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Superintendent's Message

Dear Bound Brook Community,

October proved to be a busy month filled with celebrations of culture, respect and kindness. We celebrated the conclusion of Hispanic Heritage Month in a big way at the High School. Paraguayan dancers performed a spectacular show after the students led a parade of flags from different Hispanic countries. Other celebrations could be seen across the school district with fantastic artwork, hallway museums focusing on Hispanic countries, as well as spotlights of important Hispanic figures.

We also PAW-sitively celebrated World Mental Health Day on October 10 with the premiere of our second program highlight video: [Lafayette Elementary School's pet therapy program](#). Students



engage with therapy dogs (even practicing reading skills) which promotes positive mental health, while developing social and emotional skills.

Please join me on Friday, November 1 for a special Dr. Freeman Friday where I'll get an inside look at the program. You can watch Dr. Freeman Friday on the district's Instagram ([@boundbrookschools](https://www.instagram.com/boundbrookschools)); look for it on our story.

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

Students Benefit PAW-sitively - Lafayette Elementary School



New Chromebooks Empower Students in a Digital World

In today's digital age, access to technology means access to a world of knowledge. That's why Bound Brook School District has invested in **new Chromebooks for all students in K-12**.

This fall, every student will receive a new Chromebook to replace the previous devices that were almost 4 years old. Students in grades 7–12 will continue to take their devices home at the end of a school day, while students in grades K–6 will keep them on carts in their classrooms.



"Dr. Freeman and I want to thank the Board of Education for supporting this initiative to bring updated technology into the hands of all Bound Brook students," said Nick Veni, director of technology. "This continuous investment in technology is a testament to the district's approach of

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Work online is easier to save and it's very useful. We are given the responsibility to keep them charged and take them home.

Ryan T - Grade 8

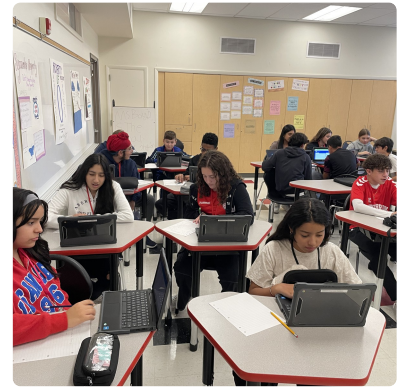
ensuring all students have fair access to technology, which is critical in this increasingly digital world.”

Bound Brook School District has long been ahead of the curve with technology. The initiative started in 2007 with the high school's first 1:1 laptop program. That quickly expanded to a personal Chromebook for every student in K-12. This gave the district an advantage when the pandemic moved all communications online in 2020.

Students have been excited to receive new Chromebooks. Eighth grader Ryan T. appreciated the mode of convenience that these bring to his daily school routine.

“Work online is easier to save and it's very useful,” he said. “We are given the responsibility to keep them charged and take them home.”

Eighth grader Jerehmy S. also praised the new technology's added layer of protection. “The new Chromebooks have a different casing, and I'm glad they provide more protection than the previous ones,” he said.



[Read more about the new technology](#)

Meet the New Principal of Smalley Elementary School



Please join us in welcoming Allyson Winter as the new principal of Smalley Elementary School in Bound Brook School District. Learn more about her:

Tell us your educational background and what your role was prior to becoming a principal at Smalley.

Originally from Brooklyn, NY, I have called New Jersey home for the past 30 years, where I've had the privilege of teaching middle school, coaching amazing teachers, and leading a Pre-K through grade 8 staff. I'm excited to share that experience with the Smalley community!

What made you want to work at Bound Brook?

My decision to join the Bound Brook community was driven by my passion for working in diverse environments. Throughout my career and personal life, I have always thrived in multicultural settings, and it's where I feel most connected and at ease.

What inspired you to become a school principal?

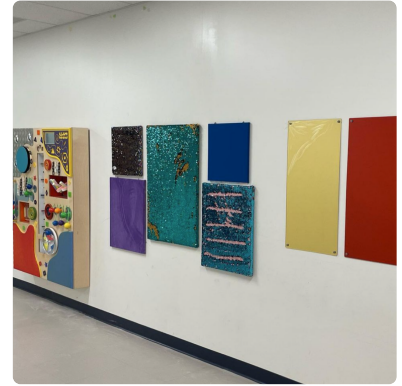
Becoming a principal gives me the unique opportunity to impact the lives of a large number of students by helping them recognize their potential. I believe that every child has the ability to succeed with the right support, and I take seriously the responsibility of guiding them toward their future opportunities.

See what she's most looking forward to this school year

Students Benefit from Calming Spaces across the District

Sensory hallways provide a safe, friendly space for students to have a calming moment during school hours. They help engage students' minds and bodies, which can improve their cognitive functions, memory, creativity, and problem-solving abilities. Students who feel overwhelmed can participate in activities that allow them to return to instruction time focused.

LaMonte/LaMonte Annex Elementary School introduced the school district's first sensory hallway during the 2022-23 school year. That hallway boasted tactical boards, decals to promote movement, and a balance station.



"All our students benefit from the sensory hallway, but it's an incredible tool for our occupational therapists to use. Students who receive therapy services can work on balance and fine motor skills in that designated area," said Hipolita Hernandez-Sicignano, principal of LaMonte/LaMonte Annex.

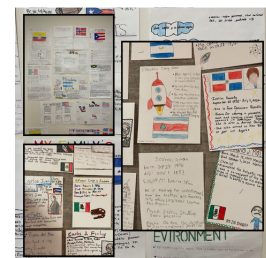


This fall, Lafayette Elementary School added a sensory hallway. Like the one at LaMonte, it has physical aspects through floor decals. The hallway also uses texture to provide another stimulant like the sequin wall that reflects light and changes colors when students touch or draw on it.

As you walk into the new Lafayette cafeteria, you pass through an empty hallway connecting the addition to the original school building. Principal Deirdre Kehayas said when she saw that space, she wanted to make it functional for students. Her goal: expand the space to bolster more opportunities for students.

More about these spaces designated to help refocus, succeed

#BoundToAstound Stories



Colorful celebration at CMS for Hispanic Heritage Month

Students at CMS celebrated by analyzing various Hispanic figures such as famous quotes by Frida Kahlo. A hallway museum and artistic murals filled the halls.



TEAM UP against bullying at Lafayette

Students participated in various Spirit Days to commemorate the Week of Respect. These Lafayette Elementary School students "teamed up" against bullying by wearing team jerseys.

Bound Brook High School hosts Paraguayan dancers

BBHS held a parade of flags from Hispanic countries and after students were treated to a show by Paraguayan dancers to show pride during Hispanic Heritage Month.



Fall activities for LaMonte/LaMonte Annex

Melick's Old Town Farm hosted students for apple and pumpkin picking. Volunteers even used the apple press which students learned is used to make juice, cider and applesauce.

Hallways become a museum at Smalley School

This Hispanic Heritage Month, Smalley Elementary School studied different Hispanic countries and created posters to decorate the hallways and create a hallway museum.

Submit a story to Updates Abound

We're always looking for opportunities to share #BoundToAstound stories! Do you have good news about a student, staff member, team or club? Share it using [this Google Form](#). We may feature it in some way on the district's newsletter or social media!

Let's Connect - Follow us on social media!



#BoundToAstound

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Have a #BoundToAstound day!