

# SMITHTOWN BULLETIN



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**JUNE 2024**





# SUPERINTENDENT *Message*

Dear Smithtown CSD Community,

It has been a joy to attend and participate in the various celebrations that typically mark the end of a school year. Whether it be an awards ceremony, field day, moving up ceremony or graduation; the students, their parents and staff beamed with deserved pride as we concluded the 2023-2024 school year. These events at our Elementary, Middle and High Schools provide us all with an annual reminder of the importance of our work and the progress our students make during their time in the Smithtown Central School District. Our annual goal for the graduating students is that they are well prepared for the future of their choosing. I believe they are well prepared and we all look forward to hearing of their successes.

I truly hope that each and every one of you has the opportunity this summer to spend time with loved ones, rest, recharge, renew and reflect and I hope you and yours enjoy every minute of it!

Sincerely,  
Mark Secaur, Ed.D.





# GRADUATION CORNER



**CONGRATS, GRADS!**



**Congratulations to our 715 High School graduates,  
and all of our elementary and middle school students  
who enjoyed their “Moving Up” ceremonies!**

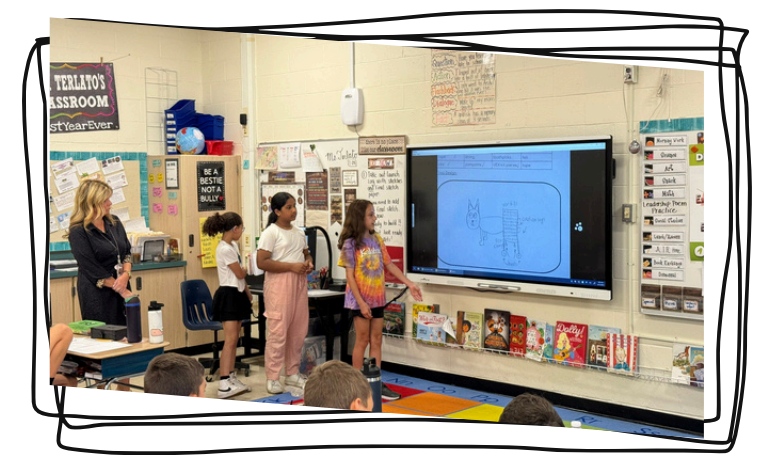




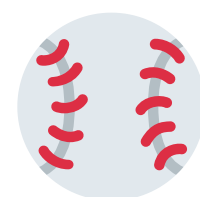
# CURRICULUM CORNER

## STEAM LESSONS

Fourth graders at Dogwood Elementary, under the instruction of Jillian Terlato and Kelly Bigliani, designed prosthetic devices for a toy cat who lost the use of it's back legs. This type of lesson helps students experiment and develop new solutions to classroom challenges!



## SEE YA! A TRIP TO YANKEE STADIUM



Move over Derek and The Babe, High School East and West students recently visited Yankee Stadium!

Forty-eight students, through the History of Sports in American Society class, toured the Yankees dugout, museum, and monument park. To end the visit, the group had lunch at the Hard Rock Cafe located inside Yankee Stadium.



Thank you to Sports History Teachers, Mike Menendez, Kevin Madeiras and Matt Karmin for making this possible!





# SCSD ACHIEVEMENTS

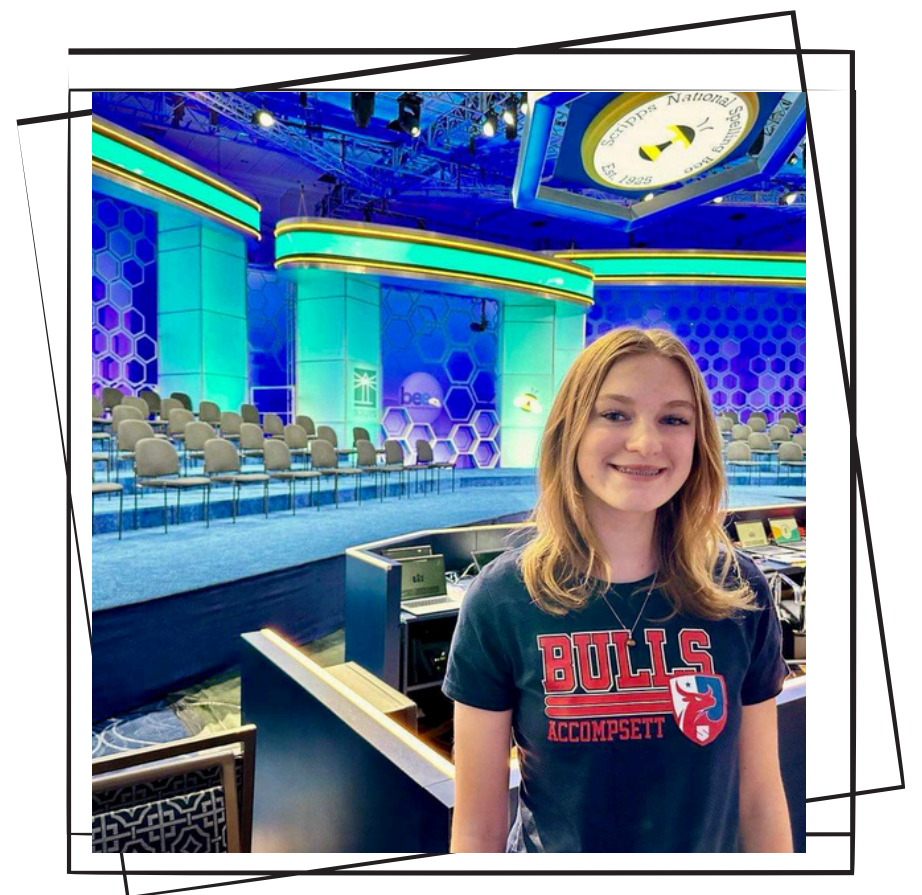
## SPELLING



The Smithtown Central School District is extremely proud of Accomsett Middle School seventh grade student, Olivia Lipiec, for competing in the Scripps National Spelling Bee in Maryland!

Olivia was one of just two Long Island students to qualify for the national tournament. and reached the third round!

Olivia says she plans on competing again next year!



## TORCH AWARDS!!!

The Smithtown Central School District has named its 2024 Torch Award recipients! The Torch Award is presented to Smithtown teachers who have significantly contributed to the growth and professional development of their teacher colleagues.

The 2024 Torch Award recipients are:

Joanne Figueiredo, Kathleen Frevele, Dr. Patricia Gallery, Christina Giangrandi, Robyn Koch, Christina Kolahifar, Jennifer Macomber and Austin Portente.



Congratulations to all and special thank you to St. James Elementary teacher, Jennifer Goldman, for organizing this wonderful event!





# SCSD ACHIEVEMENTS

## WAY TO GO, TECHNOLOGY TEACHERS!

The Smithtown CSD was well represented at the Western Suffolk BOCES Model Schools Awards Ceremony.

The district congratulated Kathleen Lamitola (Tackan, Learning to Read with Geodes with the Support of Google Earth), Donna Deluca and Lorraine McDermott (Accompsett MS, Hero's Journey Project), and Michelle Robinson (Tackan, Ozobot Ice Capades) on being named Technology Integration Award Winners!

Smithtown received three of five awards this year out of the 18 districts that make up Western Suffolk BOCES.

For each of the three awards, Western Suffolk BOCES will provide \$1,000 to be used for the school and/or classroom.



## SWEET SUCCESS!

They came, they ate chocolate, and they hit all the right notes! Smithtown High School East musicians, 160 in total, have come back victorious from the music department's first overnight trip; attending the Music in the Parks festival at Hershey Park!

The Concert Choir, under the direction of Mr. Mark Hegreness, received a superior rating and 1st place in their category. The Symphonic Orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Brian McCoy, received a superior rating and 1st place in their category.

The Symphonic Orchestra was also rated the Best Overall Orchestra. The Symphonic Band, under the direction of Mrs. Jennifer Leavy, received a superior rating and 1st place in their category.

The Symphonic Band was also rated the Best Overall Band.





# COMMUNITY NEWS

## TAKING ACTION TO HELP OUR



SCSD technology integration specialist/art teacher, Tim Needles, and High School West science teacher, Kimberly Williams, are part of a winning grant from the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs program that connects young people in 37 countries to work on environmental projects.

Needles and Williams will work with students on various collaborative, creative, and environmental projects and share the work they are doing in the Smithtown Central School District!



## MAKING THE “CONNECTION”

High School East junior, Daniel La Cava, was recently invited to attend the 2024 JATC Electrician Apprenticeship program graduation.

Daniel made the “connection” at the recent Smithtown Trade Fair. Pictured is Chris Kelly, Long Island JATC Director, Regina Crawford, Apprenticeship Training Representative, Daniel La Cava and his dad, Paul La Cava.

Well done!



## MAKERSPACE WITH MARK!

Superintendent Secaur had a great conversation with High School West senior, Matt Bannell, on the High School West library Makerspace Podcast!

The two discussed the duties of a superintendent, Dr. Secaur's high school senior year, hands-on learning (makerspace), sports, and of course Dr. Secaur's favorite song!



Watch the interview [HERE](#)





# COMMUNITY NEWS

## SLIME TIME!

Tackan Elementary students did the work, so Principal Furey did the slime! Principal Furey made good on his promise to his students by getting slimed!



The agreement was made during PARP week, that if students tackled all of their reading challenges, Principal Furey would complete the “principal’s challenge!”



Mission accomplished!

## HELLOS AND GOODBYES

As the school year comes to a close, the SCSD welcomes in some new faces and says goodbye to some familiar ones.

At High School West, William Holl will be the new principal, replacing John Coady, who is retiring. In addition, Scott Johnson will serve as the new assistant principal at West, replacing Chris Elsesser.

Victoria Hartman is the new SCSD Director of Fine Arts, replacing the retiring Michael Mastrangelo.

Welcome William, Scott and Victoria, and thank you John, Michael, and Chris for all that you’ve done!





# SPORTS ZONE

## REPPING SMITHTOWN AT STATES

HSW's Douglas Antaky, Laina Friedmann and HSE's Braden McCormack and Sophia Corso all had fantastic showings at the state track and field championships!

Doug is a NYSPHSAA state champion, placing first among public school runners in the 3200 meters! He finished with a time of 9:01.99 in the 3200m run, shattering his own school record by six seconds.

Laina ran to a school record in the 1500, placing 4th overall. Laina also finished 7th overall in the 800 and made All Federation and All State.

Braden completed a high jump of 6'8" which matched his personal best and made him the NYS Federation Championships runner-up!

Sophia proudly represented our high school golf team and Section XI in this past week's NY State High School golf championship.



## UNDEFEATED...2X!!!

Talk about a school of champions!

Congratulations to the GHMS Girls lacrosse team and 7th and 8th grade softball team on BOTH finishing their seasons undefeated!

For the laxers, this was their fourth straight unbeaten season!

Way to go!

