

Comsewogue

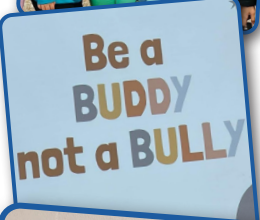
Community Connections

Fall 2023

Be Mindful and Choose Kindness!



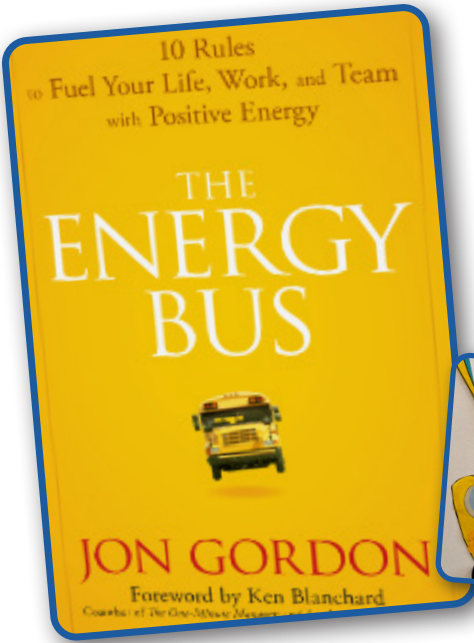
Each year, we encourage students to participate in character education activities with an emphasis on kindness and the impact it can have on others during "Start with Hello" week. The program, created by Sandy Hook Promise, is a nationwide program to help students engage in activities that make all students feel connected and inclusive in the school community. It also raises awareness for students to reach out to those who may feel lonely and left out. Each of our schools participated in a number of activities to encourage friendship, cooperation and kindness. Some of the activities included "Meet and Greet Monday," "Share Your Smile," "What's Your Name," and "Warriors of Kindness Day."



Each month students attend a Social Emotional Learning assembly run by their school social worker. During this assembly, students have the opportunity to learn more about the Pillars of Character that we at Comsewogue value. In the past months, the lessons include topics such as being kind and understanding how to help a friend if they look sad and being a buddy not a bully. This month the assemblies are themed by gratitude and thankfulness. The assemblies allow students to have meaningful discussions as a grade level as well as have fun by playing games and learning new songs or dances that go along with the theme.



Students also worked on "kindness cards" with positive words on them to pass on to others in the school. During lunch periods, students wrote notes to give others, thanking them for being kind and writing what they are grateful for. They wrote notes to trusted adults and colored the sign language peace symbol for "International Peace Day."



Hop on Comsewogue's Energy Bus!

Starting the year with the energy and positivity that transfers to all stakeholders was the mission at this year's opening day at Comsewogue. The first day back for the teachers was an exciting one with a presentation of bringing positive energy to the school each and every day, by the author of The Energy Bus, Jon Gordon. Following this exciting kickoff to the 2023-2024 school year, Dr. Quinn, Dr. Polychronakos and Mr. Coniglione visited all of the elementary schools to share this positive energy with the students as well. Students in turn, shared their thoughts on how to maintain a positive attitude throughout the school year.



Board of Education Recognitions

The Comsewogue School District Board of Education recently recognized a group of students who were acknowledged by the College Board and who were named semifinalists for the prestigious National Merit Award.

Alexander Kosak was named a semifinalist for the National Merit Award. Panika Garg, Jackeline Antelo, Michael Sowa and Macy Carter each qualified as Commended Students for the 2024 National Merit Scholarship. Additionally, Mia Tsaktsirlis, Kenneth Arroyo, Karla Palta and Augstina Salugero were honored by the College Board National Recognition Program.



Athletics Accomplishments

Our Varsity fall teams finished the 2023 season with a great deal of success. Four of our teams qualified for the playoffs: Boys Cross Country, Boys Soccer, Football and Girls Tennis; and Madison Cole, a five-year member of our Varsity Girls Cross Country team, qualified for and participated in the NYSPHSAA state championships in November.

Eight of our senior student-athletes have signed their National Letters of Intent (NLI) to play a sport in college. We would like to congratulate the following athletes: Ryan Button (Lacrosse, Long Island University); Madison Cole (Cross Country & Track, James Madison University); Matthew Nolan (Baseball, Molloy University); Mia Nowlan (East Stroudsburg University); Dylan Rocchio (Lacrosse, Marist College); Adam Wachholder (Lacrosse, Marist College); Nick Zampieron (Baseball, SUNY Stony Brook University); and Kevin Schnupp (Baseball, UMass Amherst).

Coming up this winter, our eight Varsity teams (Wrestling, Cheerleading, Boys Winter Track, Girls Winter Track, Boys Basketball, Girls Basketball, Boys Bowling and Girls Bowling) look to continue their recent runs of success. Our Varsity Cheerleading team is also preparing to attend the annual UCA Nationals competition in Orlando, Florida this February.



Homecoming 2023



Homecoming 2023 was a weekend of pride and excitement here at Comsewogue. Comsewogue High School started off the celebration with the annual Pep-Rally to end the day on Friday, October 11, 2023. On Saturday, the community celebrated Comsewogue Pride with the annual

Homecoming Carnival which was held indoors in the High School Gymnasium. The tradition of honoring the annual Hall of Fame inductees was also held on Saturday. The 2023 inductees included Al Kohart, class of 2007; Joseph

Droge, Class of 2001; Nick Azzara, Class of 1984; Keith Vigorito, Class of 2010; Roy Lenzo Jr., class of 2013; and John Swenning, Class of 1982.

Introducing our New Administrators



Dr. Amanda Prinz is honored to serve our community and our students as the leader of the John F. Kennedy Middle School. Dr. Prinz began working in 2003, as a teacher in Quincy, Massachusetts before earning tenure in the Wantagh Union Free School District. With 20 years in the education field, Dr. Prinz has had the opportunity to work within the Comsewogue School District for the last seven years. This time has deepened her commitment to our students and their growth. The past two years, Dr. Prinz served as an Assistant Principal at Comsewogue High School where she worked collaboratively with stakeholders to support each student's growth academically and in the development of 21st Century Skills.

Dr. Prinz holds a BS in Elementary Education from Boston University, an MA in Elementary Education, a CAS in Educational Leadership, and an Ed.D. in Educational and Policy Leadership from Hofstra University. Dr. Prinz is dedicated to ensuring that our students reach their maximum potential as active problem solvers and critical thinkers. The best part of each day is the time spent with students and staff members at John F. Kennedy Middle School learning together. Through collaboration with families, staff, students and the Comsewogue community, Dr. Prinz believes that for our students, the possibilities are limitless!



John Roche is our newest Assistant Principal at Comsewogue High School. He started his career as a Mathematics Teacher in the Hampton Bays Union Free School District and held numerous leadership positions such as Dean of Students, Assistant Director of Summer School, STEM Coordinator, Math Club Advisor, and Athletic Coach. Motivated by his passion for education and vision to help make a bigger difference for our youth, John obtained an Education Leadership Advanced Certificate from Stony Brook University.

John's goal is to foster a strong school culture, promote collaboration, cultivate a community of learners, and celebrate diversity. He considers it an honor to be part of our school community and is truly enjoying the start of the 2023-2024 school year with our amazing students, dedicated faculty, and supportive community members. With gratitude, John brings professionalism, compassion for students, and collaborative nature to this leadership role.

Welcome to our New Teachers!

We are excited to welcome our newest group of teachers to the Comsewogue team for the 2023-2024 school year. With the expansion of our middle school schedule to include a nine-period day, and the introduction of other programs throughout the District, we are proud to have brought in a strong team of educators to teach our students and make differences in their lives.



Alexia Bellini
Norwood
Social Worker



Grace Burns
JFK
English



Jessica Catalano
JFK
Special Education



Joseph DeVenuto
CHS
ENL



Samantha Donlon
Boyle
Math



Noreen Fiore
CHS
Music



Brianna Fischetti
Clinton
Special Education



Amanda Gisbert
Terryville
Special Education



Connor Hamilton
CHS
Math



Amanda Larkin
Terryville
School Psychologist



Sarah Link
Boyle
Special Education



Kasey Mitchell
JFK
Special Education



Bryana Palisi
Norwood
Special Education



Eftihea Politis
JFK
Math



Deryn Pratt
District-Wide
Speech



Sienna Sasso
JFK
6th Grade



Danielle Silkin
Norwood
Math



Kelly Zimmermann
JFK
ENL

End of Year Calendar

NOVEMBER 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Standards of Excellence Committee Meeting	2	3	4
5	6	SCHOOLS CLOSED	8	9 Secondary 1st Quarter Ends	SCHOOLS CLOSED	11
12	13 CHS Winter Sports Begin	14	15 Clinton PTA (CASA) Meeting Norwood NSA Meeting	16	17	18
19	20 JFK, Boyle, Terryville Evening Parent-Teacher Conferences	21 CHS, Clinton, Norwood Evening Parent-Teacher Conferences	22 Parent-Teacher Conferences (All Buildings)	NOVEMBER 23 & 24 THANKSGIVING RECESS SCHOOLS CLOSED		25
26	27	28	29	30 CHS Winter Meet the Coaches Night		

DECEMBER 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Elementary 1st Trimester Ends Norwood NSA Holiday Craft Night	2 Boyle PTA Craft Fair
3	4	5 No Homework Tuesday	6	7 6th Grade Parent Guidance Night	8 Clinton Holiday Social	9 CHS Holiday Club & Vendor Fair
10	11 Board of Education Workshop and Meeting	12 Terryville Winter Concert	13 CHS Winter Concert	14 Boyle Winter Concert	15	16
17	18	19 SEPTA Meeting	20	21	22	23
Holiday Spirit Week						
24	DECEMBER 25 - 29 WINTER RECESS SCHOOLS CLOSED					30
31						