



Bulldog

BULLETIN

April 2022

Message from the Superintendent



It has been my absolute pleasure to be

conducting student focus groups with fourth graders through seniors in high school throughout the district.

We focused on areas to improve in the district and ways we think we learn best. We have amazing students in this district! Be on the lookout for more information about



our budget after spring break!

—Matt Landahl



BCSD HONORS LOCAL WOMEN

Women's History Month

The crew of "AM Rombout News" at Rombout Middle School honored Women's History Month by interviewing remarkable female leaders and business owners.

Deputy Superintendent for Business Ann Marie Quartironi, Elisa Hirsch Cotter, an acupuncturist, and Kaitlin McVicker an owner/agent of State Farm shared some good advice.



Lisa Tompkins, a former secretary for Beacon High School Athletics, and her husband got the idea to open Glazed Over Donuts on Main Street after seeing a specialty donut making machine whilst on vacation. She thought it would be a perfect fit for Beacon as there was a lack of similar businesses.

"Who would have thought I went from being a secretary to making donuts," Tompkins said. "You never know where life's going to take you."

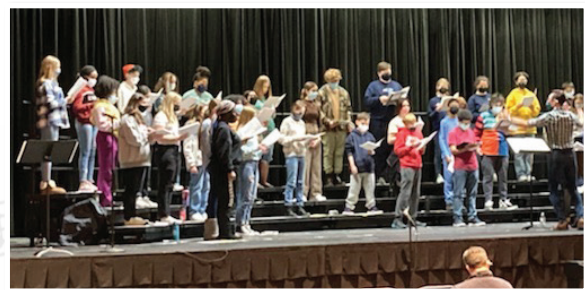
When asked what advice Assistant Superintendent Sagrario Rudecindo-O'Neill would give to women interested in leadership positions, she recommended working hard toward a goal and connecting with people that can help achieve it.

"A lot of people helped me along the way and they believed in me," she said. "You can't be afraid of hard work."



BCSD Students Advance through NYSSMA

Students from BCSD are making their teachers and parents proud by scoring in top places at the New York State School Music Association's (NYSSMA) All-State and All-County festivals.



The association's goal is to advance music education across the state for its participating members and students in member school programs, according to the NYSSMA website. The festivals are open to soloists and ensembles. BSCD musicians are looking forward to successful All-State experiences. As talented and well-prepared musicians, they are performing high quality music and exercising careful attention to, and utilization of, the NYSSMA manual. The students prepare for their All-State music with as much care and attention to detail they did for their auditions.

The Honors Festival students for this year are:

- **AREA ALL STATE BAND**
(BHS) George Humphreys on trumpet
- **AREA ALL STATE CHORAL**
Jonah Mensch and Jose Resendiz (BHS)
- **DCMEA JUNIOR HIGH ALL-COUNTY CHORAL**
Zoe Moreno and Saniyah Wiltshire (BHS) Brandon Fremer (RMS)

- **DMEA JUNIOR HIGH ALL COUNTY BAND**
Brayden Manning on trombone (RMS)
Charlie Klein on trumpet (BHS)
Jacob Signorelli on tenor saxophone (BHS)
- **ALTERNATE FOR THE NYSSMA ALL-STATE FESTIVAL**
Rowan Parsaca, where she earned 100% on her Level 6 All State solo



All-County Band: Congratulations to Brayden Manning on making Junior High All-County Band this year on the trombone. After preparing an audition, he was selected as one of the top five trombonists in Dutchess County. Great job, Brayden!

Mark Rubinstein, Grade 6 Band Director, RMS;
Ms. Ryan - teacher

All-County Chorus: "I think it was really fun, I had the opportunity to meet a lot of interesting people while I was there. Music was great, it really helped with improving my singing and I got a lot of good practice while I was there."

Brandon Fremer - 7th Grade RMS Chorus;
Mr. Cunningham - teacher.



Innovative Alternative to Traditional Sports



Beacon students can now be part of a club to show off their skills in front of

a monitor. **eSports** have arrived and on March 26, Rombout Middle School and Beacon High School students competed in a competition against students from Arlington and Millbrook.

Contender eSports Hudson Valley hosted the competition at their location in Wappingers Falls, which features over 50 gaming stations. Beacon is currently the only district that offers eSports to middle school students, but other districts are expected to follow suit next school year.

BCSD Director of Technology Michael Kealy has wanted to bring eSports to Beacon since January 2020, after being

asked by students to create a club for it. The COVID-19 pandemic delayed the process, but Kealy was ready to start it up this school year, especially with the opening of Contender.



“The kids are very passionate about this eSports team. It has been very fun to compete against other schools. We have one win so far and the momentum is definitely building. Can’t wait to see what the team accomplishes,” said Coach/Advisor Joe Junjulas.

Dutchess BOCES offers eSports through a CO-SER, or approved cooperative agreement, which helps pay for gaming computers. The district is looking to create coaching positions for eSports and have a dedicated room on campus.

“It made it so seamless to get it off the ground,” Kealy said of the CO-SER. “Beacon has had a great turnout already.”

RMS Principal Brian Soltish commented, “All of the students participating in eSports are very excited and are loving being a part of the eSports team. Their first match was played against Arlington High School last weekend and they won the NBA 2K Tournament. Rombout Middle School played against Beacon High School; however, the middle school lost. They all are looking forward to playing.”

Students are already forging friendships in BCSD and with rival districts. This club is great exposure for students interested in pursuing a career in eSports.

Ice Cream Lab a Hit with RMS Students

Seventh grade students at Rombout Middle School had a sweet time learning how to make ice cream and then tasting their batch with science teacher Jeanette Lynch.



The students took half-and-half, vanilla and sugar, sealed it into a plastic bag with some duct tape and gave it a good shake before freezing it using ice and rock salt.



“Saltwater has a lower freezing temperature; it became cold enough to freeze the half-and-half, vanilla and sugar,” Lynch explained. “They got a lot of their extra energy out by having to shake the bag vigorously.”

While the ice cream did not look aesthetically pleasing, it tasted delicious and students had their choice of numerous toppings such as M&M’s, Oreos and whipped cream. “It actually came out excellent,” Lynch said. “The kids really enjoyed it.”

Famous Women Immortalized In Poster Form

At Glenham Elementary School, students in Rebecca Tesan’s 5th grade class erected a Women’s History Bulletin Board. The class worked together to from the faces of famous women from history in the form of a big class puzzle. Each student had a puzzle piece to add.

In addition to the puzzle pieces, students added famous quotes from the women around the bulletin board. They learned about Ruby Bridges, Anne Frank, Malala Yousafzai, Amelia Earhart, Frida Kahlo, Rosa Parks, Harriet Tubman and Georgia O’Keefe.

“The students put up the bulletin board themselves and were really proud to have worked together,” Tesan said.

“They were so enthusiastic that they asked for the rest of March to learn about more famous women.”

At Sargent Elementary School, students in Nichole Winchell’s and Nicole Piqueras’ class chose a women from history to commemorate an incredible woman on a poster, based on their own interests.

One poster features the powerful phrase, “I want to be brave like Malala by not being afraid to make the world a better place.”

“These posters portray how students can follow in these women’s footsteps,” Winchell explained.



Congratulations to Beacon High School’s Reilly Landisi. She received one of the Top 50 Player Awards in Section 9 Girls Basketball.

Her coach Christina Dahl is proud of Landisi’s achievements and is more than deserving of the award.

“She is determined and dedicated to the sport, leading the team in scoring and assists,” Dahl said. “She is a pleasure to coach, always supporting her teammates and her level of commitment is truly inspiring.”