

BBSD SCHOOL COUNSELING

APRIL 2023



NJSLA Testing Begins May 8

Starting on May 8, students in grades 3-9 and 11 will take the New Jersey Student Learning Assessment (NJSLA). The purpose of the NJSLA is to measure academic performance in English language arts (ELA), mathematics, and science as defined in the New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS). Evaluating the results from statewide testing can be a helpful tool in measuring students' success in school. Information about testing has been posted on the school district's website [here](#). Parents should access the posted letter for information on testing dates, times, grades that will test, as well as resources that will help students prepare for testing.



COLLEGE AND CAREER PRESENTATION HELD

On March 28, BBHS counselors Anthony Appezzato and Nick Moran gave a presentation to juniors and their parents on college and career planning. Options after high school such as college, military, trade school, or the workforce were discussed. Suggestions by the counselors included visiting colleges and utilizing Naviance for the college and career search. Mr. Appezzato and Mr. Moran taped the presentation. The video can be found [here](#). Pictured on the left are Mr. Moran, Mrs. Colon, and Mr. Appezzato. Mrs. Colon was instrumental in organizing the event. Thanks to all that attended the presentation.

CHARACTER PILLAR OF THE MONTH

Each month, the school counselors in grades K-8 go into classrooms to give lessons on a specific pillar of character. April's pillar is caring. According to Ms. Ianniello, school counselor at Smalley Elementary, experts agree that empathy is an important tool for children to have in their emotional toolbox. Empathy is important because it can help people build connections, regulate emotions, and promote helping behaviors. For kids, empathy can prevent bullying, help them make friends, and help them receive help from others. With her students, Ms. Ianniello discusses the concept of empathy as well as compassion in the lessons that she gives.

Caring

Be empathetic, kind, compassionate, generous, and thankful. Be charitable without expecting anything in return.

