



SMITHTOWN BULLETIN



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DEC 2023



SUPERINTENDENT *Message*

Dear Smithtown CSD Community,

I sincerely hope that this message finds you and yours well this holiday season! As I stated in last month's message, the holidays are a great opportunity to spend time with family, friends and loved ones to reflect upon 2023 and the year ahead. I do hope that you all take advantage of it, I certainly intend to.

As you are likely aware, we have sought to provide our students with a variety of events and activities that spread joy as we approach the Winter Recess. I am very thankful that our hard-working staff provides these opportunities for our students, and I hope the memories last a lifetime!

Best wishes for a joyful holiday season and a Happy New Year!

Sincerely,
Dr. Secaur



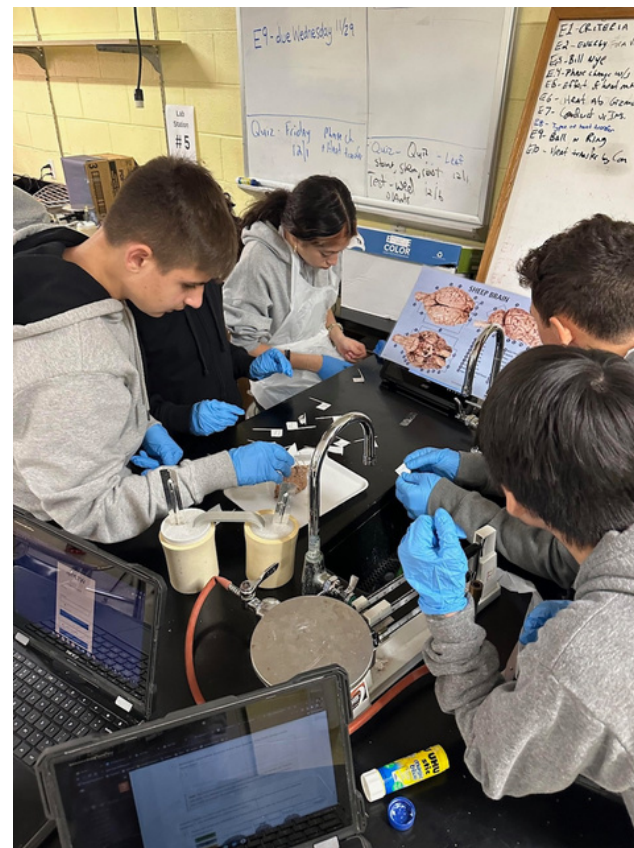
CURRICULUM CORNER

PLTW - MEDICAL DETECTIVES!

Our future doctors were hard at work at Accomsett Middle School in Project Lead the Way - Medical Detectives!

Students got hands-on experience dissecting and exploring a sheep brain, learning all about the different lobes and regions.

They were fascinated seeing brain tissue up close.



LEARNING FROM THE EXPERT

High School students in the PLTW biomedical science pathway received a firsthand look at what it's like to be a forensic pathologist when they were visited by Dr. Amy Rapkiewicz, Deputy Chief Medical Examiner for The Suffolk County Police Department.

Dr. Rapkiewicz led students through a “virtual autopsy” and toxicology reports to determine the cause of death of various patients. She also discussed how the manner of death is determined on a death certificate. The educational pathway to becoming a forensic pathologist as well as potential pathways to careers that work in collaboration with the medical examiner were discussed.



CURRICULUM CORNER

WATER BALLOON: 1

MR. SAVAGE: 0

In Mr. Savage's PLTW-Principles of Engineering class, students were tasked to create a Rube Goldberg machine that executed simple tasks in complex, indirect ways. Each student built their own part of the machine while simultaneously collaborating with one another in order to ensure the machine worked.

In the end the simple task of popping a water balloon over Mr. Savage's head was a success.

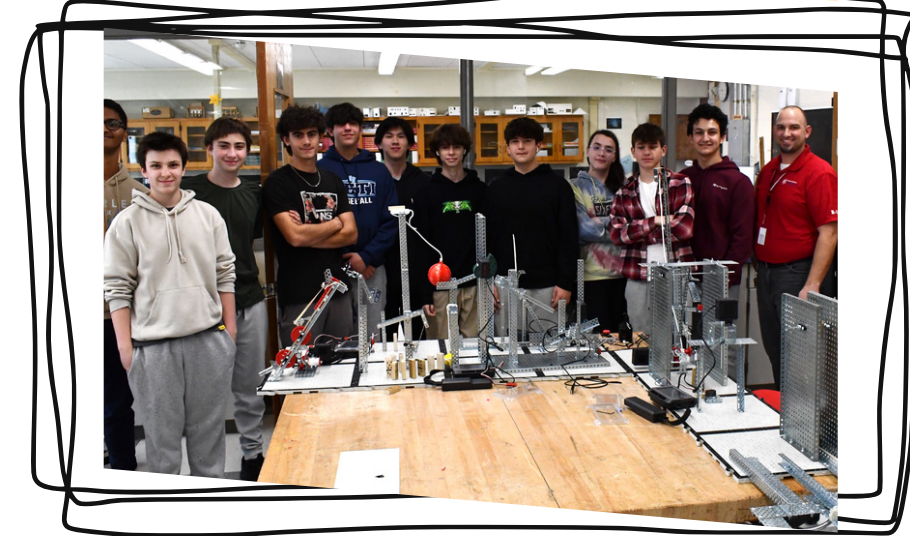
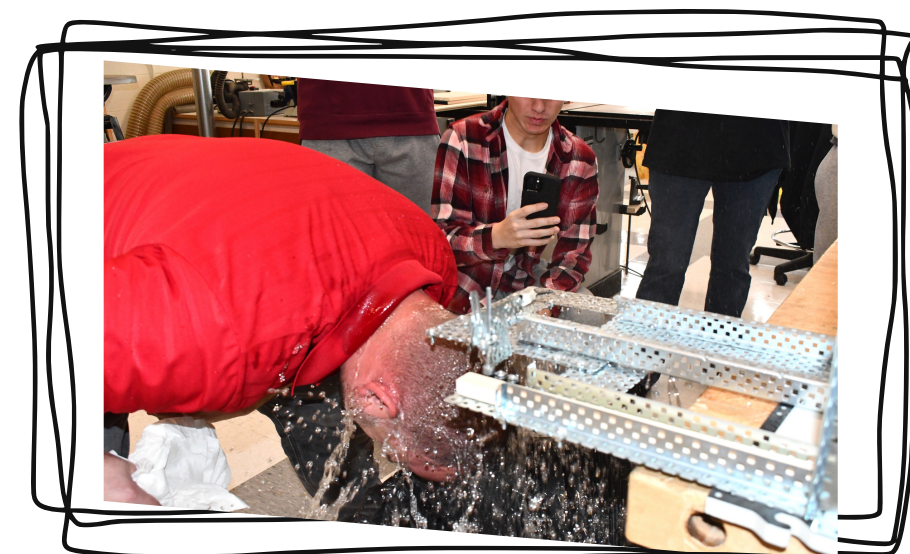
Watch the video [HERE](#)

Math Jeopardy + Shape Shadows = FUN!

The HSE National Mathematics Honor Society recently held its annual Math Fun Night and the event was a huge success! Over 300 students and their families engaged in more than 20 hands-on events celebrating mathematics together.

Geared towards district students in grades 4-8, members of the East Math Honor Society hosted the math-inspired activities.

The event raised more than 300 pounds of food to be donated to the Smithtown Food Pantry.



SCSD ACHIEVEMENTS

WAY TO GO, SEAN!

Congratulations to High School East's Sean Solomon on receiving the Suffolk County Executives Youth Achievement Award!

Sean was nominated by Principal Robert Rose and School Psychologist, Mrs. Rodriguez, for recognition of his personal achievement, hard work and personal growth.

Congrats to Sean!!



DIEGO IN THE NEWS



Congratulations to High School East soccer goalkeeper Diego Flores on being named a News 12 Scholar Athlete award winner!

In the classroom, Diego maintains a 4.28 weighted GPA and is a member of the French, Math and Science honor societies.

On the pitch, Diego is a 3x League Goalkeeper of the Year, 2023 League MVP, 2022 All-State player, and is HSE's all-time leader in career shutouts with 23!

News 12 selects 30 Long Island high school seniors annually to be featured throughout the school year.



SCSD ACHIEVEMENTS

HITTING THE HIGH NOTES

The administration and music department at High School West are proud to acknowledge the following students who were selected to perform as musicians in the 2023-2024 Long Island String Festival Association (LISFA) orchestra.

Pictured left to Right: Asst. Principal Christopher Elsesser, Jacey Lin, Hannah Ren, Heng Ye, Madelyn Donaghy, Henri Buchet, Jonathan Cho, Melvin Cheng, Katie Greening, Orchestra Maestro, Joseph Cotignola Jr.



Bravo!

A WAY WITH WORDS...AND SCIENCE!

Congratulations to High School East science students Jolene Cao (1st place), Dylan Shen (finalist), Sanjivani Singh (finalist) and Sophia Gavaris (finalist) received high marks in the American Chemical Society's Illustrated Poem Contest.

In celebration of National Chemistry Week, contestants were challenged to write an illustrated poem centered on the theme of "The Healing Power of Chemistry." Entries were judged on the quality of their poem, the imagery of their artwork and the creativity of their overall submission.

First-place regional winner, Jolene Cao, also placed second nationally!



COMMUNITY NEWS

EMMA AT MSG!



Mills Pond Elementary School fifth grader Emma Larson was the star of the show at a NY Rangers game this month at Madison Square Garden.

Emma was the recipient of a custom adaptive therapy bike courtesy of the Garden Of Dreams Foundation.

Emma says she's thrilled about the gift, and the surprise greeting from NHL Hall of Famer, Henrik Lundqvist!



HSW FAST TEAM SPREADS HOLIDAY CHEER

Smithtown West FAST Program Work Study Coordinator, Jillian Otero, and her students held an amazing Holiday "Pop Up" shop recently at the District Administration building!

The holiday shop included delicious treats personally baked by the students, as well as clothing and ornaments, all wrapped by the students!



COMMUNITY NEWS



SOUNDS OF THE SEASON



GREAT JOB BY ALL OF OUR SCHOOL MUSICIANS
AND CONDUCTORS WHO PUT ON WONDERFUL
WINTER CONCERT PERFORMANCES!



SPORTS ZONE

SIMPLY THE BEST

Congratulations to Smithtown High School West's Jack Melore on winning the Section XI award for best receiver in Suffolk County!

Jack had a season for the ages for the Bulls, finishing with 78 receptions for 1,258 yards and 17 TDs.

This season Jack also set the all-time Long Island record for career receptions with 158 and career receiving yards with 2,689!

We are proud of you, Jack!



SCSD VS THE HARLEM WIZARDS

Nesaquake Middle School teamed up with St. James and Dogwood Elementary Schools for a fun community family event held at High School East.

Organized by each school's PTA presidents, principals, assistant principals and teachers, they laced up their sneakers for a full-court basketball game vs. the Harlem Wizards!

More than 650 people attended the event!



SPORTS ZONE

HERE FOR HANNAH

Our High School West and High School East girls basketball teams played against each other this month, but the game had a deeper meaning than just the score.

The teams were playing to raise money to fight cancer, and especially to support High School West sophomore, Hannah Waller. Hannah has been battling brain cancer since September when she had surgery to remove a brain tumor.

Hannah's twin sister, Mallory, addressed the crowd and Hannah before the game, telling her sister, "You are such a warrior. I'm so glad to be alongside you during this fight."

Many clubs and groups were on hand to help in the fundraising efforts. Money raised will go towards the American Cancer Society.



BOOSTER CLUB SCHOLAR ATHLETES

Congratulations to the following teams from our middle schools who won the Smithtown Booster Club Fall Scholar Athlete Award!



GHMS 7th Grade Soccer
GPA: 3.89



Nesaquake 7th Grade Tennis
GPA: 3.99



**AMS 7th
Grade Cross Country**
GPA: 3.95

