you think back on this school year, remember the lessons you have learned and always carry them with you. In the words of Dr. Seuss, "The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go."

Whether you are returning in the fall, or moving on to different places, keep learning and explore your curiosities. I have had the pleasure of working here, on and off, for the past three years. I've had the opportunity to work with an amazing staff and meet many wonderful students. You have taught me a lot. The value of learning and the importance of being a good person. I've seen you ask questions and seek answers, you've been excited about exploring new ideas with your teachers. So this summer, take a break, rest and relax; but don't forget to continue to be curious. Remember to ask questions and keep learning. The result will be many new doors opening for you and you'll never imagine all the places you might go.

As you all begin to discover your new adventures, we should take some time to thank and acknowledge Dr. Joannes Sieverding as he embarks on his own new adventures. Dr. Sieverding served his faculty, staff and students with fairness and professionalism as Principal of BHS. He was always there for his students and chose what was best for them and Beacon High School. We honor you, Dr. Sieverding, and everything you did for our school, including the creation of this wonderful newsletter. We wish you health and happiness in your retirement.

*Vanessa DeFonce*

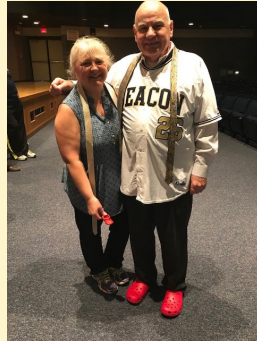
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## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- AP BIO PROJECTS
- TEACHER OF THE MONTH
- MUSIC DEPARTMENT HAPPENINGS
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- GUIDANCE NEWS

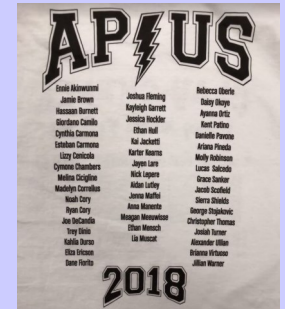
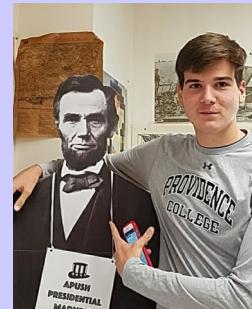






# NEWS FROM THE DEPARTMENTS:

- ◆ AP US History (otherwise known as APUSH) is wrapping up the school year on a high note! On May 11th the students took their AP exam. To assist in reviewing for the exam, the students played Presidential Madness, a variation on March Madness, to determine who was the best president. For the second time in three years, Abraham Lincoln won. Molly Robinson won a prize for having a perfect bracket! Prior to the exam, many students stayed until 8pm on a Friday to take a mock exam and the week of the exam at least half of the students were reviewing until 6pm at school. They played one of their favorite games: Quizlet Live!
- ◆ Although the students were disappointed that our field trip was postponed due to the severe storms, they have been wearing our class t-shirts which were designed by Daisy Okoye to encourage class spirit. Our rescheduled trip to the 9/11 Museum and Ellis Island will take place on June 18th. This trip was paid for, in part, by a grant from the Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley.
- ◆ Lastly, Noah Cory is spearheading a project to create a video for future APUSH students. The goal is to give them student perspectives about the course, how to be successful, and dealing with stress. Both current and former APUSH students are participating in this project.



The Participation in Government classes ran a successful blood drive in April, raising a total of 56 pints of blood!! Keep your eyes out for the next blood drive in the fall. We encourage not just students, but parents and faculty to donate as well.

On Wednesday, May 2nd, the ADL class made Pico de Gallo with Ms. Rincon-Tomizawa, Assistant Director of PPS. She shared a bit of her Mexican heritage with us just in time for Cinco de Mayo. We have a field trip planned to tour her mother's authentic Mexican restaurant in Cold Spring in June. The students will learn kitchen safety and basic meal prep skills followed by an amazing lunch.



## A year in health:

This year our students participated in a skills-based health curriculum. Students enjoyed new activities such as building smart goals, biodots for stress, mission impossible missions and kept the traditions of the baby project! Students will donate rice to the Hudson Valley food bank over regents week! It was a great year in health! Make sure to wear sunscreen this summer, drink plenty of water, get plenty of sleep, and manage stress!

## SCIENCE DEPARTMENT—

The AP Biology classes have been working on their Design and Apply Projects. Students had the opportunity to search a current event in genetic engineering, create a concept map, make a 3D model, make a science review game, create a song, perform a one-man play, create a group video or write a science story-book. Using their chosen option, students needed to apply their knowledge of biology and help others to understand difficult AP biology topics. Each project was correlated to one of the Big Ideas from the course.

Big Idea 1: The process of evolution drives the diversity and unity of life.

Big Idea 2: Biological systems utilize free energy and molecular building blocks to grow, to reproduce and to maintain dynamic homeostasis.

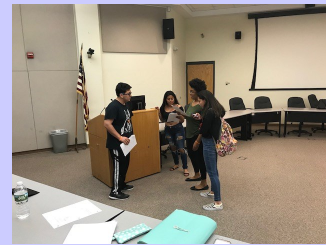
Big Idea 3: Living systems store, retrieve, transmit, and respond to information essential to life processes.

Big Idea 4: Biological systems interact, and these systems and their interactions possess complex properties.

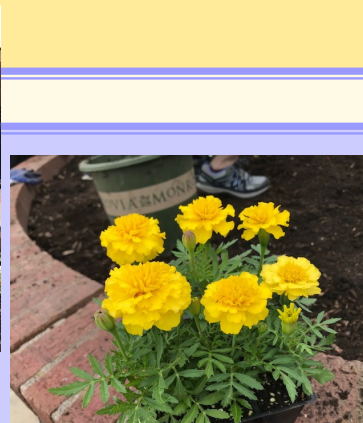


## ENGLISH DEPARTMENT—

Students of Creative Writing are determining the effectiveness of their spec scripts by directing and performing three to four minutes of their screenplays in the LGI. Student-directors block the scene and interpret the student-writer's vision. The scene is rehearsed, adjusted, and . . . "Action." Directors also cast roles. Then, actors analyze the scene so that the characters come to life and the action and dialog look and sound natural. A spec script cannot give much narrative direction so they rely heavily almost entirely on action and dialog. Our mini-skits ensure that the action and dialog are believable and engaging. Did Mama really kill her baby girl? Will Amy be charged with a crime she did not commit on a night she can't remember? Is the military experimenting on unsuspecting soldiers in remote outposts? What will happen at the high school party? Are these students' imaginations wild??? Stay tuned.



The flowers at BHS are in! Every spring Ms. Driscoll and her students fill the planter in front of BHS with flowers that last until the first frost in the autumn. It is one way to welcome the spring and the promise of summer to come. It is also a wonderful way to spend the afternoon: always fun, always satisfying to see the planter come back to life, always gratifying for both students and teacher to see a job to fruition. And as an added bonus, the flowers are mature and full by September, ready to greet us all in those first days back to school. Thanks to all the students who toiled in the dirt to create some beauty in front of our school!





Recently, Mr. Haughie's (and Ms. Lieberstein) English 10 classes were invited outside the confines of the building to read and act out Shakespeare in the natural environs surrounding the school. This is often the true intention of the plays and particularly of the play Much Ado about Nothing, which we were reading in class. The students really appreciated this opportunity and they were engaged despite the distractions of the beautiful weather and the scenery. One period of students were fortunate enough to be performing right next to an Art class and we ended up merging into an interdisciplinary lesson where the artists were inspired by the language and the speakers were inspired by the artwork! A happy accident to be sure! Students have been pleading to go outside each sunny day since. So keep your eyes open for students writing nature poetry in the next few weeks.

## MATH DEPARTMENT—



Mrs. Mullins was nominated for Iheart radio's teacher of the month by Jenna Mazzacone. She won this special honor and was presented with a beautiful plaque and gifts. We are all so proud of Jennifer for being acknowledged by a student for all her love and hard work.

Congratulations !

Congrats to the BHS Math Team who were crowned League Champions this season. By winning the league title, they earned a berth in the Sectional Meet which was held at Vassar College on March 14 (pi Day no less). At Sectionals, they placed ahead of 5 teams. Team members were: Sarah Goodhill, Jummie Akinwumi, Reanna Cader, Justin Ni, Eric Ostrow, and Marisa Mourgues (not pictured). Special congratulations are in order for Marisa who represented Beacon at the Math States at SUNY Geneseo.

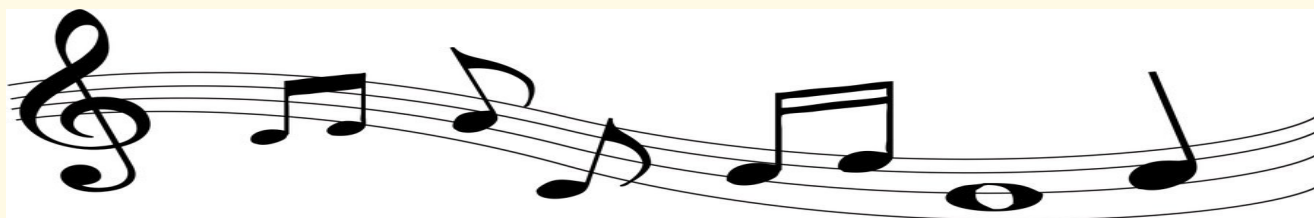


### ATHLETIC REMINDERS:

- \*Tue 6/5: 6pm BHS theatre - Athletic awards ceremony for 2017-2018 year (every season)
- \*Thu 8/2: 6pm BHS theatre - Fall Athletics Parent meeting
- \*Mon 8/13 Varsity and JV Fall sports begin

## MUSIC DEPARTMENT—

- \* This spring, thanks in part to a grant from the Howland Chamber Music Circle, the band has an artist-in-residency program with Vent Nouveau. Vent Nouveau are a wind instrument chamber group based in the Hudson Valley. During their multiple visits they have performed chamber repertoire for us, had Q&A sessions with our students about the music, worked with students preparing solos and sat in on our band rehearsal to give us advice from a professionals point of view. We look forward to their next visit where we will experience some advanced techniques including use of electronics as part of the performance!
- \* In early May BHS Band had a number of students that attended the Spring NYSSMA Evaluation festival. The students performed their solo pieces for a judge, along with playing scales and sight-reading a piece to get written feedback and a rating. We even had a Clarinet duet perform this year. Two of our students performed at the highest difficulty, Level 6, and both achieved the top rating possible, an A+. Madelyn Correllus additionally was auditioning for All-State with her performance and we wish her good luck in the selection process that happens this summer.



- \* BHS Chorus, Band and Jazz band had their Spring Concert on May 17th. The music was wonderful. We have an extremely talented bunch of musicians at BHS. Jazz band played a student arrangement of "Going Home" and a traditional arrangement of "Cantaloupe Island". A duet of senior girls Harleigh Ebeling and Dana Miller sang "Sure on the Shining Night." The BHS Chorus wowed the audience with "Neighbors' Chorus" (featuring Josiah Russell as the Upset Man), "In Flanders Fields", "Africa" and ended with a traditional South African song called "Webaba". BHS Band performed beautifully "Music from the Incredibles", "Into the Raging River", "Hands Across the Sea" and "Dies Irea" (from Verdi's Requiem).
- \* Chorus and Band members who participated in the NYSSMA Solo Festival, Junior High All County and Area All State were honored. These students include: Tamar Adams, Hannah Alfasso, Jethro Banks, Wesley Brooks, Ericka Butts, Anna Cenicola, Lizzy Cenicola, Madelyn Correllus, Adrianna Dugger, Harleigh Ebeling, Tyler Hulse, Kayleigh Garrett, Sophie Mercado, Dana Miller, Mya Pierce, Cassandra Smutney, and Alexander Ullian.
- \* Also recognized were graduating seniors. BHS Chorus seniors are: A-Jay Borromeo, Dakai Cummings, Brianna Der Boghossian, Harleigh Ebeling, Zakiya James, Larry Lowery-Ellis, Dana Miller, Aaliyah Santana, Sierra Taylor and Sebastian Uribe. BHS Band seniors are: Arrianna Annicchiarico, Jethro Banks, Nicole Blanding, Mikaela Burch, Brianna Dembo, and Isaac Vandermark Jr. Goodbye senior class musicians! We will miss you!

# JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR

BEACON  
PLAYERS

After months of collaboration, rehearsal, set design, costumes, lighting, props and so much more, the Beacon Players production of “Jesus Christ Superstar” opened in April. The great success of this show was due to so many factors! Our audiences, parents and friends were all there to make this one of our best productions to date. Stay tuned for our next season!



## Upcoming Events:

FALL PRODUCTION OF  
A CHORUS LINE:  
DECEMBER 7, 8 & 9

SPRING PRODUCTION OF  
BEAUTY AND THE BEAST:  
APRIL 26, 27, 28

Summer workshops will be held on Wednesdays  
in the BHS theatre from 9-12





# Second Quarter PBIS Appreciation Recognition Awards



Omar Abdo  
Philip Abongo  
Sophia Acquisto  
Brenda Aguilar  
Jummie Akinwunmi  
Hanna Alfieri  
Jared Alston  
Anisa Alzate  
Devyn Angelo  
Riley Antalek  
Hannah Barker  
Nicole Belgrave  
Allison Bierce  
Nicole Blanding  
Geneva Brown  
Ethan Burgos  
Ryan Chin  
Melina Cicigline  
Analiese Compagnone  
Sean Cooper  
Madelyn Correllus  
Maureen Corrigan  
Noah Cory  
Yesenia Cruz  
Rhan Dabashi  
Erika DeHaas  
Carter Detoro  
Omar Dolmus  
Ricardo Duran  
Michael Engel Jr.  
Joshua Espinosa  
Taina Fernandez  
Tatyanna Fernandez  
Gabriela Ferrone  
Dane Fiorito  
Joshua Fleming  
Aaliyah Fretwell-Cross  
Demetrius Galloway  
Kayleigh Garrett  
Aiyana George  
Aine Gunn

Dania Gillins  
Jacob Gonzalez  
Alex Graff  
Samaya Harris  
Dirani Haynes  
Kayla Marie Heady  
Michael Hernandez Jr.  
Lizbeth Herrera  
Ethan Hull  
Marin Kacur  
Alyssa Killmer  
Curtis Laforce  
Kyrstin Lawrence  
Domenic Leonetti  
Michael Lepere  
Makayla Lesniak  
Sean Lise  
Savion Lovelace  
Larry Lowery-Ellis  
Olivia Lynch  
Joren Madigan  
Emily Maggio  
Michael Manzoello  
Alexa Marin  
Melody Matias  
Alexandra Moroch  
Andrew Moroch  
Lauren Morse  
Jeremiah Murcia Booth  
Gualberto Negron Jr.  
Natalie Negron  
Jadelyn Panko  
Nicholas Papanastasiou  
Brithney Patino Solano  
Jessica Pavone  
Javier Piguave Espin  
George Pinkhardt IV  
Isdrael Ramon  
David Reilly IV  
William Rivera Jr.  
Alexsandra Rivera  
Kayla Rivera

Summer Roberts  
Molly Robinson  
Belladona Rodriguez  
Kimberly Romine  
Katelyn Rosa  
Tyler Rosado  
Josiah Russell  
Olivia Salcedo  
Grace Sanker  
Joseph Sarcone  
James Sarnes  
Leah Siegel  
Anna Slackman  
Eisa Smith  
Cassandra Smutny  
Shekeia Sterling  
Ray Teelucksingh  
Nathalia Thomas  
Jerrid Torres

Brielle Travis  
Alexander Ullian  
Panagiotis Vakirtzis  
Katelin VanBuren  
Rachel VanBuren  
Isaac Vandermark Jr.  
Allison Varian  
Brianna Virtuoso  
Alyssa Vollaro  
Cody Wansor  
Ravyn Way  
Matthew Welsh  
Alicia Williams  
Ayanna Williams  
D'Anna Williams  
Justin Zinserling





# Third Quarter PBIS Appreciation Recognition Awards

Omar Abdo  
 Alzona Ademaj  
 Mia Amoroso  
 Naomi Anderson-Benjamin  
 Riley Antalek  
 Kiara Aviles  
 Hannah Barker  
 Dara Barrack  
 Andrew Bayer IV  
 Allison Bierce  
 Nicole Blanding  
 Jy'asia Brown-Fincher  
 Ericka Butts  
 Zachary Cader  
 Americus Cameli  
 Diana Campos  
 Shianne Canada  
 Jordana Caputo  
 Thomas Coulter  
 Shane Creighton  
 Maycol Cuautle Toral  
 Rhan Dabashi  
 Erika DeHaas  
 Brianna Der Boghossian  
 Gage Derrenbacher  
 Annalise DiGiovanni  
 Brian Dittenhoefer  
 Peter Fernandez  
 Taina Fernandez  
 Tatyanna Fernandez  
 Dane Fiorito  
 Alexa Flynn  
 Carolina Foster  
 JoAnna Galbo  
 Lejdina Gecaj  
 Nyah Gibbs  
 Jacob Gonzalez  
 Ronald Gorman  
 Jeffry Gutierrez Monroy  
 Daanyaal Haris  
 Ila Harvey  
 Dirani Haynes  
 Kiara Hernandez



Jessica Hockler  
 Kaleb Istvan  
 Jackson Seth Jackson  
 Kenya Jenkins  
 Marin Kacur  
 Natalie Khalil  
 Bernadette Kish  
 Regan Ladue  
 Curtis Laforce  
 DaVonja LaMar  
 Kiara Lambe  
 Makayla Lesniak  
 Katelynne Levers  
 Han Lin  
 Jiel Long  
 Larry Lowery-Ellis  
 Matthew Maffei  
 Allison Mahadevan  
 Ayala Manderson  
 Christian Mendoza  
 Madison Migliore  
 Paris Moore  
 Andrew Moroch  
 Reily Mowen  
 Santino Negrón  
 Isabella Nocerino  
 Cody Oliva  
 James Olson  
 Beyonce Otero  
 John Padoleski  
 Jadelyn Panko  
 Adrianna Paulin  
 Jessica Pavone  
 Emily Peralta  
 Eliora Peterson  
 Giovanni Piccoli  
 Mya Pierce  
 Javier Piguave Espin  
 Alyssa Polletta

David Reilly IV  
 Avian Resto  
 Elizabeth Reynolds  
 Brianna Richardson  
 Izael Rivera  
 Jesus Rivera  
 Summer Roberts  
 Jake Robillard  
 Sharaina Rutherford  
 Ashley Santiago  
 Jailene Santos  
 Jacob Scofield  
 Krista Scrivani  
 Lauren Simon  
 Melissa Smith  
 Ryan Smith  
 Rebeca Soto  
 Adam Sovik  
 John Taylor Jr.  
 Alexis Thompson  
 Chloe Tomlins  
 Jerrid Torres  
 Brandon Travis  
 Alexander Ullian  
 Panagiotis Vakirtzis  
 Allison Varian  
 Brianna Virtuoso  
 Selena Virtuoso  
 Claire Wood  
 Nathina Yarborough  
 Jordan Zinserling  
 Justin Zinserling



### Teach the Change: Inviting High Potential, Under-Represented Students into the Teaching Profession

In May, Beacon High School students were invited to attend, *Teach the Change*. A program of Mount Saint Mary College designed for students who wish to enter the field of education. It is a day long career development event for education certification candidates and their mentor teachers. Larry Lowery-Ellis, Harleigh Ebeling, and Sophie Mercado attended the event, along with their mentor teacher, Mr. Steltz. The students heard from Mount Saint Mary alumni, who are currently in the teaching profession. One notable Mount alumnus was Catie Biordi, a former Beacon High School student, currently working in the field of education. In addition to Mount alumni, the students also heard from current Mount students in the education program and took a tour of the college. Overall, the group had a fantastic day discussing the field of education and visiting the campus of Mount Saint Mary College.



**This years Career Fair was another great success with over 65 different careers represented for students to explore. Thank you to Ms. Polhamus for all her hard work and all she does for the students here at BHS!**



Central Hudson's Career day is a great opportunity for students. The career days allows students to learn of potential career paths and hear first-hand experiences from professionals working at Central Hudson. While many believe Central Hudson is a job for those interested in Engineering, this is not the case. Student were able to learn about careers in specific departments such as Accounting, Corporate Communications, Engineering and Operation Services, Environmental Safety, Human Resources, Gas Operations and a few others. An event like this allows students to understand the path that professionals have to take to get where they are and is crucial to preparing students for the future. Throughout the day students were able to participate in hands on activities, try on gear for specific jobs like linemen, and mingle with the professionals. It is a great day to attend and students should take the opportunity.

Hudson Valley Construction Career Day was attended by students who may be interested in a Career in the Construction field. There were all aspects of the job presented.

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**BEACON**  
CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Where Excellence Is the Standard