

VOL 32, NO. 4, NOVEMBER 15, 2020

# THE FOCUS

THE OFFICIAL BYRAM HILLS HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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PHOTOGRAPH BY SAMANTHA MILEWICZ, CLASS OF 2023

## PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

We will be holding our Parent/Teacher Conferences on December 3rd. Students will be dismissed at 11:10 am on that day. In person students can be picked up at that time and the normal bus routes will be running at that time. F and H block classes will not be meeting that day for in person or remote students. There will be two conference windows and parents will be able to sign up for them starting on Monday, November 23rd at 8 am through the BHHS website. Teachers will be holding conferences from 11:50 am through 2:00 pm and then again in the early evening in two hour time blocks. Detailed instructions for how to sign up for conferences will be sent via an email blast by November 20th.

## DISTRICT GUIDELINES REGARDING HOLIDAY TRAVEL & QUARANTINE

The recent need for remote instruction at BHHS taught us how a small gathering and subsequent social events can impact over 800 people. Our community understands the importance of quarantine orders after those cases were reported, but that does not mean it is easy for the students and staff who cannot leave their homes right now. The information below can help to develop a family plan that keeps the safety of our community in mind. The **Governor's Executive Order 205.2** from 10/31/20 provides updated travel restrictions and

new testing requirements. The new testing requirements permit that travelers to New York may avoid the mandatory 14-day quarantine period by testing.

- Travelers who were in another state for more than 24 hours:
  - Must obtain a test within 3 days of departure from a state that is on the travel advisory.
  - Must quarantine for 3 days upon arrival into NY.
  - On day 4 in NY, must obtain another COVID test. If both tests are negative, the individual may exit quarantine.
- For travelers who were in another state for less than 24 hours:
  - The individual must fill out the **Traveler Health Form** upon entry into NY, and take a COVID test 4 days after arrival.

Travelers from contiguous states to NY (VT, MA, CT, PA, or NJ) will continue to be exempt from the travel advisory, but travelers must fill out the **Traveler Health Form**.

For general inquiries about travel restrictions, contact the NYS COVID-19 hotline at 1-888-364-3065. To report an individual failing to adhere to the quarantine period, call the hotline at NYS Enforcement Task Force Hotline at 1-833-789-0470.

Not one of these guidance documents talks about what to do with your school-aged children when visitors come and go from your home or when you

are celebrating holidays with family. The district cannot "recommend" that students stay out of school in these circumstances, but please remember that students in grades 6-12 may choose the remote option if a parent thinks it is necessary to take such precautions for our community.

## ATHLETIC SIGNING DAY

On Wednesday, November 11th, Brett Alcantara, BHHS Assistant Athletic Director, hosted the BH annual Athletic Signing Day recognizing 3 outstanding athletes. These student-athletes are bringing their sports to the collegiate level next fall, something that very few high school athletes get the opportunity to do. Join us in wishing congratulations to Alexa Jindal for playing soccer at Stony Brook University, Steven Franco for competing in track and field at Boston University, and Jen Mui for competing in track and field at Binghamton University.

Please watch the attached video:



## NOVEMBER SOFT SKILL

**Integrity:** The quality of being honest and adhering to a moral compass

## SCIENCE RESEARCH UPDATES

We are proud of our 32 seniors who recently submitted their papers to the Regeneron Science Talent Search, the nation's oldest and most prestigious science and mathematics competition. Regeneron STS recognizes and empowers our nation's most promising young scientists who are developing ideas that could solve society's most urgent challenges.

Nearly 1,900 students enter the Regeneron STS, submitting original research in critically important scientific fields of study. We are especially proud of this resilient group of students who had to swiftly adapt their studies with the onset of the pandemic. With the support of professional mentors throughout the world, these students act as beacons of inspiration.

### Congratulations to the Class of 2021

*Lauren Amico, Luke Briody, Marleigh Canter, Olivia Canter, Joseph Cipriano, Alexa Cohen, Alexander Dec, Lily Deitelzweig, Lorraine DiSano, Mia Dittrich, Kristin Eickelbeck, Dylan Ertel, Skyler Goldin, Bailey Goldstein, Ali Hafez, Haley Harris, Jared Ilan, Alexa Jindal, Raquel Kanner, Anika Kumar, Lizzie Manowitz, Griffen Nenner, Elaina Piecyk, William Quinn, Gabby Ripka, Melissa Rivera, Chloe Sampere, Tessa Schwartz, Drew Siskin, Sophie Stumacher, Jake Teitelbaum, and Chloe Weissman*

## ACADEMIC TEAM'S SUCCESSFUL START

Fresh off winning the JV Division at the National Academic Championship last June, the Byram Hills Academic Team started the year with a tournament victory on October 31st. Junior John Ndocaj, captain of the JV team that won a national championship, joined Luke Coviello, Katherine Lin, and Leon Orlov-Sullivan and together the team turned in a dominant performance averaging more than 400 points in the preliminaries. The team faced off against Edgemont in the finals and won by a score of 475 to 360.

This year's academic team has many areas of knowledge covered and could be one of the best teams in recent memory. Some of the subject areas the team does well in include geography, chemistry, biology, world history, and mathematics. The team also has players with specializations in movies, pop music, Russian literature, and art history. This team will be difficult to beat in local competitions that they take part in monthly.

Byram Hills HS was represented by two other teams in the tournament. The B team consisting of Bryan Lipton, Jonathan Poppo, Caleb Palappillil, and Sebastian Vasquez also won a plaque for winning their division. Ninth graders Greg Parent, Dylan Pozzuoli-Doyle, Daniel Ndocaj, and Grace Lin, playing in their first tournament, reached the semi-finals.

## RED RIBBON WEEK

Byram Hills High School celebrated Red Ribbon Week! Each year, Red Ribbon Week provides us with the opportunity to renew our commitment to a healthy and

and drug-free lifestyle, and to show our dedication to education and prevention efforts in our schools and community.

RRW was established in 1988 to honor a US Drug Enforcement Agent who was kidnapped and murdered while investigating a drug gang in Mexico. In response to his murder, angered parents and youth in communities across the country began wearing red ribbons as a symbol for their commitment to raise awareness of the killing and the destruction caused by drugs in America.

Members of the Youth 2 Youth (Y2Y) Club helped spread awareness for this cause and hope that students and community members continue to make healthy and safe decisions. Please see attached flyer.

## BHHS THEATRE PRESENTS: A NIGHT OF BROADWAY

On Tuesday, December 1st, the Varley Players and the BH Media Center will be presenting a Night of Broadway performed by members of the High School Theatre Company, the Varley Players. The show itself has largely been selected by the performers. These dedicated students have logged hours of extra time, rehearsing remotely and under strict guidelines at the school in this craziest of seasons to bring you songs of reflection and hope from well known to barely seen shows.

We hope you will join them on their musical journey, showcased by the BH Media Center. Please see attached flyer.

## SPENT BATTERY AND LIGHT BULB COLLECTION DRIVE

Byram Hills Sustainability Initiative is hosting a week-long spent battery and light bulb collection drive November 16th - November 20th. Batteries and light bulbs should never be disposed of in the trash as they can leach harmful chemicals and heavy metals into the ground and water supply. Instead, batteries and light bulbs should be recycled. Please send in your spent household batteries and light bulbs with your child on his/her cohort day to be properly disposed of during the week of November 16th. We are accepting all types of batteries and light bulbs (EXCEPT for car batteries). Collection receptacles will be located in the vestibule at the front entrance. If you need assistance, please contact Courtney Bogren at [cbogren@byramhills.org](mailto:cbogren@byramhills.org). Cohort A (A-K) can drop off Monday (11/16) or Tuesday (11/17). Cohort B (L-Z) can drop off Wednesday (11/18), Thursday (11/19) or Friday (11/20).

## NOVEMBER TERRACYCLE CONTEST

Don't throw away all of those Halloween candy wrappers, Terracycle them! The districtwide Sustainability Committee is launching a November Terracycle Contest across all four schools in which parents and students can participate FROM HOME! In-school cohorts are encouraged to save snack and lunch wrappers to add to their at-home collection; and yes, Halloween candy wrappers count!

For more information on Terracycle programs (yes, plural!) please visit

<https://www.terracycle.com/en-US/>. Please see the attached flyer for more information on acceptable items, contest items vs. non-contest items, drop-off locations and times. Be sure to label your items with your school name! If you have further questions, please contact Stefanie Rosenweig at [stefanie.pr@gmail.com](mailto:stefanie.pr@gmail.com) or Penny Geller at [pennygeller@gmail.com](mailto:pennygeller@gmail.com).

## YEARBOOK UPDATES

### Senior Portraits:

Due to the cancellation of senior portraits on 11/6, 11/7, 11/9, and 11/10, Prestige Portraits added the following new dates:

Saturday, November 21, 9am-2pm  
Tuesday, November 24, 2pm-8pm  
Friday, December 18, 2pm-8pm  
Monday & Tuesday, January 4-5  
2pm-8pm

If you had an appointment on one of the cancelled dates, please go to the [Prestige Portraits website](#) to reschedule your appointment. If a date doesn't show up on the website, that means it is booked and unavailable. If you are unable to schedule an appointment during these times, please email [Arch21@byramhills.net](mailto:Arch21@byramhills.net). We will add dates as needed to ensure that all students have an opportunity to get their senior portrait taken. School picture retakes for grades 9-11 will take place in school on Friday, November 20, L-Z; Monday, November 23, A-K.

## LIBRARY NEWS

What is the role of a school library media specialist? The high school librarian spends time curating the digital resources in the library collection to provide more credible online resources as part of a schoolwide focus on media literacy; ensuring that those resources are current and relevant. The librarian creates a library environment

that provides equity to resources, digital access, innovative instruction, and achievement of student learning standards. The library mission remains critical as students are learning from home. The Library@BHHS is accessible to all students, parents, faculty and staff. Students have password access when accessing from home. Feel free to browse through the online resources by using [THIS LINK](#). Contact the [librarian](#) with any questions or feedback.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Tuesday November 17th

- [Principal's Coffee 9:00 am](#)  
[Virtual]
- PTSA Exec. Mtg. @ DO 9:30 am

### Wednesday November 18th

- BHEF Board of Directors Mtg.  
@ DO 7:00 pm

### Thursday November 19th

- Senior Internship Parent Mtg.  
7:00 pm (Virtual)

### Friday November 20th

- Underclassman Photo Retakes
- Registration Deadline for 12/12 ACT

### Monday November 23rd

- Underclassman Photo Retakes

### Tuesday November 24th

- Junior Parent Mtg. 7:00 pm  
[Virtual]

### Wednesday November 25th

- One Hour Early Dismissal

### Thursday November 26th

- Thanksgiving - Schools and Offices Closed
- No Athletic Games or Practices

### Friday November 27th

- Thanksgiving Recess - Schools and Offices Closed
- No Athletic Games or Practices

### Saturday November 28th

- Regular Athletic Schedule

### Monday November 30th

- Winter HS Sports Begin

# November 2020 - Focus

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1  Daylight Saving Time Ends	2 - White	3 - Blue Remote Learning (All Students) PTSA Exec Mtg. @ DO 9:30 am  Board of Ed. Mtg. 7:30 pm <b>Election Day</b>	4 - Hills School Counseling Discussion Group 9 am (virtual)  College Admissions & Financial Aid Workshop 7 pm (virtual)	5 - Red Registration Deadline for 12/5 SAT	6 - Black End of 1st quarter Senior Yearbook Portraits 2 - 8 pm	7 Senior Yearbook Portraits 2 - 8 pm SAT Reasoning and Subject Tests
8	9 - Black	10 - Red	11 Athletic Virtual Signing Day 6:30 pm (virtual) Regular Athletic Schedule Veterans Day Schools & Offices Closed	12 - Blue	13 - White Regular Decision College Choices Due in School Counseling	14  Diwali
15	16 - Black	17 - Red Principal's Coffee 9 am (virtual) PTSA Exec Mtg. @ DO 9:30 am Board of Ed. Retreat	18 - Hills BHEF Board of Directors Mtg. @ DO 7 pm	19 - Blue Senior Internship Parent Mtg. 7 pm (virtual)	20 - White Underclassmen Photo Retakes Registration Deadline for 12/12 ACT	21
22	23 - White Underclassmen Photo Retakes	24 - Blue Junior Parent Mtg. 7 pm (virtual)	25 - Hills One-Hour Early Dismissal for CH-WA-HCC-BHHS	26 No Athletic Games or Practices Thanksgiving Day Schools & Offices Closed	27 No Athletic Games or Practices Thanksgiving Recess Schools & Offices Closed	28  Regular Athletic Schedule
29	30 - White Winter High School Sports Begin					

# K.N.O.W. **2** PREVENT

KNOWLEDGE NETWORK OF WESTCHESTER

You can't PREVENT what you don't know!

A WESTCHESTER VIRTUAL SPEAKER SERIES



**Mimi Boublik**  
Parents Against Vaping e-cigarettes (PAVe)



**Dr. Jonathan Avery**  
Director of Addiction Psychiatry  
Associate Professor of Clinical Psychiatry  
Weill Cornell Medical College and New York-Presbyterian Hospital

**Parents Against Vaping e-cigarettes (PAVe)** is a grassroots organization providing educational programming to adults and teens around the dangers of vaping. PAVe also advocates across the country to change the laws to protect teens, including a ban on flavored e-cigarettes.



## MON., NOVEMBER 16 7-8:30PM

### The Youth Vaping Epidemic: What Parents Need to Know and How to Protect Our Kids

COVID-19 is not the only health crisis facing us today. U.S. Surgeon General Jerome Adams officially classified youth vaping an "epidemic", with approximately one in five high school students currently using e-cigarettes. Join PAVe's (Parents Against Vaping e-cigarettes) Mimi Boublik, and addiction psychiatrist Dr. Jonathan Avery, to understand how kids are targeted through social media, influencers and advertising, and how vaping affects our children's bodies and brains. Learn how to recognize the signs of vaping and what to say and do to protect your children's health.



PRESENTED BY



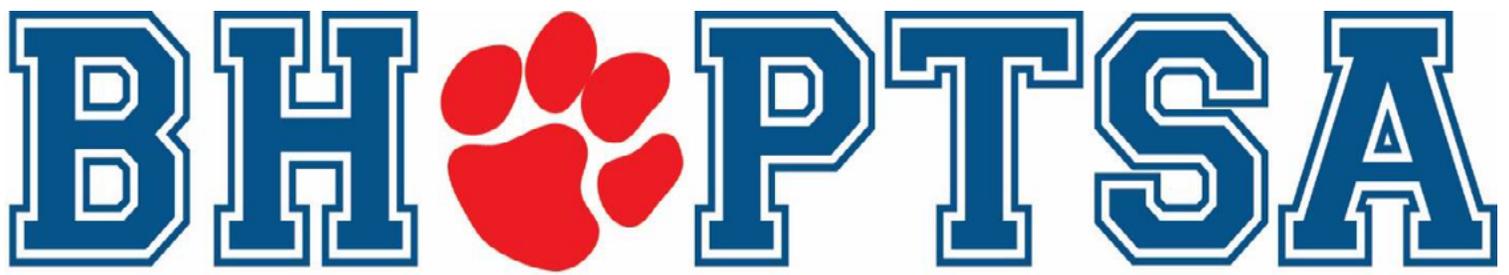
SUPPORTED BY



REGISTER AT  
**KNOW2Prevent.org**

QUESTIONS?  
INFO@KNOW2PREVENT.ORG





Byram Hills Parent Teacher Student Association | Every Child. One voice.

The Byram Hills PTSA  
Invites you to a Free 30-minute Webinar  
*Successful Study Skills 4 Students*

## **8 Ways to Keep Your Student Focused, On-Track, and On-Task in the New Learning Environment**

*For Parents of Elementary, Middle, and High School Students*

In a 30-minute highly dynamic, action-specific, and interactive webinar, parents are invited to learn a few tips, tools, and strategies to support their student's learning, whether they are attending school remotely or hybrid.

**When:** Monday, November 16, 7:00 pm

**How:** You will receive a Zoom invite prior to the start of the webinar

### **What you will learn:**

- What are the 8 things you can do to optimize your student's learning practice?
- How to keep your student on track and on task.
- How to establish and maintain accountability.
- Should your student study with friends?
- How can you minimize distractions?
- How can you reduce your student's stress and anxiety?

There is no charge for the program, but registration is required.

**Register Now:** [enroll.successfulstudyskills4students.com/enroll/virtual](https://enroll.successfulstudyskills4students.com/enroll/virtual)

Byram Hills Athletics and Guidance Departments Present

# GET RECRUITED

## THE COLLEGE ATHLETIC RECRUITING SEMINAR

What Student-Athletes and Parents Need to Know

### SEMINAR INFO

**DATE** Tues. Nov 17, 2020

**TIME** 7:00 PM

**PLACE** [ZOOM](#) WEBINAR

For Athletes Grades 8-12

**SPONSORED BY**  
**THE BOBCAT BOOSTERS**

Register TODAY on [ZOOM](#)

Coach Wayne Mazzoni, highly regarded speaker and author of **GET RECRUITED**, presents a seminar explaining everything student-athletes and parents need to know about the college athletic recruiting process, including:

- *How to determine the right athletic level*
- *How to get colleges to recruit you*
- *Understanding the NCAA Clearinghouse*
- *Understanding recruiting rules*
- *Determining your scholarship potential*

⇒ **Learn how Covid19 is impacting athletic recruiting**

### WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING

**“Wayne is as knowledgeable on this topic as any coach I have ever met. His seminar is a staple at our school.”**

—John Lovendowski, AD, Princeton Day School

**“I have been a coach and administrator for over 30 years, and even I learned a lot about the process. Our parents and students were overwhelmed.”**

—Wayne Mones, AD, Norwalk High School

**“Feel free to use me as a reference. Your seminar was fantastic and we plan to make it an annual event.”**

—Dave Johnson, AD, Bunnell High School



### ABOUT COACH MAZZONI

For the past 15 years, Coach Mazzoni has focused his career on understanding the nuances of the college athletic recruiting process and helping high school athletes and parents find the college of their dreams. He is a current NCAA college coach, a national lecturer and author of three books on the college athletic recruiting process. Coach Mazzoni has spoken at over 150 high schools, and has been featured in or appeared on Sports Radio 660 WFAN, Fox News, ABC News, News 12 Westchester, and US News & World Report.

Visit [www.WayneMazzoni.com](http://www.WayneMazzoni.com) for further information.



Coming to **BTV MEDIA**

**Tuesday, December 1<sup>st</sup>**

Watch the website for the launch link and time  
[www.byramhills.org/a-night-of-broadway](http://www.byramhills.org/a-night-of-broadway)

A N I G H T O F  
**B R O A D W A Y**

**AN EVENING OF  
MUSICAL THEATRE  
SONGS FEATURING**

**STAGE DIRECTION BY  
JOHN ANTHONY LOPEZ  
AND JAMES GULICK  
MUSIC DIRECTION BY  
KATE SMITH LIGHTING  
DESIGN BY  
JOHN FLANAGAN  
SCENIC DESIGN BY  
DANIELLE BROOKS**

**PRODUCTION ASSISTANCE BY  
SUSAN PIERATTI  
VIDEO PRODUCER  
BRIAN MELSO**

Nathaniel	Bergman
Samara	Brown
Marleigh	Canter
Wyatt	Charon
Rebecca	DiPietro
Trevor	Fermann
Kyriaki	Gavrill
Matthew	Giovanetti
Emma	Goldenberg
Halley	Harris
Morgan	Hecht
Rex	Lengyel
Aaron	Lestz
Kayla	Lichtenstein
Valentina	Marino
Eleana	Morse
Christine	Parisi
Isabella	Rivalsi
Melissa	Rivera
Isabella	Scaffidi

## Terracycle At-Home Launch

Sustainability is asking families to collect their waste (including school lunch/snack wrappers) to win for their school and planet!

- 1 school will win for most collected **snack wrappers** and **writing instruments** in November! >>>
- Collect all listed items for our planet!
- Multiple drop-off locations
  - DeCicco's parking lot **11/13 11am-1pm**
  - 1 Cross Rd., Bedford (anytime)
  - 16 Ilana Court, Armonk (anytime)
  - 84 Cedar Hill Rd, Bedford (anytime)
  - **Please mark with school name to win**

### Other non-contest items to collect:

- **Skin care packaging:** lip balm tubes and caps, soap dispensers and tubes, body wash caps, lotion dispensers and caps.
- **Hair care packaging:** shampoo caps, conditioner caps, hair gel tubes, and caps, hair spray triggers, and hair paste caps.
- **Cosmetic packaging:** lipstick cases, lip gloss tubes, mascara tubes, eye shadow cases, bronzer cases, foundation packaging, powder cases, eyeliner cases, eyeliner pencils, eye shadow tubes, concealer tubes, concealer sticks, and lip liner pencils.

**ALL Brands** Mouthwash bottles and caps, toothbrushes, deodorant containers and caps, soap packaging, floss containers, and toothpaste tubes and caps.



**All brands** of **empty** writing instruments, glue sticks, watercolor dispensers, paint sets, and flexible packaging (FOR SCHOOL CONTEST)



**ALL BRANDS** Family-size snack bags, individual snack bags, snack bar, multipack snack bag, cookie wrappers, and **candy!!!** (FOR SCHOOL CONTEST)



### Other non-contest items to

**All brands** of air freshener cartridges, plugs, trigger heads, and plastic and film packaging



**ALL Brands** Healthy snack plastic pouches and caps.



**All brands** of blades and razors (systems and disposable units, and replaceable-blade cartridge units).

