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## Barnegat Township School District

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# OneBarnegat Bulletin

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March 2023

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## District Security Update

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We are pleased to introduce our new school security coordinator, James Kingston. He brings with him extensive experience in law enforcement and security management, and we are excited to have him on board to help us ensure the safety and well-being of our students, staff, and visitors. Mr. Kingston has a proven track record of implementing effective security protocols and responding to emergencies in a calm and efficient manner. He is committed to building strong relationships with our school community and working collaboratively with school administrators, teachers, and parents to create a safe and secure learning environment. We look forward to Mr. Kingston's leadership and expertise in keeping our schools safe.

The safety and security of our students and staff are, and continue to be, the district's highest priority. As you may be aware, the district has been training our staff in the use of ALICE protocols ("Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, and Evacuate") in responding to an active threat situation or other violent critical incidents. While ALICE is a broadly recognized brand, the underlying ideas of ALICE are derived from "Run.Hide.Fight." (RHF), which is also a nationally accepted strategy of how to respond to these events. The major difference between these two procedures is that RHF is supported by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

Therefore, the district will be transitioning to RHF as the official protocol for responding to violent threat events. These strategies are endorsed as the best practices and, because of that, there is a large amount of Federal support for this initiative. As such, there are vast resources available to the district (i.e. literature, training videos, etc.). The transition from ALICE protocols to the RHF principles would be seamless. Three of the ALICE core principles ("Lockdown, Counter, and Evacuate") have been instructed and trained district-wide for some time and these core principles are the backbone of RHF.

Each of the three principles is designed to help individuals respond in the most effective way depending on the situation they find themselves in. The strategy is meant to be flexible and adaptable, and individuals are encouraged to use their best judgment when deciding which principle to apply in any given situation. The first response, "Run," emphasizes the importance of quickly and safely evacuating the area. This response is best suited for situations where there is a clear and safe exit available. If evacuation is not possible, the "Hide" response encourages individuals to seek shelter in a secure location and take steps to barricade the area. Finally, the "Fight" response emphasizes the importance of defending oneself and others if there are no other options.

As we transition from ALICE to RHF, the staff will be receiving a blend of web-based and in-person training over the next few months. Students will also be educated on these topics and all hands-on activities will be age-appropriate.

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## Tri-M & Thespian Honor Society

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The Barnegat High School Tri-M Music Honor Society (Chapter #5721) and Thespian Honor Society (Troupe #7363) hosted their annual induction ceremony for their newest members. The Tri-M and Thespian Honor Societies celebrate academic achievement, community service, and musical excellence. Established in 2009, the BHS Tri-M Music Honor Society initiated 34 members into the inaugural chapter including 'Honorary Member' Mr. Frank Constantine after whom the chapter was named after. Current Tri-M Music Honor Society Advisor, Mr. Daniel McGrath, had the honor and privilege to welcome four new members into the "Frank Constantine Chapter" this year including: Alan Cheng (11) Kayla Crawford (10), Jordon Ford (11), and Marqueisha Philippe (10). These four new first-year inductees join the current members of the Tri-M Music Honor Society which include: Hannah Cronen (11), Colin Hall (11), Kyle Nichols (11), Priscilla Pires (12), Emily Sellers (12), and Gabriella Stiles (12).

Following the induction of the Tri-M Music Honor Society Inductees, our Tri-M students performed a variety of solo pieces, original compositions, duets, trios, and small ensemble pieces that showed off their talents to the audience in attendance.

To close out the night, Thespian Honor Society Advisors, Ms. Kerry Bollenbach and Mr. Brendan Keffner, had the honor and privilege to induct eight new members into Troupe #7363 including Ryan Davies, Ryan Rafla, Joseph Sanches-Cornier, Thelma Amilcar, Jasmine Ortiz, Sophia Ponzio, Priscilla Pires, and Maryam Ashurova. This year's newly inducted thespians join current members: Nora Hansen, Skylar Dasti, Tristan Swanheart, Aidan Ortiz, Allie Larsen, Celestina Passiatore, Emily Medina, Emily Sellers, Jack Bopp, and Kaitlin Kessler. Congratulations to all of the Tri-M and Thespian Honor Society members for their commitment to musical excellence and service to their community!



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## Spanish and French Honor Societies

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The Spanish and French Honor Societies hosted their annual induction ceremony for this year's new inductees. The intimate ceremony took place in the Barnegat High School Media Center and was hosted by Mrs. Kristen Staub, Advisor of the Société Honoraire de Français and Mrs. Jennifer Wojciak, Advisor of the Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica. Mrs. Staub inducted five new members: Serenity Bollettieri, Alan Cheng, Camryn Gartner, Yasmeeen Muhammad, and Cassadi VanHorn to the French Honor Society and Mrs. Wojciak inducted six new members: Siena Desai, Jane Haviland, Grace King, Julia Mills, Karsyn Oliver, and Alyson Sojak. Mr. Barbieri, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Human Resources, spoke about the invaluable impacts of learning a language. He applauded the students for their academic excellence in their language studies thus far and strongly encouraged them to continue to take advantage of language opportunities as they progress in their studies. He recounted his own personal experiences with Latin, German, and Mandarin and the positive impact they have had on his life. Gaining acceptance into these two prestigious societies is not easy. In order to be selected as a potential candidate, students must be a junior enrolled in the highest level language course available to them and have a 90/A average from the previous three semesters of language study. They also need a cumulative 3.5 GPA in all other areas of study. If the students have met the criteria, they are invited to apply. They must fill out an application, secure teacher recommendations, and write essays both in English and the target language. Qualities of leadership, service, and character are also considered in the selection process. Congratulations to all of the Spanish and French Honor Society members for their commitment to the pursuit of knowledge and cultural understanding as leaders who set an excellent example for others to follow.



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## National Honor Society

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Inductees into the National Honor Society demonstrate the highest standards and achievements in the areas of scholarship, leadership, service, and character. They each boast a GPA of 3.5 or higher, are involved in many sports and clubs, volunteer at community service events, and serve as leaders and role models for their peers. These students have now joined the seniors who were inducted last year. Barnegat High School has a total of 62 members in the "Rosalind Ribaud Chapter" of the National Honor Society.

The criterion for acceptance includes scholarship (GPA, class rank, transcript, essay), leadership, character (discipline, attendance, teacher recommendations), and service (involvement in BHS sports, BHS clubs, and outside community service). Congratulations to the newest NHS inductees: Bryan Bobrowicz, Alyssa Branz, Julia Brown, Alan Cheng, Madison Connors, Hannah Cronen, Siena Desai, Michael Dugan, Amanda Ercolino, Tyler Finkle, Emma Fortunato, Joseph Harrer, Jane Haviland, Kailei Hickey, Shawn Javines, Grace King, Tara LaMantia, Allison Larsen, Samantha Manco, Yasmeen Muhammad, Karsyn Oliver, Kelly Quinn, Alyson Sojak, Isabella Szukalski, Caitlyn Tai, Alyssa Trimarco, Joseph Valles, and Cassadi VanHorn.

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## National Junior Honor Society

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The National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) recognizes middle school students who have demonstrated excellence in a school's commitment to the values of scholarship, service, leadership, character, and citizenship. The NJHS provides opportunities for students to develop these values and become future leaders in their community. Each year, the NJHS holds an induction ceremony to welcome new members and celebrate their achievements. During the ceremony, new members are officially inducted into the NJHS and receive a certificate of membership. They also participate in a candle-lighting ceremony to symbolize their commitment to the organization's five core values.

Students may be invited to apply in the Spring of their 7th grade year if they have a minimum average of 93% or higher in all of their classes. They must also demonstrate a commitment to community service and leadership. Congratulations to the newest NJHS inductees: Katie Bobrowicz, Ava Brinson, Brianna Brown, Brennen Gallagher, Brayden Gerbino, Jessica Harrer, Avery Jastrzebski, Landon Kirsch, Nicholas Malinowski, Alexis Mangone, Julia McHale, Alexandra Mustillo, Michael Ney, Jacob O'Brien, Lexi O'Halloran, Taliyah Oyemade, Ella Tortorici, and Mason Wheeler.



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## Winning Writers of Barnegat High School

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Each year BHS students participate in the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Voice of Democracy audio essay competition and the Optimist International Essay Scholarship Competition. The Voice of Democracy audio essay requires students to write and record a three to five-minute essay on a designated theme. This year's theme was "Why is The Veteran Important?" Julia Brown, junior, not only took first place at the local level, she advanced to take first in the Districts, which encompasses all of the local winners in Ocean County. Julia attended an awards ceremony where she received \$100 for her first place win.

Students who wish to participate in the Optimist International Essay Scholarship Competition must enter through the local Optimist Club of Barnegat. The essay competition is divided into two levels of competition: Club (preliminary contest) and District (scholarship competition). The winner of the Club contest advances to the District Scholarship Competition. The official topic was "Who is an Everyday Hero that Brings Out the Optimism in You?" Jane Haviland, junior, took first place at the Club level and advanced to the Atlantic Central Districts where she also placed first. Jane received a \$2,500 scholarship and will attend an awards ceremony in June. Congratulations to Julia Brown and Jane Haviland on their outstanding accomplishments!



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## UPstander Program

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The Upstander Program is a wonderful opportunity to recognize and celebrate students district-wide who demonstrate a specific BENGAL PRIDE character trait. These traits continue to enhance the positive climate in our schools as well as the home-school-community partnership that plays an essential role in our students' success.

### February Leadership

Sofia Irizarry BHS, Grade 12  
Mason Wheeler, ROBMS, Grade 8  
Michelle Yllanes, RLHS, Grade 5  
Emma Dyer, JTDS, Grade 3  
Julia Thomas, CSCS, Grade 2  
Noah Fitzmaurice LMDS, Preschool



### March Perseverance

Isabella Szukalski, BHS, Grade 12  
Caleigh Pravlik, ROBMS, Grade 8  
Gia Scalanga, RLHS, Grade 5  
Shane McKeown, JTDS, Grade 4  
Hannah Thompson, CSCS, Grade 2  
Evan Kotler, LMDS, Preschool





# District Happenings

