



# SUPERINTENDENT'S NEWSLETTER

Peter J. Dion, Superintendent Office 631.968.1115 Fax 631.968.4131 [www.bayshoreschools.org](http://www.bayshoreschools.org) Volume 4 January 2012

## Dear Bay Shore/Brightwaters Resident,

The Board of Education is currently in the midst of preparing the 2012-2013 proposed budget. Board Work Sessions and meetings are open to the public for review and feedback of the proposed budget. The Work Session dates the Board of Education will be discussing the proposed budget are: February 8, February 29, March 14, 28, and April 4 (if needed). All meetings begin at 7:15 p.m. in the Jerry G. Berka Building. On February 29 and March 28, following the Work Session, a Public Meeting is held at 8:00 p.m. in the High School Little Theater. Join us at any or all of the scheduled meetings.

This past month has been filled with outstanding achievements by our students in all areas: academics, the arts, and athletics. We can all be proud of the accomplishments of our Bay Shore youth. A special congratulations to second grader, Georgios Stavroulakis, and High School student Griffin Rock. Georgios' artwork was selected for the annual holiday greeting card; Griffin was selected as a News 12 Scholar Athlete. Great work!

Sincerely,

Peter J. Dion  
Superintendent of Schools

## Track and Field/Tennis Sign Update

In an earlier Superintendent's Newsletter, a notice of limitations were included regarding the use of the High School track and fields. Given concerns over its availability and use, a change has been made to the schedule. The High School track and fields will be open to the community (unless a student activity arises) until March 19, 2012. During this time, the High School Physical Education classes are conducting indoor curriculum units. After March 19, the track and fields will be for student use only during school hours, athletic practices, and school events. The track/fields are an extension of the classroom. Signs will be posted prior to March 19 indicating the new track and fields use regulation. I ask for your patience and understanding when our students are using the facilities. Maintaining a safe environment for our students and staff continue to be our utmost concern. Thank you for your continuing cooperation and support of our Bay Shore students.

## Notification of School Closings During Severe Weather

There may be times this winter and early spring that schools will close due to inclement weather. School closing information will be broadcast on the following television stations: News Channel 12, ABC Eyewitness News (Ch. 7), Good Day New York (Ch. 5), WCBS News (Ch. 2), WNBC News (Ch. 4), and FIOS Channel 1. The closings will also be posted on the District's website.

## Grade Book to be Available on iCampus Parent Portal

Our Board of Education is committed to informing parents and guardians about the academic performance of their children. On February 1, the district will open the Grade Book option for all parents/guardians on the iCampus Parent Portal. Using the Parent Portal of Infinite Campus allows real-time online viewing of your child's grades on all assignments, tests, quizzes and projects. The grades become available immediately to parents/guardians once a teacher has entered grade information into the iCampus electronic grade book. As a side benefit of this feature, the district will further reduce postage and paper costs by starting to eliminate the cost involved with the mailing of report cards and progress reports. These reports are available on the portal and can be printed from your own personal computer. In addition, officially being released is a mobile application to access your child's schedule, grades, assignments and attendance data using the Infinite Campus Mobile Portal. This universal app gives parents/guardians the same instant access to their data using an iPad, iPhone or iPod Touch. The app is available for download after logging on to the parent portal or by searching the iTunes App Store from your mobile device. Step by step instructions are included during the app setup process. We hope you will enjoy these features that will further enhance communication between home and school.

## Awareness Weekend

A unique opportunity for our High School students is a voluntary activity called "Awareness Weekend." Students and staff members spend 36 hours engaging one another and exploring important social issues. Awareness Weekend has proven to be a very valuable activity providing our diverse student body lessons in cooperation and mutual respect. Throughout the weekend, participants strengthen the bonds that exist at the high school, while creating a more inclusive and embracing environment. Motivational guest speakers are scheduled during the two day event to discuss issues of interest to our high school students.

The next Awareness Weekend is February 3 and 4. The keynote speaker will be Mr. Tom Howard. Mr. Howard was a former BSHS football coach that led the Marauders to multiple Rutgers Trophy wins in the 1980's. We will also welcome a local parent and suicide survivor who will be speaking on suicide and cyberbullying. If you would like to help sponsor and offset the cost of a weekend, or part of a weekend, we welcome your support. A special thank you to the Evelyn Blose Holman Education Foundation for their \$250 donation toward the next Awareness Weekend. You may contact Co-Advisors, Dr. Katie Kelly (968-1199) or Ms. Shannon Handley (968-1181), to discuss how you can help in this worthwhile activity.

**Board Action**

The Board of Education took action on the following significant items at their December 14, 2011 meeting:

- Approved the minutes of the Public and Work Session meetings of November 30, 2011.
- Approved the following Personnel Recommendations: approved unpaid leave of professional staff, professional staff tenure appointments, civil service appointments, substitute appointments of paraprofessional and home tutor, and professional staff salary changes. (call for details)
- Accepted and placed on file financial reports as rendered by the District Treasurer.
- Approved the 2011-2012 per child tuition rate for health and welfare services to schools within the Bay Shore S.D. that have non-resident students attending non-public schools in the Bay Shore UFSD.
- Established a standard work day for each appointed position and adopted the appropriate resolution.
- Endorsed actions taken by the Bay Shore Committee on Special Education as noted in the minutes of October and November.
- Endorsed actions taken by the Bay Shore Committee on Pre-school Special Education as noted in the minutes of November & December.
- Adopted the Individualized Home Instruction Plan as listed for the 2011-2012 school year.
- Adopted the book *African-American Literature* to be utilized as part of the English curriculum.
- Approved the new Math course, Intermediate Algebra, to be used as part of the Math curriculum beginning in 2012.

Public Notification — The Bay Shore School District hereby advises students, parents, employees and the general public that it offers employment and educational opportunities, including vocational education opportunities, without regard to sex, race color, national origin, or handicap. Inquiries regarding this nondiscrimination policy may be directed to Title IX Coordinator and/or Section 504 Coordinator, 75 W. Perkal Street, Bay Shore, NY 11706

**BSSAEF Dance Benefit is a Success!**

Congratulations to the Bay Shore Schools Arts Education Fund (BSSAEF) Board of Directors, on their first Annual Dance Benefit. Last weekend, an audience of over 220 witnessed an outstanding line-up of student and faculty dancers. The audience was thrilled by the electrifying performances of the High School Dance Team, the Fosse Project, Bay Shore’s Faculty Finest, break dancers, and film clips of the greatest dancers on the Silver Screen. The dance contest winners were: 1st place—Arjge Brothers and Remington Peters, 2nd place—Joy Norris and Jordan Norris, and 3rd place—Boris Diaz. Special thanks to BSSAEF Chairperson, Mrs. Susan Barbash, and BSSAEF President, John Frazier for their leadership and support of the arts in the Bay Shore Schools!

**The Writers’ Block Does It Again!**

*The Writers’ Block*, Bay Shore High School’s literary art magazine, has been named Most Outstanding High School Literary Art Magazine for the second year in a row, for schools with student populations of 1,701-2,500, by the American Scholastic Press Association. The 2011 issue was awarded 985 out of a possible 1000 points. Judges noted, “Your magazine shows the superior efforts of talented and creative editors, writers, artists, photographers, layout/graphic designers, staff members and advisor.” Congratulations to Mr. Matt Pasca, faculty advisor, and the following Bay Shore High School alumni student editors for a job well done: Jasmine Robinson (SUNY Geneseo ‘15), Keaira Dupuy (Sophie Davis School-CCNY ‘15), Cedric Wilson (SUNY Fredonia ‘15) and BSHS Senior, Theresa Chu.

Suggestions are welcomed...

Please forward to: Peter J. Dion  
Bay Shore Union Free School District  
75 W. Perkal Street, Bay Shore NY 11706  
E-Mail: pdion@bayshoreschools.org

From: \_\_\_\_\_  
My suggestion, comment, concern about the District is:  
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**Superintendent's Newsletter**

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