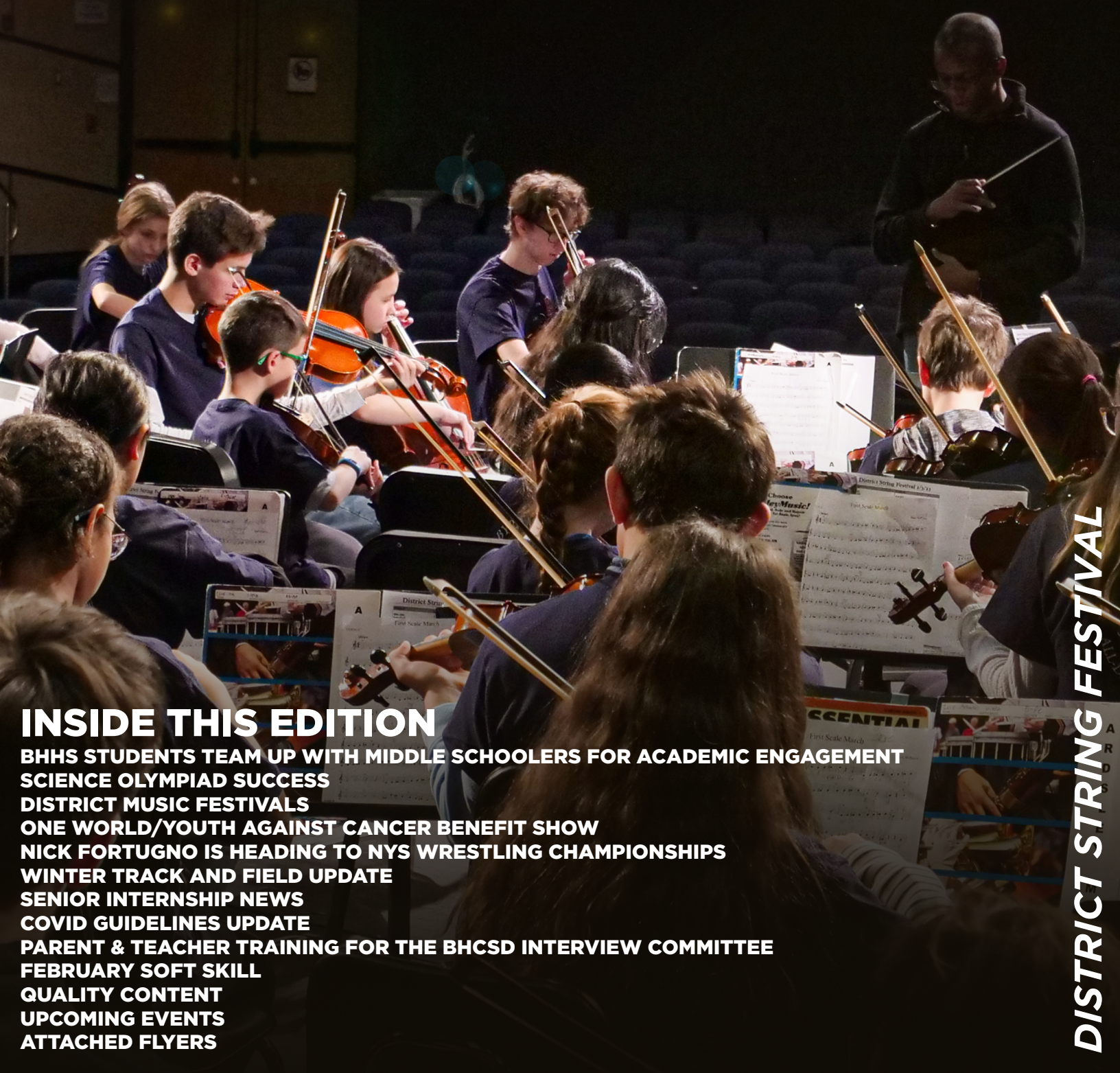


# THE FOCUS

THE OFFICIAL BYRAM HILLS HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



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DISTRICT STRING FESTIVAL

## BHHS STUDENTS TEAM UP WITH MIDDLE SCHOOLERS FOR ACADEMIC ENGAGEMENT

Byram Hills students are learning about the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, and sixth and tenth graders teamed up to work together. **Tenth graders in the Global Scholars Program** created public service announcements about the goals for sixth graders to use as a resource in their studies. The middle schoolers wrote about the goal they found most important, and the high schoolers provided feedback. Sixth graders also created a map that reflected their answer to the important question: What does the world need now to make it a better place?

On Tuesday, January 31st, tenth graders served as judges for the sixth graders who entered their work in the Map the World contest. The high school judges asked the younger students questions about their maps, which were judged for accuracy, neatness,



and how well they expressed their answer to the question. "The focus of both programs is to ensure that our students' assessments involve an authentic audience beyond the classroom," Social Studies Chairperson Jen Laden said. "All of the students worked to learn about the SDGs and take action to make a difference by communicating the importance and urgency of the goals with others."

That same week, **BHHS AP Government students** traveled to HCC to work with seventh graders to help them develop bills on topics they are passionate about. Some topics the middle schoolers chose included environmental, social, and animal rights issues. After the bills are solidified, the seventh graders will act as congressional



committees, allowing one bill to pass from each class. Then, the seniors will come back to serve as the Senate as the seventh graders serve as the House of Representatives, and they will vote together to pass the bills. Principal Kim

'President' Lapple will then sign them into law. In addition to learning about the legislative process, this activity is a wonderful way for our middle schoolers to develop critical thinking and life skills.

## SCIENCE OLYMPIAD SUCCESS

On Saturday, February 4th, over 1,000 students from across the region participated in Science Olympiad at Byram Hills High School! Science Olympiad competitions are like academic track meets, consisting of a series of 23 team events. Each year, a portion of the events are rotated to reflect the ever-changing nature of genetics, earth science, chemistry, anatomy, physics, geology, mechanical engineering, and technology. By combining events from all disciplines, Science Olympiad encourages a wide cross-section of students to get involved. Emphasis is placed on active, hands-on group participation. Congratulations to the following students for winning medals:

**Leeza Reichenbaum** and **Daniel Ndocaj** in Dynamic Planet

**Arel Rivera** and **Rocky Yang** in Write It/Do It

**Rocky Yang** and **Jon Manowitz** in Trajectory

**Lily Anchin** and **Jake Fenster** in Environmental Chemistry

**Adin Kersh** and **Daniel Ndocaj** in Fermi Questions

**Caleb Palappillil** and **Lily Feldman** 1st place in the Region for Detector Building



## DISTRICT MUSIC FESTIVALS

On February 3rd, over 100 students from across the District came together for a District String Festival in our high school theater, and on February 13th, over 100 more came together for a District Choral Festival. Students from Wampus, HCC, and BHHS spent the mornings performing for each other and in group sectional rehearsals. The events concluded with combined rehearsals and performances of musical selections.

The Fine Arts Department thanks the Byram Hills Education Foundation for sponsoring our District Music Festivals. Their contribution fosters community building amongst our ensemble members. Additionally, through their generosity, three tabletop loop pedals were purchased to introduce into the curriculum, allowing our students to experiment with songwriting tools many recording artists use today.

We look forward to welcoming even more students for two District Band Festivals in March!



## ONE WORLD/YOUTH AGAINST CANCER BENEFIT SHOW

The One World/Youth Against Cancer Benefit show was a smashing success! Congratulations to the clubs for putting on a wonderful show that brought in over \$2,000 that will be donated to cancer research organizations and other great charities. Also, congratulations to all of the amazing performers and thank you for sharing your talents with the community!



## NICK FORTUGNO IS HEADING TO NYS WRESTLING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Congratulations to **Nick Fortugno** for capturing the 102lb Section 1 Championship this past Sunday at Arlington High School! Nick will wrestle in the state tournament in Albany in two weeks to compete for a state championship.

## WINTER TRACK AND FIELD UPDATE

Congratulations to the Byram Hills Winter Track and Field Team on their recent performances in the Section 1 Class B Championships. **Sophomore Abi Rondeau** is now ranked 2nd fastest in the 600 meters in school history and qualified for the New Balance National Championships.

**Sophomore Ryan Singer** is now ranked 3rd fastest in school history in the 55 meter dash.

## SENIOR INTERNSHIP NEWS

Students should have formally met with their Byram Hills advisor to discuss options for their internship. There will be a formal meeting with Mrs. Croke and Mr. August during office hours on March 8, 2023, and March 9, 2023. There will be an after-school meeting on March 9, 2023. Students must attend one of these sessions.

**MARCH 17** - online form due and hard copy of transportation and medical emergency release form due in the main office.

## COVID GUIDELINES UPDATE

Please follow the CDC guidelines for Covid. The website can be found [here](#).

### If your child tests positive for Covid:

- Your child must stay home for at least 5 days and isolate from others in your home.
- (Note: If your child has no symptoms, Day 0 is the day that they test positive. If your child has symptoms, Day 0 is the day of their first symptoms).

### Ending isolation:

- Your child may not end isolation if symptoms are not improving.
- Your child may end isolation after Day 5 if symptoms are improving and your child is fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication.
- Your child must wear a mask through Day 10 at home and in public, including at school.

## PARENT & TEACHER TRAINING FOR THE BHCS D INTERVIEW COMMITTEE

Each year, the Byram Hills Central School District establishes interview teams for the hiring of teachers and administrators. The District has been very successful in hiring and retaining excellent teachers and administrators as a result of teacher and parent committee participation.

Gina Cunningham, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources, will be offering two sessions for parents and teachers to attend a training session in order to be part of a hiring committee in the future.

If interested, please email Laura Coughlan at [lcoughlan@byramhills.org](mailto:lcoughlan@byramhills.org) with one of the following session dates:

*Session 1: Thursday, February 16th, 3:30 PM to 4:30 PM*

*Session 2: Tuesday, March 21st, 3:30 PM to 4:30 PM*

## FEBRUARY SOFT SKILL

**Empathy - The action of understanding, being aware of, being sensitive to, and vicariously experiencing the feelings, thoughts, and experience of another of either the past or present without having the feelings, thoughts, and experience fully communicated in an objectively explicit manner. For an interesting perspective on empathy, please read [THIS ARTICLE](#).**

## QUALITY CONTENT



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Wednesday, February 15

- BHEF Board of Directors Meeting @ DO 7 pm

### Thursday, February 16

- C.H.I.L.D. Evening Event 7 pm

### Monday, February 20

- Presidents Day
- Winter Recess
- Schools & Offices Closed
- Regular Athletic Schedule

### Tuesday, Feb 21 - Friday, Feb 24

- Regular Athletic Schedule
- Winter Recess
- Schools Closed/Offices Open

### Monday, February 27

- Schools Reopen

### Tuesday, February 28

- Spring Sports Virtual Preseason Meeting (Grade 7-12) @ 7 pm

### Wednesday, March 1

- Spring Sports Online Registration Begins (Gr. 7-12)

### Tuesday, March 7

- School Counseling Discussion Group 9 am
- PTSA Exec Mtg. @ DO 9:30 am
- Board of Ed. Mtg. Presentation of Administration's Proposed Budget 7:30 pm

### Wednesday, March 8

- Holi

### Thursday, March 9

- The Varley Players Performance 7 pm

### Friday, March 10

- The Varley Players Performance 7 pm
- Registration Deadline for 4/15 ACT

### Saturday, March 11

- SAT Test
- The Varley Players Performance 2 pm & 7 pm

### Sunday, March 12

- Daylight Saving Time Begins

### Monday, March 13

- Spring High School Sports Begin

### Tuesday, March 14

- Senior Fashion Show Dress Rehearsal 7:30 pm

### Wednesday, March 15

- Senior Fashion Show 7:30 pm

**CLICK HERE FOR  
ATHLETICS UPDATES**

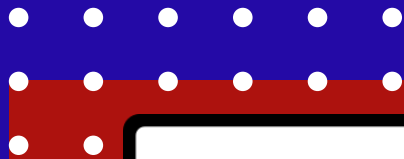
# February 2023 - Focus

| SUNDAY | MONDAY   | TUESDAY   | WEDNESDAY   | THURSDAY  | FRIDAY   | SATURDAY   |
|--------|--|---|---|---|--|--|
|        |  |   | 1-5   | 2-6   | 3-7<br>Last Day for Schedule Changes   | 4<br>Science Olympiad                                |
| 5      | 6-8  | 7-1<br>Board of Ed. Mtg. 7:30 pm  | 8-2<br>Gr. 3 Instrumental Assembly by BHHS @ WA 8:40 - 9:15 am<br>Byram's Got Talent/One World Benefit 7 pm | 9-3<br>Site-Based Team Mtg. @ BHHS 4-6pm  | 10-4   | 11<br>ACT Test<br>Registration Deadline for 3/11 SAT |
| 12     | 13-5   | 14-6<br>PTSA Exec Mtg. @ DO 9:30 am   | 15-7<br>BHEF Board of Directors Mtg. @ DO 7 pm  | 16-8<br>C.H.I.L.D. Evening Event 7 pm   | 17-1   | 18   |
| 19     | 20<br>Regular Athletic Schedule<br>Presidents Day<br>Winter Recess<br>Schools & Offices Closed | 21<br>Regular Athletic Schedule<br>Winter Recess<br>Schools Closed/Offices Open | 22<br>Regular Athletic Schedule<br>Winter Recess<br>Schools Closed/Offices Open                             | 23<br>Regular Athletic Schedule<br>Winter Recess<br>Schools Closed/Offices Open | 24<br>Regular Athletic Schedule<br>Registration Deadline for 4/1 ACT<br>Winter Recess<br>Schools Closed/Offices Open | 25   |
| 26     | 27-2<br>Schools Reopen   | 28-3<br>Spring Sports Virtual Preseason Mtg. (Gr. 7-12) 7 pm                    |   |   |  |  |



# Purchase Your BHHS yearbook

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