

SMITHTOWN BULLETIN



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JUNE 2025



SUPERINTENDENT *Message*

Dear Smithtown CSD Community,

As we conclude the 2024-2025 school year, I have very much enjoyed attending the various awards ceremonies and graduations. It is great to see the students highlighted for their accomplishments as their parents beam with deserved pride. We share that pride as well! It gives us great satisfaction when we positively impact the trajectory of the students in our care.

These events 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. We believe they are ready, and we all look forward to hearing of their future successes.

In addition, I truly hope that each and every one of you has the opportunity this summer to spend quality time with loved ones and enjoy all that a Long Island has to offer.

We also hope you enjoy this month's edition of the BULLETin!

Sincerely,
Dr. Secaur



CURRICULUM CORNER



CON-GRAD-ULATIONS!



It was a day of celebration and inspiration as the newest graduates of Smithtown High School East and High School West turned their tassels and tossed their caps into the air. On a beautiful Thursday in June, nearly 700 seniors comprised the Class of 2025 as they enjoyed a wonderful commencement ceremony. The day was filled with many hugs, rounds of applause and a few tears of joy as our seniors celebrated their milestone achievement.

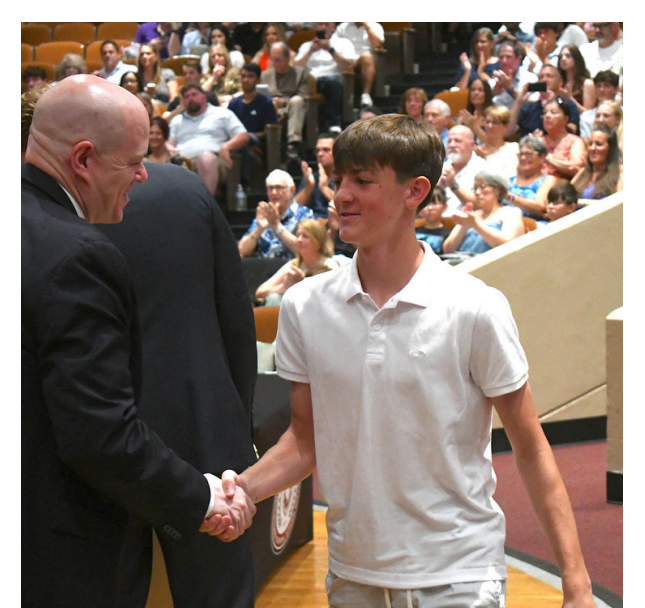
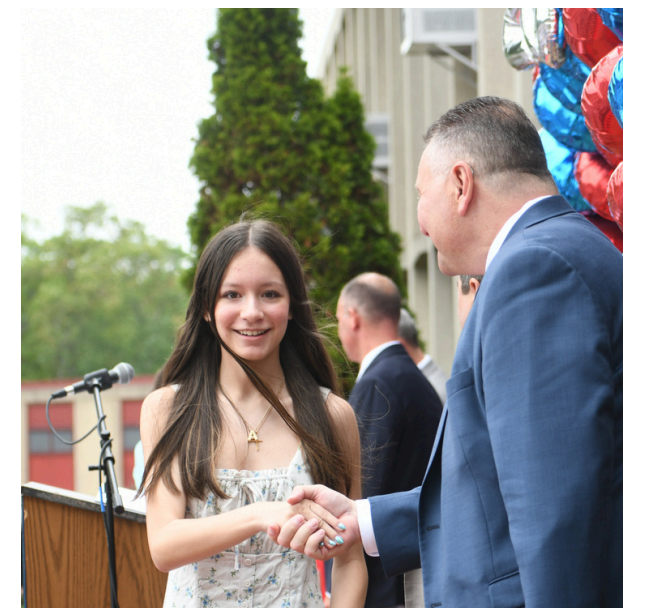
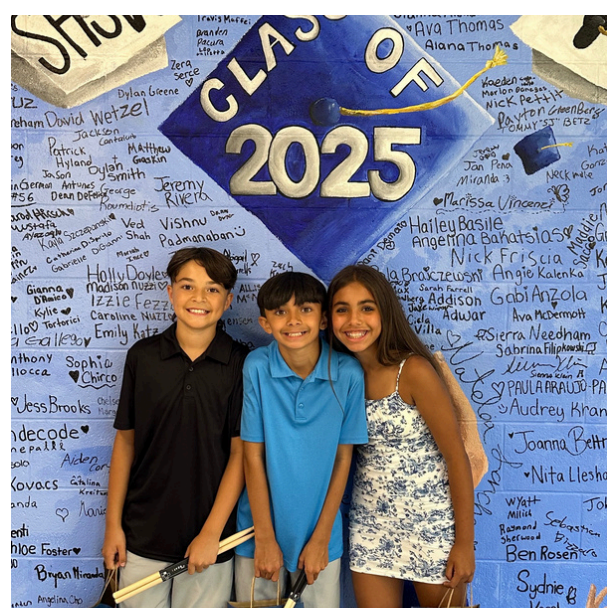
Congratulations to our students and their families!



CURRICULUM CORNER

MOVING UP!

Congratulations to our students who celebrated their “Moving Up” ceremonies at Dogwood, St. James, Smithtown, Accomsett, Mills Pond, Mt. Pleasant, Tackan, Nesaquake, Accomsett and Great Hollow schools!



SCSD ACHIEVEMENTS

GOLD CORD STUDENTS!

Smithtown High School East and West honored 184 seniors who maintained a 4.0 GPA for four consecutive years of high school, in the annual Gold Cord ceremonies.

High School East Principal, Rob Rose, and High School West Principal, William Holl, presented the gold cords in separate ceremonies. SCSD administration was on hand to congratulate students at both events.

As is tradition, school guidance counselors introduced the students, looked back at the student's most memorable high school moments and announced their future college plans.

Congratulations on an amazing achievement!



LEADING BY EXAMPLE

Smithtown High School West senior, Joseph Davide, was a recent recipient of the SCHSPA Leadership Award, which is awarded to a high school senior who has demonstrated exemplary leadership characteristics. Joseph was nominated by Principal William Holl, who praised Joey at a recent awards luncheon.

“This student is not only an innovator and a changemaker - he is also a role model,” Holl exclaimed. “As a senior member of the School Improvement Team, he is helping the team as they work to build community, grow club participation, and even plan creative district-wide initiatives. For his academic excellence, leadership, character, and the profound impact he has had on his peers and community, it is my privilege to present this Leadership Award.”



SCSD ACHIEVEMENTS

SPELLING STAR! ★

Congratulations to Accomsett Middle School eighth grade student, Olivia Lipiec on an outstanding effort at the Scripps National Spelling Bee. This was Olivia's second consecutive year competing at the national level. In addition, Olivia's mom shared that a producer from The Kelly Clarkson Show invited Olivia to submit a video for a segment called "Kelly's Spellys." Thank you, Olivia, for representing the Smithtown Central School District and Accomsett Middle School with such determination and excellence.



RELAY FOR LIFE!

For 12 straight hours, beginning on a Saturday night in June and into Sunday morning, the track at High School West was used. Not for running, but rather, to raise awareness and money in the fight against cancer. We are proud to announce that the Smithtown Relay for Life event, featuring students from both East and West, raised over \$86,000 in total donations!

Thank you to advisor, Mr. Archer and the Event Leadership Team from HSW and all Relay teams for all their hard work and dedication.

Watch and hear from our fundraising heroes [HERE](#).



ATOMIC ACE!

Smithtown High School East Science Research Coordinator, Maria Zeitlin, was recently awarded the ACS Division of Chemical Education Middle Atlantic Region Award for Excellence in High School Teaching. This award "recognizes, encourages, and stimulates outstanding teachers of high school chemistry in the Middle Atlantic Region," and consists of a monetary award and a plaque. Maria was nominated by the ACS New York region and attended the MARM Conference in New Jersey to accept her award. Her sons were there to join in the celebration!



Congratulations, Maria!



COMMUNITY NEWS

NEW YEAR, NEW ROLES!

Please join us in congratulating Mrs. Annemarie Freund and Mrs. Trisha Bernhardt in accepting new positions for the following school year.

This July, Mrs. Freund will be starting in her new position as Assistant Administrator for High School Special Education.

For the past five years, Freund has been one of the assistant principals at High School West. She has been at West since 2012, previously serving as a school counselor for eight years, as well as a class advisor and varsity badminton coach.

Dogwood Elementary School's Trisha Bernhardt, the school's Speech and Language Pathologist, will now be the district's new Assistant Administrator for CPSE and Special Education. Bernhardt has over 20 years of experience working as a CPSE/CSE chairperson, Director of a Special Education Preschool, and a Speech teacher providing treatment and evaluations for students in preschool and school age.



THANK YOU AND CONGRATS!

Newly tenured staff and retirees were celebrated at the June 10 Board of Education meeting. Dr. Secaur thanked the retirees for their years of service, and also spoke of the newly tenured staff, stating "The work that they have done has been exemplary and we look forward to the work they will do in the future."

Thank you for all of your hard work and dedication.

Click [HERE](#) for more.



JOIN OUR TEAM!!!

There are several openings in the Smithtown Central School District. Those interested can submit a letter, resume, and two professional references to Assistant Superintendent for Personnel Neil Katz at: employment@smithtown.k12.ny.us

WE ARE
HIRING!

JOIN
OUR TEAM

Special Education Aides: various shifts available for all levels including elementary, middle and high schools.
\$20.39 per hour. Minimum 3 hours per day.

Elementary School Monitors: shifts are 2.25-2.5 hours per day between 11:45 AM-2:15 PM. \$17.00 per hour.

Food Service Worker and Custodial Worker positions also available.

NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY

WORK THE STUDENT CALENDAR

SUMMERS, WEEKENDS, NIGHTS AND HOLIDAYS OFF

SEND A RESUME AND LETTER OF INTEREST TO: EMPLOYMENT@SMITHTOWN.K12.NY.US
TO APPLY OR CALL (631) 382-2170 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

SCAN
OR CODE
TO APPLY

COMMUNITY NEWS

SCOUT'S HONOR

Smithtown High School West junior, Alyssa Faro, has achieved Scouting America's highest honor, the Eagle Scout Award. Alyssa is the first female student from the Smithtown Central School District to earn the Eagle Scout Award since girls were accepted by former BSA (Boys Scouts of America) now known as Scouting America.

In a letter to Alyssa, Superintendent Dr. Secaur stated, in part, "This remarkable accomplishment is a testament to your dedication, perseverance, and leadership....As a female Eagle Scout, you are part of a trailblazing group of young women who have broken barriers and set new standards in Scouting. Your achievement not only honors your personal growth but also paves the way for future generations of girls in the program."

Congratulations, Alyssa!



TERRIFIC IN TECHNOLOGY

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

Congratulations to the following educators listed below that have been selected for \$1,000 Model Schools grant awards to purchase technology for their classrooms. These teachers were honored at the annual Western Suffolk BOCES Model Schools award ceremony at which they also gave a presentation about their project.

Kathleen Lamitola & Michelle Manning - A Snowflake's Journey, and Jennifer Keller & Tim Needles, with collaboration from Joseph Toth and Catherine Masrour - AR/VR in the classroom.



COMMUNITY NEWS

CEREAL BOX CHALLENGE

In honor of Jacque LePrairie and Claudia Chandler, beloved P.E. teacher and art teacher in the Smithtown Central School District, 302 boxes of cereals were collected by Tackan students and school staff, and donated to local food pantries and shelters that serve families experiencing food insecurities.

The drive was coordinated by Tackan Elementary School social worker, Kerryann Stewart, and the Tackan Cares Community service club.

As a culmination of the event, the cereal boxes were lined through the hallways and knocked down like dominoes.

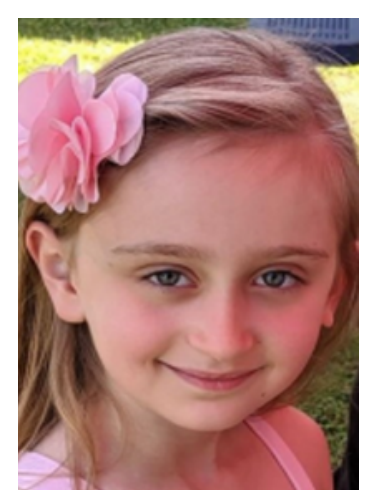


BELLA'S WISH

Isabella Hammer was the daughter of a Mt. Pleasant Elementary School staff member who bravely fought a brain tumor (DIPG) until February 13, 2021.

During her journey, Isabella was touched by the gifts she received from the Ronald McDonald House that helped bring a little joy to her many hospital stays. Shortly before her passing, Isabella expressed the desire to spread the same joy she felt to other children by holding her own toy drive.

To honor Isabella's wish, MTP held a clothing and toy drive to collect donations for the Ronald McDonald House at Stony Brook Children's Hospital and Cohen Children's Hospital.



SPORTS ZONE

SUFFOLK COUNTY CHAMPIONS!

The Smithtown High School West girls' lacrosse team is your Suffolk County "Class B" champions!

The Bulls defeated Harborfields, 12-9, in front of a raucous crowd at the Pratt Turf.

According to our Director of Athletics, Jason Lambert, this is the district's first girls' county title in lacrosse.

This was the girls third consecutive trip to the county title game.

Congratulations to head coach Vincenza Patrone and the team on an amazing accomplishment!



EAST IS A BEAST!

Our East girls track team enjoyed some great results at the Section XI County meet.

Rayshelle Brown is the Suffolk County 100m hurdles champion!

Rayshelle also placed 4th in the 200m race.

In the 200m Steeplechase Sarah Wisnieski took 2nd and qualified for Nationals with a time of 7:17:57.

Sophia Alvarez placed 2nd in the 1500m race walk.

In the long jump, Maria Armentano finished 5th with a jump of 16' 4.5.

Ava Walsh, Annalisa Singer, Maria Armentano and Rayshelle Brown placed 2nd in the 4x00 relay.

Finally, Annabelle Willie, Sarah Wisnieski, Brooke Rosenberg and Allison Byrne placed 2nd in the 4x800 relay!



MCDALD MAKES HISTORY!

Smithtown High School West senior, Erin McDaid, has made SCSD history in becoming the district's first ever overall Section XI Butch Dellecave Award recipient!

This prestigious award honors student-athletes who excel in athletics, academics and community service. The finalists are named and recognized with an expanded presentation of their accomplishments on the field of play, in the classroom and within the community.

Erin, a star pitcher and hitter, had a fantastic season for High School West, leading the Bulls to the Suffolk Class AA Championship series.

Congratulations!

