

# **Updates Abound**

April - Bound Brook School District



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### **Superintendent's Message**

### Dear Bound Brook School Community,

This newsletter celebrates the accomplishments of our students each month. Behind every student's story of a college acceptance letter, an athletic win, or an innovative class project are the dedicated teachers, administrators, and staff members of the Bound Brook School District. Our educators are committed to our students and community. I am honored to call them my colleagues.

With Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week coming up from May 6 – 10, we want to celebrate and acknowledge our teachers and staff who go above and beyond every day.

Please see details below for how you can submit a message to show your gratitude for a BBSD teacher or staff member throughout the month of May. Messages will be shared with the individual and some will be shared on the district's social media accounts.

Thanks for joining us in this celebration!



Sincerely, Alvin L. Freeman, Ed.D. Superintendent of Schools

## Our Teacher's are Golden - Thank a Teacher or Staff Member

Our staff is #BoundToAstound - that's why we are extending Teacher Appreciation Week to a month-long celebration. All May we'll share thank-you messages on our district social media accounts from you - parents and students!

Submit a shout-out to a teacher or staff member (past or present) using <u>this submission form</u>. Do you want to recognize more than one staff member? You can submit more than one shout-out, just make sure to fill out a new form for each staff member recognized.

The <u>form</u> closes Monday, May 20, so be sure to thank your teacher soon. Please note messages may be used on social media.



Tentative 2024-25 Budget to Expand Programs and Decrease Taxes We are proud to present for the second year in a row a tentative budget that **decreases taxes for residents**, while also **expanding educational programs and support services** to improve outcomes for students in the pre-K to grade 12 district.

The tentative budget for the 2024-25 school year follows a perfect financial audit in which examiners found that the district is in full compliance and resolved all prior recommendations from the 2022-23 school year.



The \$49.6 million operating budget for the 2024-25 school year aims to improve student performance and outcomes by expanding curriculum and staffing, especially in the areas of summer and after-school enrichment, elementary school gifted and talented programs, English as a Second Language (ESL), Math, and English Language Arts (ELA).

"Our students and staff here in Bound Brook School District are exceptional," said Bound Brook Superintendent Alvin L. Freeman, Ed.D. "The leadership team worked closely with the Board of Education to present a tentative budget that continues to support our staff by providing additional tools and training opportunities and enhances the educational offerings for our students."

### Read More about the 2024-25 Budget

## Bound for the Future: A Look into the BBHS AVID Program

Only a few short years ago, Joel Orellana was sitting in his eighthgrade class at Community Middle School hearing from high school students about an exciting college-readiness program offered at Bound Brook High School. Fast forward to today, as a sophomore, he's part of the program and already gaining the skills he'll need to be successful in the future.

AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determinant) is a national initiative that promotes college and career readiness throughout a



student's time at Bound Brook High School. Through a variety of educational strategies, it is designed to help students succeed as they prepare for their post-secondary education and future careers. BBHS reached its fifth AVID cohort in the 2023-24 school year with 25 students.

"We are extremely proud of our AVID program here at Bound Brook High School and how much it has grown since we initiated it," said Principal Edward Smith. "With all the learning tools it has provided our students and staff, it is one of the reasons our students continue to succeed, such as increasing the district's 4-year college acceptance from 28% to 45% last year and a total of \$3.5 million dollars in student achelerships." Students inside an AVID elective classroom get the chance to build skills through activities such as Socratic Seminars, tutorials, study groups, peer tutoring, and more.

### Read More about AVID at Bound Brook High School

### **ICYMI: In Case You Missed It**



#### **CMS Students Ace Math Competitions**

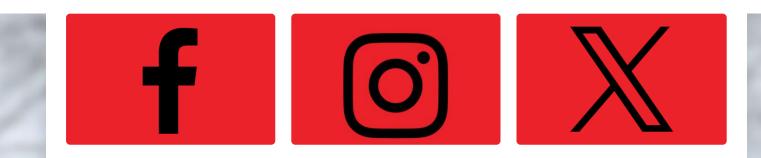
Students at Community Middle School recently participated in math competitions hosted at Rutgers University and Middlesex College.



#### LaMonte Pre-Kindergartners Visit a Farm

A trip to a farm helped our youngest learners understand where our food comes from. Plus, they had the opportunity to interact with some adorable animals.

### Let's Connect - Follow us on social media!





## **#BoundToAstound**

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Have a #BoundToAstound day!

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