

Updates Abound

September 2024 - Bound Brook School District



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Superintendent's Message

Dear Bound Brook Community,

We are well on our way to what's bound to be another successful school year. It's inspiring to see the smiling faces of our students and staff each morning. I've truly enjoyed connecting with many of you during the first day of school, in classrooms over the past few weeks, during morning dropoffs, and at athletic events.

It is no secret our schools – and students – are exceptional. Students are encouraged to be curious and pursue their passions – thanks to top-notch staff and curricula. We are committed to providing services that equip our students with tools for success.

I'm excited to have this platform to share some of the amazing things happening in our schools. Throughout the year, we will spotlight one exceptional program from each of our five schools. **First up: LaMonte/LaMonte Annex Elementary School's preschool program.**

Our preschool program offers a free, full-day curriculum for students starting at three years old. Its unique, play-based program inspires independence and lifelong learning. Watch this video to learn about the program: <u>https://youtu.be/FXfvWDyWyXM?</u> <u>si=TuGXyurcCF83sBSK</u>.



Stay tuned for other opportunities to learn about what our schools have to offer.

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



CMS recognized as a top NJ school for post-pandemic student outcomes

Community Middle School was recently recognized by the New Jersey Department of Education as one of the 52 New Jersey schools that demonstrated exceptional growth in student performance during and after the COVID-19 pandemic. These schools were selected to participate in a research project to identify innovative practices that other districts can model.

The <u>Promising Practices Project</u> identified schools that demonstrated exceptional growth in student performance in English Language Arts and Mathematics. In addition, CMS was recognized for having low rates of chronic absenteeism.





CMS Principal Joseph Santicerma said this recognition demonstrates the incredible efforts of the teachers and staff who helped students succeed during the challenging pandemic years.

"The New Jersey Department of Education has confirmed what we have always believed: CMS is a special place where students strive to do their best and teachers build meaningful connections that motivate them to succeed," said Superintendent Alvin Freeman, Ed.D. "Congratulations to Mr. Santicerma and the entire

Community Middle School community for this outstanding achievement and for exemplifying excellence on a statewide level!"

Maria Amendoeira, a math teacher at CMS, talked with the Rutgers investigators about how she often encourages her students to set personal goals and self-reflect on how they can improve and learn from each other.

"Even though we are in a math class, I ask the students to write about what they did to achieve a certain result and how they can improve for the next time," she explained. "Even if they got a 100 on a test, they could reflect on what preparation helped them receive that score. And, if they didn't get 100, I let them know that I'm not looking for perfection – I'm looking for improvement and realistic goals."

Amendoeira said she was very proud of her students when she



heard that Community Middle School was part of the Promising Practices Project, as well as when she received their recent state test scores. "I'm always here to cheer them on," she said. "Their hard work is paying off, and that is amazing to see."

Read more about CMS's role in the Promising Practice Project

#BoundToAstound Stories

Alumni Reconnect with Bound Brook 50 Years Later

Class of '74 alumni visited Bound Brook School District to celebrate their 50-year reunion. Superintendent of Schools Dr. Freeman along with several students led the group on lively tours of each of the school buildings, reminiscing about the memories they shared in those spaces.



First Day of School Rewind

Our students are back in the groove of learning after an exciting first day of school. We know great things are going to happen for all our Crusaders this school year - just as Dr. Freeman predicted.

Message from the Superintendent - First Day of School - Bound Brook School District



 First Day of the 2024-25 School Year - Bound Brook School District #education

 #firstdayofschool

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 <u>this Google Form</u>. We may feature it in some way on the district's newsletter or social media!

Let's Connect - Follow us on social media!



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Have a #BoundToAstound day!