

# Updates Abound

January 2025 - Bound Brook School District



## Para traducir a otro idioma...

Para traducir a otro idioma, haga clic en el botón de traducción situado en la parte superior de este correo electrónico y busque el acceso directo del icono de accesibilidad.

## To translate into another language...

To translate into another language, click the translate button at the top of this email and look for the accessibility icon.

## Superintendent's Message

### Dear Bound Brook Community,

January marks School Board Recognition Month, a time to raise awareness of the roles and responsibilities of local school board members and recognize the #BoundToAstound work of the Bound Brook School District Board of Education.

Board members act as a vital link between the community and the school district. As elected representatives of the community, they volunteer their time to help set policies that honor the community's desires and balance the needs of our staff and students.

School boards have a significant impact on the students and communities they serve. We are fortunate to have a board that prioritizes goals centered on student and staff development, as well as community enrichment, demonstrated through our Strategic Planning.

I want to share my special thanks to President Richard Jannuzzi, Vice President Michael Bal, Roger Zupko, Lisa Guzzino, Joanna Musson, Gagandeep Minhas, Sidney Dawson, Therese Sue High, Donald Vollmer, and South Bound Brook Representative Jennifer Carlton.

Please join me in thanking the Board of Education. Together, we can continue to achieve greatness for the Bound Brook community!

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



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## Beyond the Classroom

Community Middle School understands exploring new ideas, gaining skills and interacting with peers is key for student development. CMS readily challenges students to innovate beyond the classroom walls. From sports to robotics, see all that's offered in this short video:

Beyond the Classroom - Community Middle School



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## Alumni Spotlight: Maria Salazar-Cortes

The Bound Brook School District is excited to launch a new spotlight series on our talented alumni, who have excelled to become professionals in their field of studies.

Maria Salazar-Cortes once walked the halls of Bound Brook with high hopes for her future career and plenty of motivation from her peers and teachers who inspired her to dream big before graduating Bound Brook High School in 2013.



Now, Maria is marching toward fulfilling her ultimate goal: becoming a licensed attorney.

### **What is your career/college path?**

My current role is at Horizon BCBS as a Paralegal in the Government Programs Legal Department. I obtained my Associates in Applied Science in Paralegal Studies from Raritan Valley Community College. Through my educational and practical experience, I was able to receive an offer of employment. This is particularly exciting for me, as I am currently enrolled at Rutgers in the Bloustein Public Policy program and wanted to find a career within the healthcare industry.

### **Did any teachers or staff mentor you along that path?**

I love world languages, so naturally, my language class was my favorite class. I would like to recognize Mr. Abd for always making French class fun and interactive. To this day, I still practice my French and look for moments to connect with the culture.

### **What advice would you give Bound Brook students looking to enter that career?**

My advice would be to take some legal classes at Raritan Valley and see if anything strikes your interest. The legal classes at RV are taught by attorneys who have ample experience in the field, and therefore offer keen insight into what it is like to work within the legal field.

**Get to know more about Maria**

## **#BoundToAstound Stories**



**BBHS Robotics Team  
"Kickoff" the new Season**



**Community Middle  
School Spelling Bee  
Champions**



**Lafayette Celebrates the  
Lunar New Year**

Team 56 hosted its annual Kickoff event in the team's building space in the Bridgewater Commons Mall. That's where the members learned about REEFSCAPE, the new game for the 2025 season. After learning the game objectives, Team 56 broke into groups to brainstorm ideas.

CMS classrooms hosted their own spelling bee where each winner advanced to the school wide Spelling Bee. The top three (pictured) "bee-came" the top spellers in the school at the bee on Friday, Jan. 17. First place winner will move on to the County Bee.

The second grade organized a Lunar New Year parade where the third grade were the spectators. Lunar New Year celebrates the arrival of spring and the start of a fresh year. 2025 is the year of the snake which represents rebirth and regeneration in the Chinese culture.

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## 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!




STORY SUBMISSIONS!

# UPDATES ABOUND

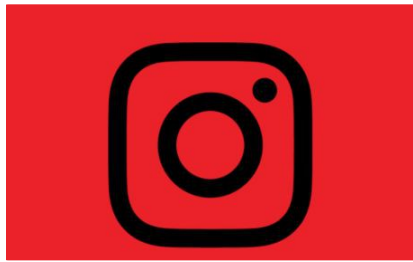
## Updates Abound - Story Submission

Do you have good news to share about a student, staff member, team or club? Use this form to tell us about it and we may feature it in some way on the district's newsletter or social media. We're always looking for opportunities to share #BoundToAstound stories with the school community!

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# #BoundToAstound

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Have a #BoundToAstound day!