

THE FOCUS

THE OFFICIAL BYRAM HILLS HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



INSIDE THIS EDITION

- WESTCHESTER COUNTY MOCK TRIAL CHAMPIONS
- SECTION 1 - CLASS B FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS
- MU ALPHA THETA INDUCTION CEREMONY
- DREW SISKIN WINS GENDER FAIRNESS ESSAY CONTEST
- MIA DITTRICH & OLIVIA CANTER RECEIVE SCHOLASTIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
- MATTHEW WEILER WINS CON EDISON ATHLETE OF THE WEEK
- THE ACADEMIC CHALLENGE TEAM FINISHES BIG
- VARSITY ICE HOCKEY WINS TEAM SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD
- SPEECH & DEBATE TEAM UPDATE
- CONGRATULATIONS TO 3 SCIENCE RESEARCH SENIORS
- MAY SOFT SKILL
- SENIOR EVENTS UPDATE
- UPDATED COHORTS - QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE
- LIBRARY NEWS
- APRIL - ALCOHOL AWARENESS MONTH
- YEARBOOK UPDATES
- AP EXAM CALENDAR
- REGENTS SCHEDULE
- CODA AWARENESS WEEK
- QUALITY CONTENT
- UPCOMING DATES
- ATHLETIC UPDATES
- ATTACHED FLYERS

SECTION 1 - CLASS B CHAMPIONS

WESTCHESTER COUNTY MOCK TRIAL CHAMPIONS

Congratulations to the Byram Hills 2021 Mock Trial Team for winning the Westchester County Mock Trial Championship. The team worked tirelessly through virtual practices and trials to defeat the #1 seed, Scarsdale High School. Byram Hills had the #6 seed after three preliminary trials. Our mock trial team defeated Blind Brook, the #3 seed, and The Leffell School, the #2 seed, to reach the finals. In a hard-fought county final, a combination of senior veterans and freshmen edged out Scarsdale to win the championship.

Each year the Westchester County Bar Association sponsors a Mock Trial Tournament. Last year's tournament was canceled after one trial due to the pandemic, and this year the tournament was virtual. Three lawyers and three witnesses represent each school. The New York State Bar Association provides teams with a fictional fact pattern, and the local association pairs schools and assigns sides.

The Mock Trial program allows high school students the opportunity to gain first-hand knowledge of civil/criminal law and the courtroom process. Thousands of students participate each year and gain a greater understanding of the law and the legal system. Team members enhance their critical reasoning and listening skills and ability to think on their feet. They are judged on case presentation, following courtroom procedures, and professional etiquette.

Mock Trial enriches the high school experience for many Byram Hills students, and winning the 2021 Westchester County Championship was a remarkable accomplishment. The Byram Hills

Mock Trial Team is coached by social studies teacher Mr. Martin Gilbert and community member/lawyer/coach Mr. Eliot Schuman.



From top to bottom, left to right: Chloe Weissman, Jon Manowitz, Max Teitelbaum, Zach Pero, Isabella Stillman, Jordyn Bernard, Mia Dittrich, Jake Fenster, Lili Deitelzweig, Martin Gilbert (Advisor), John D'Avanzo, Elaina Piecy (Missing from photo: Drew Siskin)

SECTION 1 - CLASS B FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS

Congratulations to the BHHS Varsity Football Team and the entire coaching staff led by Head Coach Doug Carpenter. On Saturday, April 24th, the Byram Hills Bobcats Football team captured the Section 1 Class B Championship. This win capped off a perfect 6-0 season lead by a special group of 18 seniors. Byram trailed for the first time all year in the game yet rallied after halftime to beat Westlake 35 - 14. Super 11 selection Matt Weiler scored twice for the Bobcats on the ground, while Hayden Fruhling added two scores in the air to Ben Weinhoff and one on the ground himself. Ryan Abatemarco seemed to be in on every tackle on defense for the Bobcats.

"It definitely feels good to end with a win," Byram Hills running back and linebacker Matt Weiler said. "We all wanted to seize each opportunity this season and beat whatever team was in front of us, so we're happy we were successful in that."

"It's unbelievable; all we asked for was a chance to compete," quarterback Hayden Fruhling said of the season. There's nothing like it to come out here and play five games and then win a sectional championship. Quite honestly, it's a dream come true."

MU ALPHA THETA INDUCTION CEREMONY

On Tuesday, April 27, 45, Byram High School students were inducted into the Mu Alpha Theta Honor Society through a virtual ceremony. Mu Alpha Theta is dedicated to encouraging the continued pursuit of mathematics and service to others. The principal purpose of Mu Alpha Theta is to stimulate a more profound interest in mathematics. Congratulations to the following Mu Alpha Theta inductees:

**Edith Bachmann
Zoe Banko
Zachary Berkowitz
Chloe Bernstein
Irene Byrnes
Milena Chan
Ethan Cherry
Gabrielle Cohen
Jacqueline Cohen
Gabriella Colabello
Massimo Colella-Albino
Talia Deutsch
Nicole Di Paolo
Alaska Fairbanks
Lily Feldman
Danielle Freiberg
Aliza Hammond
Olivia Hazan
Callie Higgins
Ella Javorsky
Gavin Javorsky
Brett Kaufman
Mihir Kumar
Madison Lee
Kate Levy
Tyler Lynch
Remi Matza
Samantha Milewicz
Lindsay Miller
Danielle Molloy
Peter Mon
Caleb Palappillil
Christine Parisi
Nicolas Paslar Bunemer
Olivia Picca
Jonathan Poppo
Olivia Schlossman
Jed Strober
Chloe Talbot
Max Teitelbaum
George Triebenbacher
Kelsey Vaquero
Jaden Wurm
Abigail Yallop
Christopher You**

DREW SISKIN WINS GENDER FAIRNESS ESSAY CONTEST

Congratulations to Drew Siskin for her award-winning essay sponsored by the Ninth Judicial District Committee to Promote Gender Fairness in the Courts. The competition was in celebration of Women's History Month 2021 and was open to all students in accredited high schools in Westchester, Rockland, Putnam, Dutchess, and Orange Counties. Drew won first place in the junior/senior category.

The essay topic was: Has COVID-19 had a disparate impact on the workplace based on gender, and what should be done about it? Drew wrote eloquently about the gender gap in the workforce and how the nation should increase the availability of pink-collar jobs to create a better balance between work and home.

Drew will be recognized at a virtual event held on Tuesday, June 15, 2021, where she will have the opportunity to read her award-winning essay aloud.



MIA DITTRICH & OLIVIA CANTER RECEIVE SCHOLASTIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Byram Hills High School seniors Mia Dittrich and Olivia Canter were selected to attend this year's Carroll F. Johnson Scholastic Achievement Dinner. The dinner is sponsored by the Lower Hudson Council of School Superintendents and honors two students from each area school to participate in this annual event. The event will take place virtually this year on May 19th. Mia and Olivia were chosen based on their high levels of academic achievement. Congratulations to Mia and Olivia on this recognition.

MATTHEW WEILER WINS CON EDISON ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Byram Hills High School is proud to announce that senior Matthew Weiler is the winner of the Con Edison Scholar-Athlete of the Week Award. This award honors and highlights student excellence in sports, academics, and community service.

Matt is a two-sport varsity athlete who made a fast adjustment from basketball to football. After completing a basketball season where he helped lead the Bobcats to a Regional Championship, he transitioned to the football field with goals of another championship in mind. With little practice, he led the Bobcats to a 26-7 victory over the Westlake Wildcats on opening day.

"Matt has worked hard and puts so much time and energy into his craft," said Byram Hills Football Coach Douglas Carpenter. "I am

even more impressed with Matt's leadership, as he has helped steer our program in a wonderful direction."

He is a four-year varsity starter and was just named to the ELITE 11 Team by the Westchester Journal News. In 2019, Matt was named All-League, All-Conference, All-County, and All-State in football and averaged 7.5 yards a carry with four touchdowns. He was also awarded All-League and All-Conference in 2018 and named to the 2018 Westchester County Second Team.

Matt's extra-curricular activities reveal his leadership, citizenship, and character. He was a volunteer for Armonk Football, the Cottage School (a residential foster home for youth), and The Armonk Youth Warriors. Matt brings the same level of dedication to sports that he does to his academics. He remains grounded and focused when under pressure in the classroom and on the field.

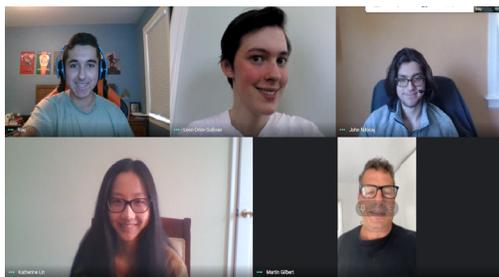
In one of his recent games, he captained the Bobcats to a 21-0 victory over Hendrick Hudson High School, rushing for 152 yards with nine yards a carry. Matt capped off his high school football career with a win against Westlake which sealed the Class B - Section 1 Football Championship.



THE ACADEMIC CHALLENGE TEAM FINISHES BIG

On Saturday, April 24th, the Byram Hills Academic Challenge Team capped off the regular season by winning the last local tournament of the year. Their record now stands at 38-2.

There is one more tournament in June, the National Academic Championship. The team was able to succeed and flourish this year despite the COVID restrictions. Congratulations to all who participated.



From top to bottom, left to right: Luke Coviello, Leon Orlov-Sullivan, John Ndocaj, Katherin Lin, Martin Gilbert (Advisor)

VARSITY ICE HOCKEY WINS HOWARD KOSEL TEAM SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD

Congratulations to the Varsity Ice Hockey Team led by Head Coach AJ Cloherty for winning the Howard Kosel Team Sportsmanship award this past winter season. Recently, Section 1 has seen a decrease in the number of ice hockey players throughout the section. This has resulted in many schools forming merged teams. After a proud 21 year history, Byram Hills, one of the smallest high schools in New York State to field an ice hockey team, nearly found itself in a similar situation in the Fall of 2019. However, a group of 11 Juniors took it upon themselves to keep the program in the Byram Family by playing the entire 2019-20 season shorthanded.

While their record may not have been perfect, they took pride in keeping the team in Byram alive to ensure that future generations of Bobcats have the opportunity to play the sport they love while proudly wearing the Bobcat crest on their uniforms. This year that same group managed to add to their core team and proudly iced 19 players. The games were far more competitive, and the large senior class of 11 took pride in knowing that their legacy will be remembered as the group that kept ice hockey in Byram Hills.

For all these reasons and more, coaches throughout the league voted to award Byram Hills with the Howard Kosel Team Sportsmanship Award. The award is named for an off-ice official from Sport-O-Rama in Rockland County. Mr. Kosel was known as a voice of reason in difficult moments, and this is why the team sportsmanship award is named after him. Congratulations again to the varsity ice hockey team, Coach Cloherty, and assistant coaches John Fontana and Robert Sanders.

SPEECH & DEBATE TEAM UPDATE

The Speech and Debate team have moved into the "Championship season". Lia Aldea-Lustig, Sarah Karoff, Amelia Chung, Alex Berkman, and Joe Kramer all participated in various Speech events at the Tournament of Champions, while Hayden Weiss and Zach Honig made it to the elimination rounds of "Silver" Public Forum. This group represented the highest number of participants Byram Hills have ever sent to the event, while Hayden and Zach were the first Public Forum team to reach elimination rounds.

This past weekend, twelve students participated in the New York State Speech and Debate Championships, an amount that represents another record for our school's participation

in the event. Lia Aldea-Lustig, Sarah Karoff, and Joe Kramer all made the Semifinals for Oral Interpretation. On the Debate side, Eleanor Wangenstein finished at the top for Lincoln Douglas Debate.

As the season winds down, the team is already looking forward to the Fall, and hope that current HS students, along with the incoming freshmen, consider joining the team! Please contact Thomas Andriello (tandriello@byramhills.org) if you have any questions.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THREE SCIENCE RESEARCH SENIORS

18 Science Research students participated amongst 200 students in the Tri-county Science Fair and three Byram Hills students were given awards. Luke Broidy took first place in Biology, Raquel Kanner earned first place in Behavior and Tessa Schwartz won second place in Engineering. In addition, Luke and Raquel earned the top five scores for the entire fair and will be moving on to the New York State Science Congress in June. We are very proud of our research students for their fine work.

MAY SOFT SKILL

Mindfulness: "The awareness that arises from paying attention, on purpose, in the present moment and non-judgmentally" (KabatZinn). Read these helpful tips from the University of Michigan to maintain **Mindfulness & Manage Stress during the COVID-19 Pandemic.**



SENIOR EVENTS UPDATE

Thursday, June 17th

- Part 1: Bobcat Senior Field Day
2pm - 4pm
- Part 2: Movie Night Sponsored
by the BHEF - 8pm - 10pm

Friday, June 18th

- Prom at BHHS - 6pm - 9pm

Monday, June 21st

- Graduation Tribute at SUNY
Purchase Sponsored by the PTSA
7:30pm - 10:30pm

Tuesday, June 22nd

- Graduation Ceremonies at BHHS
Ceremonies - 1pm, 3pm, 5pm

UPDATED COHORTS - QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

Thank you to our students, families, faculty, and staff for helping with our recent cohort updates. In the first week of the new cohorts, we saw an overall increase in the number of students in the building. We had eight students over the course of the week who had to utilize the overflow spaces. We are still able to maintain six-foot distances in all spaces in the building which will allow for us to decrease the possibility of school-related quarantines.

- Each grade is divided into five cohorts: A-C, D-G, H-L, M-R, S-Z.
- Each cohort will be scheduled to attend in-person instruction three times during a five-day period.
- Students who attend every day will continue attending every day.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
AC/DG/HL	DG/HL/MR	AC/DG/SZ	AC/MR/SZ	HL/MR/SZ

Overflow Spaces:

- The overflow spaces are as follows:
 - 12th grade: Cafeteria
 - 11th grade: Library or Lecture Hall
 - 10th grade: Lower Gym
 - 9th grade: Bobcat Hall
- If a student ever can't find his/her overflow space or feels the overflow space is too loud, s/he should report directly to the main office.
- Students should continue to use QR codes when they enter an overflow space.

Process for Selecting Students for Overflow:

- Teachers will systematically rotate who goes to the overflow room. Students will be sent down once a classroom hits capacity, not preemptively. Teachers will ensure everyone is sent an equal number of times.
- Prior to sending a student, teachers will determine if a student has already been to an overflow room that day.
- Please remind students to bring headphones and charge their devices every night.

LIBRARY NEWS

News from the [Library@BHHS](#). Did you know that the library has print books for you to borrow over the summer? The collection of young adult novels is available now for borrowing. Books can be returned in September. Reading is enjoyable and a great way to relieve stress from studying for final exams. There are multiple ways of searching for books. You can use the [Bobcatalog](#) (Follett Destiny) to search the online catalog. You can also search [LibraryThing](#) - the visual display of books. You can also contact the [school librarian](#) to make requests. To borrow books, you can visit the library to pick up your selection. Or you can have your title ready for pick up at the main office.

APRIL WAS ALCOHOL AWARENESS MONTH

This is a national campaign established in 1987 to increase awareness and understanding of the causes and treatment of one of our nation's top public health problems: alcoholism. Mrs. Pagan, Student Assistance Counselor, and members of the Youth 2 Youth (Y2Y) Club provided information to our school community this week and continue to educate students, faculty, and staff regarding the dangers of using alcohol and other substances.

YEARBOOK UPDATES

As events like spring sports and the big theatrical show are pushed back further in this unusual year, we would like to include more of them in the yearbook. Therefore, as last year, yearbooks will be mailed to students' homes in the summer. We encourage you to order your yearbook now. The cut-off date for receiving a book in the mail will likely be the end of May. Buy your BHHS yearbook here: [Yearbookforever.com](#)

2021 AP EXAM CALENDER

May 18th - May 28th								
Tuesday May 18 AT HOME	Wednesday May 19 AT HOME	Thursday May 20 AT HOME	Friday May 21 IN PERSON	Monday May 24 IN PERSON	Tuesday May 25 IN PERSON	Wednesday May 26 AT HOME	Thursday May 27 or Friday June 11 AT HOME (UNUSED SNOW DAY DATE)	Friday May 28 or Tuesday June 8 AT HOME (UNUSED SNOW DAY DATE)
12:00 PM English Literature & Comp (12th)	12:00 PM European History	12:00 PM US Gov't & Politics	8:00AM Italian	8:00 AM Calc AB	8:00 AM Chemistry	12:00 PM English Language & Comp (11th)	12:00 PM Bio	12:00 PM Human Geography
	US History	World History Modern	Spanish Language	Calc BC	Physics C: E & M		<i>Students can opt to take on 6/11 as well.</i>	<i>Students can opt to take on 6/8 as well.</i>
4:00 PM Computer Science A	4:00 PM	4:00 PM	12:00 PM French Language	12:00 PM Physics 1	12:00 PM Statistics	4:00 PM Computer Science Principles	4:00 PM	4:00 PM
			Music Theory	Physics C: Mechanics				

BHHS REGENTS/FINALS SCHEDULE/JUNE 2021

Wednesday June 16	Thursday June 17	Friday June 18	Monday June 21	Tuesday June 22	Wednesday June 23	Thursday June 24
TBA	8:00 AM	TBA	TBA	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM
9th Grade Debrief, Reflection & Planning	English Regents	10th Grade Debrief, Reflection & Planning	11th Grade Debrief, Reflection & Planning	Living Environme nt Regents	Algebra I Regents	Phys Set/ Earth Science Regents

CODA AWARENESS WEEK

Have you heard of CODA? CODA stands for Co-Occurring Disorders Awareness. Believe it or not, over 10 million people have Co-Occurring Disorders, but most have never heard of it! Co-Occurring Disorders is the combination of mental health challenges and alcohol, marijuana, opioid, or other substance misuse. Those with mental health challenges often misuse substances to try to cope and manage. Mrs. Pagan, Student Assistance Counselor, and members of the Youth 2 Youth (Y2Y) Club provided information to our school community to better understand Co-Occurring Disorders and how together we can help change lives.

QUALITY CONTENT

**MU ALPHA THETA
INDUCTION CEREMONY**
APRIL 27, 2021

BYRAM HILLS HIGH SCHOOL
PRESENTS
PRINCIPAL'S COFFEE
APRIL 20, 2021

UPCOMING DATES

Sunday May 2nd

- PTSA Mother's Day Fundraiser

Monday May 3rd

- Senior Internships Begin

Tuesday May 4th

- Board of Education Meeting
Budget Hearing V

Thursday May 6th

- PTSA Staff Appreciation Lunch

Friday May 7th

- Registration Deadline for
6/12 ACT

Saturday May 8th

- SAT Reasoning & Subject Tests
- PTSA Mothers's Day Fundraiser

Tuesday May 11th

- PTSA Exec. Mtg. @ 9:30 am
- BHEF Board of Directors Mtg
7:00 pm

Wednesday May 12th

- District & AP Virtual Art Shows
6:00 pm

UPCOMING ATHLETIC EVENTS

BHHS
ATHLETIC SIGNING DAY

May 2021 - Focus

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2 Orthodox Easter	3 - Black Senior Internship Begins	4 - Red Board of Ed. Mtg. & Budget Hearing V, 7:30 pm	5 - Hills	6 - Navy PTSA Staff Appreciation Luncheon Registration Deadline for 6/5 SAT	7 - White Registration Deadline for 6/12 ACT	8 SAT Reasoning and Subject Tests
9	10 - White	11 - Navy PTSA Exec Mtg. 9:30 am BHEF Board of Directors Mtg. 7 pm	12 - Hills AP Art Show 6 pm (virtual) K-12 Art Show (virtual)	13 - Red Eid al-Fitr	14 - Black	15
16	17 - White	18 - Navy AP Exam Principal's Coffee 9 am Board of Ed Budget/Trustee Vote @ HCC 6:30 am - 9 pm Board of Ed. Mtg. @ HCC	19 - Hills AP Exam Bus Driver Appreciation Day	20 - Red AP Exam Fiddler on the Roof: 7 pm C.H.I.L.D. Evening Event 7 pm	21 - Black AP Exam Fiddler on the Roof: 7 pm	22 Fiddler on the Roof: 2 & 7 pm Last Day of Ramadan
23 Fiddler on the Roof: 2 pm	24 - Black AP Exam	25 - Red AP Exam PTSA Exec Mtg. 9:30 am	26 - Hills AP Exam Awards Ceremony 7 pm (virtual)	27 AP Exam Schools Closed	28 AP Exam Schools Closed	29
30	31 Memorial Day Schools & Offices Closed					