



ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

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Welcome Dr. Roy Montesano, Bronxville's New Superintendent



Q. Thus far, how is your experience at The Bronxville School different/similar to 18 years as superintendent of other schools?

I have been very fortunate to have worked in outstanding districts and certainly Bronxville is at the top of that list. Each school has its unique elements and nuances; however, the best part of being in education is working with the students. In that area, I have found that students are quite similar: similar goals, similar fears, similar challenges. I have also found that parents in each of these schools all want what is best for their child and are willing to do whatever they feel is necessary. While each of the communities that I have worked in supported their schools, there seems to be something very special about the pride the Village of Bronxville has towards the Bronxville School. As a small town, the School is truly the jewel of the community and has a long tradition of excellence and of being a lighthouse district. Another unique quality of the Bronxville School is the focus around the Bronxville Promise. The Promise is the guiding mission of our work and has set the course for the future in our school. The available resources and the willingness of people to offer support is amazing.

Each of the districts I have been involved with have education foundations, but no one is close to the

Bronxville School organization. What the Foundation does for our school and, in turn, our students and staff, is really very, very special.

Q. What do you think the unique advantages and challenges are in a K-12 one-building schoolhouse?

I have to admit, my initial thoughts on having all students K-12 in one building were questionable. However, after experiencing it over this past year, it is quite impressive. The fact that you can go down one hallway and see Kindergarten students learning how to read and then go down another hallway and watch High School students conducting Bronx River Science experiments is remarkable, and it works! One of the best components of this configuration is that it allows us to put students of different age groups together to support one another. Having Middle School students go and read to elementary students or high school students mentor middle school students is wonderful. It also helps build pride around one building/one school, that we are all together. We also gain the advantage of sharing staff between grade levels, which for a small school is beneficial.

Of course, it does come with some challenges as well. Scheduling can be a little tricky when you are dealing with one cafeteria, limited group rooms, etc. And as parents well know, the drop off and pick up times can



be challenging and frustrating at times. Overall, I do believe that the advantages far outweigh the disadvantages for our school.

Q. How can our community improve upon or best continue the Bronxville Promise?

After reading through The Bronxville Promise, it was one of the main things that attracted me to Bronxville. It aligns so well to what I believe about education and the direction schools need to move to prepare students for their future. One of the books that I have on my desk is written by Marc Prensky entitled, "Education to Better Their World: Unleashing the Power of 21st Century Kids." In the book, Prensky talks about how education needs to be about improving the world and having individuals improve in the process. As educators, we need to have students apply their passions to real world-improving projects. Prensky differentiates between achievements and accomplishments and how we need to have an educational program that develops students' abilities to accomplish and solve real world problems. As a district, we are working towards that, which aligns again with the Promise. As we look in our community, in our state, in our country, there are real issues that our students can grapple with. We have such great resources and contacts within the Village of Bronxville that we can take advantage of to help us along this journey.

Q. The Bronxville School is getting set to begin some exciting renovations and improvements. Tell us about them.

There are over two dozen projects that involve a number of necessary infrastructure repairs and improvements along with some exciting space renovations that will allow our program to expand. There are site improvements that include the Chambers Field and track, the elementary school playground, and the flood mitigation pumps. The field, track, and playground are due for end of useful life issues, which are now beginning to present a safety concern for our students. Many of the items related to the infrastructure are maintenance items that you would expect to be needed on an almost 100-year-old building. Items such as roofing, masonry, floor and ceiling tiles, and exterior curtain wall by the elementary school playground, which was initially installed in the 1960's.

We have also included partial air conditioning for the building to deal with classrooms that get extremely warm during the late school year months. Some of the interior projects include a renovation of the health office, which is currently undersized given the K-12 population of students. Last year the office had over 9,700 visits in what amounts to the size of a classroom. We also have plans to add a small addition on the Meadow Avenue side of the school to expand the high school Counseling Center. The current Counseling Center is in a converted classroom. The cafeteria will be expanded to almost double its current size. Our current cafeteria was built when the student population was under 1,000 students. We currently enroll almost 1,700 students. Some of the exciting renovations that will take place will have a direct impact on our program offerings, including the renovation and repurposing of an old boiler room to an engineering/innovation center. As we begin to offer more courses in engineering, coding, robotics, etc., the space needs have changed. This design will provide us the space necessary to deliver and expand on these programs. The other area targeted for renovation is on the 3rd floor. Currently, there are two science classrooms and a wide hallway that will be redesigned into a 3rd floor learning community. Again, based on our program needs, we have more students involved in independent research, online courses, and Bronx River science projects that require different space needs. Our plans include developing this space into a flexible learning environment to accommodate small group, large group, and independent research. We are also looking to develop some of the small rooms into virtual reality rooms. I encourage everyone to visit our website at www.bronxvilleschool.org to view the renderings of the spaces described.

Q. Who is your favorite NY Football team, Baseball team? Giants or Jets? Yankees or Mets?

Haha, great question that I am almost embarrassed to answer. Growing up when I was 11, the Jets just pulled off the greatest Super Bowl upset ever and the Mets were winning the World Series. So, I have been a long-term, long-suffering Mets'/Jets' fan. Tough in my house as my Dad was a true Yankees' fan.

**PLEASE VISIT OUR NEW WEBSITE:
www.BronxvilleSchoolFoundation.org**

And A Blast From the Past . . .



Dr. Joseph Biscoglio
25 Years at BHS:1972-1997

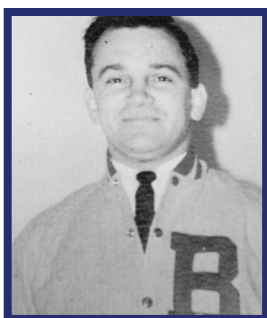


“Madame” de Frondeville
25 Years at BHS:1977-2002



Linda Jouas
29 Years at BHS:1986-2015

Mr. Robert “Bob” Spenik’s Bench Dedication



On October 7th, 2018, more than 50 family members, friends, colleagues, former students and athletes came together at Bronxville’s Chambers Field to dedicate a bench in honor of Mr. Robert “Bob” Spenik. Mr. Spenik died on January 15, 2017, at the age of 83, after having spent the majority of his career (30+ years) with the Bronxville Schools, as coach, teacher, Assistant Principal, Principal, and Assistant Superintendent of Bronxville. Located on the Meadow Avenue side of the field, the bench was a gift from those who participated in a dinner in Mr. Spenik’s honor held in April of 2016. More than 100 people came together at Siwanoy Country Club to celebrate Coach Spenik, BHS varsity football coach from 1963-1969. The dedication itself was kicked off by Christy Patt, BHS ’67 and a former cheerleader, who welcomed everyone and spoke of Mr. Spenik’s profound influence, and Mr. Spenik’s daughter, Christina Butler Spenik, who spoke on behalf of the Spenik family. Al Mingrone, retired Bronxville High School teacher and Mr. Spenik’s college roommate, and Bob McGrath, former assistant coach, recalled the man and spoke of how perfectly the bench inscription - “Superb Coach, Dedicated Educator, True Friend” - expressed the great impact Mr. Spenik had on those he touched. Roger Haile, BHS ’65 and former football team captain, dedicated the bench on behalf of Coach Spenik’s former players, reiterating the significant impact Coach Spenik had on them, both on and off the field. SHA!capella, Bronxville High School’s a cappella singing group, closed out the ceremony with a wonderful rendition of “Onward Bronxville,” a fight song prominent at each and every game during Coach Spenik’s tenure.

ENHANCING EXCELLENCE THROUGHOUT OUR SCHOOL

2017 BSF grants fund a wide range of initiatives that strengthen our curriculum, enrich our faculty, and support the well-being of our students.

Innovation in the Arts & Humanities

BSF grants enable our students to engage in hands-on experiences with expert direction, including writing and casting their own plays, voice and master classes with "Broadway Sings", and music composition training.



Investing in Students' Well-Being

Grants help launch innovative programs aimed at ensuring that Bronxville provides a healthy, balanced learning environment in which all types of leaders can thrive.

- » The Challenge Success Program kicked off with a schoolwide survey and a leadership conference at Stanford this summer. After analyzing the results, recommendations will be used to improve the climate for learning in the MS and HS.
- » Girls Leadership Institute Programming and workshops aim to foster confidence and resilience in girls of all ages.



STRENGTHENING "STEM"

Grants targeting STEM initiatives are catalyzing several integrated programs aimed at improving our school's technology, coding and science curricula.

- » **<bronCOdes>** is a new K-5 coding and computer science curriculum which engages our students with robotics and some of the "physical" aspects of coding at an early age.
- » The **iSTEAM Advisory Committee** has been formed to develop and implement goals for incorporating engineering and innovation into all aspects of our curriculum.
- » Specialized educational materials are being provided to support the enhanced coding/computer science curricula. These include a broad range of age-appropriate coding, robotics and building kits aimed at helping students understand new concepts by interacting with them in the physical world.



STEM-Related Professional Development

Training for STEM faculty includes conferences to support AP curriculum development for computer science, PBL for HS faculty, and the Harvard "Design Thinking" Workshop.



2017 Total Grants: 38 Amount: \$655,000

PROGRAM, CURRICULUM, DEVELOPMENT



i2 Learning STEM Immersion

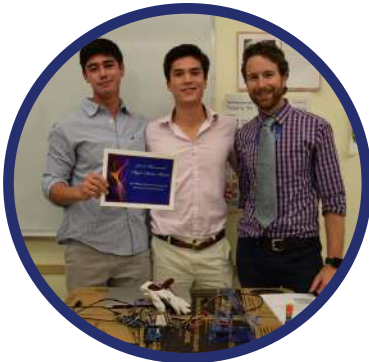
ES <bronCOdes> Coding Program
 Formation of iSTEAM Advisory Committee
 Coding & Computer Science Curricula
 i2 Learning STEM Week for MS & ES
 TED-Ed Channel
 BXV Local History Partnership
 Composition Training for HS Orchestra
 Playwrights in Performance
 "Broadway Singing": Vocal Training
 Singapore Math Manipulatives for ES
 Movie Making by Jacob Burns Film Center



Movie Making/Jacob Burns Ctr.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR FACULTY AND ADMINISTRATION

MakerSpace Planning & Training
 Coding, Robotics, & Comp Sci Conferences
 "Design Thinking" Series-STEAM Committee
 Project-Based Learning Conferences K-12
 English Socratic Seminar Training
 Bronxville Promise Assessment Framework
 Teacher's College Argumentation Institute
 AP Computer Science-Prof. Development
 Teaching with Technology Training



Innovation Expo 2017



Project-Based Learning

TECHNOLOGY AND EQUIPMENT UPGRADES

Lego WeDo Coding Sets
 Wireless Temperature Probes for Labs
 Sound Field Systems for ES Classrooms
 Tower Gardens for Science Classrooms
 Imagination Playground Phase II
 Autoclave for Biological Research

STUDENT WELLNESS AND DEVELOPMENT

Challenge Success Program for MS and HS
 Girls Leadership Institute Programming
 School-Wide Mindfulness FellowshipAthletic



Tower Garden for Science Classrooms In ES & MS



Student Wellness and Development

CAMPUS AND CLASSROOM ENHANCEMENTS

Art Room Renovation for HS
 Auditorium Lighting Enhancements
 MakerSpace in ES Library
 Adaptive Classroom Seating
 ES Library Augmentation
 Singapore Math Manipulatives

Fall 2017 - BHS Alumni Return to Campus

Class of '57 - 60th Reunion



Pictured here: l to r: Peter Funk BHS '57, Dr. Mara Koetke, Director of Curriculum & Instruction, Jennifer Thomas, Chair of the Foundation, Bill White '57 & Ernie Wayland '57.

The Class of 1957's 60th Reunion in October 2017 was a milestone celebration. The BIG 60th Reunion Steering Committee, working together on behalf of the entire class, gave a gift to the Foundation in honor of Dr. Howard V. Funk, Superintendent of Schools during their time at Bronxville. Both dollars raised and broad class participation exceeded goals and met the challenge of a matching gift from a generous benefactor. This Class gift of \$11,000 is one of the largest the Foundation has received from a Reunion Class. The '57 Class gift reaffirms the tribute paid to Dr. Howard Funk in 1957 when he was honored with the yearbook dedication. It seems particularly fitting with the mission of the Bronxville School Foundation that this class gift honor Dr. Funk, a proponent of progressive education with "educational vision." The Bronxville School Foundation Chair, Jennifer Thomas said "the Foundation is extraordinarily grateful for the Class of '57's generous contribution, which will directly benefit students through the Foundation's grant program."

Class of '52 - 65th Reunion



Class of '62 - 55th Reunion



Class of '67 - 50th Reunion



Class of '77 - 40th Reunion



Class of '87 - 30th Reunion

Class of '97 - 20th Reunion



The 11th Annual Katie Welling Run was held on its traditional day - the Saturday after Thanksgiving. The run is in memory of Katie Welling, a 2002 Bronxville graduate and was established by her classmates. The love and support from Katie's friends and so many in the community continues to be a great source of comfort; Katie's Run is a recurring manifestation of this community spirit of caring. Thank you to all who participated, whether you ran, walked, volunteered or just cheered from the sidelines. Your presence honoring Katie truly makes a difference to our Bronxville School family and community. Don't miss this magical event next year on the Saturday after Thanksgiving, November 24, 2018. See you there!

Katie's Run

Live
Laugh
Love



**SAVE THE DATE! THE ANNUAL KATIE WELLING MEMORIAL RUN/WALK
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2018 - WE'LL SEE YOU THERE!**

Foundation Gifts

Gifts in memory of alumni, faculty, parents or friends of the Bronxville School have a very special meaning. These thoughtful remembrances contribute to the Foundation's programs and honor the memory of the individual.

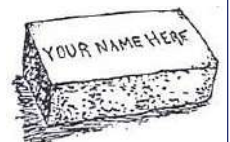
IN HONOR OF

Patrick J. Clarke, Ted Garber, Rachel Kelly, Steve Klurfeld, Gillian McGovern, Karen Peterson, Pamela Simpson, Georgiana Stewart.

IN MEMORY OF

John Barry Anderson '48, David W. Foster '78, Richard Magat, Barry Sullivan Sr., Bronxville Board of Education 1974-1980, Bob Spenik, Bronxville School Faculty 1962-1995.

Bronxville School Alumni Walk The Alumni Walk, created in 1994, has been enthusiastically built by donations from graduates of all ages, entire classes, as well as families and friends wishing to honor former students. More than 2000 bricks grace the path at the entrance to the Bronxville School. Add your brick today by completing the enclosed card, calling the Foundation Office at 914-395-0515 or through our website.





2017 ALUMNI DONORS

Alumni gifts include donations to our Annual Alumni Campaign, Alumni Brick Walk, Class Gifts and the Katie Welling Memorial Run. Alumni donations to The Foundation benefit every aspect of current Bronxville Students' experience.
PAY IT FORWARD!

Audrey Ashley '42
Winifred Portenoy '43
W.B. Taylor Eldon '44
Jane Kerr Mitchell '44
Claire Collins '45
Barbara Marshall '45
Robert McGrath '45
Theodore Doege '46
Barbara J. Belmer '48
Elizabeth Fraser '48
Eleanor Pennell '48
Harry Ballard '49
Barbara Dietrich
McGrath '49
Phyllis Howell '50
Dana Judkins '51
Robert Riggs '51
Audrey Bower '52
Howard Broek '52
George Childs, Jr. '52
George J. Dixon, Jr. '52
Leonard J. Eaton, Jr. '52
Patricia Pride
Eaton, Jr. '52
A. Corwin Frost '52
Elizabeth Johnson '52
Richard Miller '52
Laura Stichter-Bryson '52
Jacquie Allen '53
Robert Ganger '53
Joan Howard '53
J. Alan Steinkamp '53
Jacques S. Theriot '53
Oliver Stafford '54
Joan Hotchkis '55
Perry Ann Kurtz '55

Patricia Roess '55
Anne Spencer
Flannery '57
Linda Young Delaney '58
Rupert Johnson, Jr. '58
Rita Pompea
Steinkamp '58
Kathryn Clarke '59
Adrienne Sullivan
Smith, '62
Jonathan Peake '63
Mary Koether Ballard '64
L. Gordon Harriss '64
Robert Minor '66
Robert Rabsey '66
Mary Anne Denniston '67
Peter Doyle '67
Christy Patt '67
Thomas Hutton '68
Eric Jensen '68
John Moore USMC
(Ret.) '69
Ann Orminski '69
S. Kent Fannon '70
Sandy Guidera '70
Kenneth Hall '70
Candace Marshall
Monaco '70
Linda Graef Jones '71
Wendy Witt '71
Clyde Reetz '72
Frederick McGrath '73
Andrew Paul '74
Thomas McGehee '75
Jeffrey Pettee '75
Peggy Benziger Williams '75

Jeffrey Cooney '76
David L. Corr '76
Karen Moyer
Benziger, Jr. '77
Paul Benziger, Jr. '77
Suzy Miller Bloomer '77
Alexander Ciaputa '77
William Gay, Jr. '77
Roger Goodell '77
Michael Sargent '77
Sharon Shuttleworth '77
Brian Byrne '78
Christopher Cooney '78
Sue Kely Law '78
Guy Longobardo '78
Brendan Sachtjen '78
Mary Taylor Behrens '79
George Shively '79
Elizabeth Taylor
Aherne '80
Helen Knapp
Cagliostro '80
Mariellen Sullivan
Carpenter '80
George Hardart '81
Jack Randall '81
Nina Richter '81
John Zidik '81
Charlotte Lovschal
Cooney '82
Steven Thomas '82
Ranny Smith Hanau '83
Raymond LaRaja '83
Mark Connors '84
John Kely '84
Edward Martin III '84

Edward Sulimirski '84
Jennifer Wilson
Buttigieg '85
Amy Thornton
Charlton '85
Didi Bender Romley '85
Melissa Epley Warble '85
Maria Wein
Devaney '86
J. Steuart Marshall '86
Laura Hale '87
William Knox '87
Laura Flannery
Pettee '87
Jennifer Clarke
McGrath '88
Kimberly Wilson
Wetty '89
Kelly Mulcahy
Dolan '90
Katie Mosely Krieg '91
Michelle Crisci
Meyercord '91
Francisco J. Rivera '91
Constantine Dimas '92
Anne Walker Ruiz '92
Robert Deichert '93
Christopher Mestl '93
Peter Borducci '94
Emily Eustis Liggitt '96
Katharine Lord '96
Catherine O'Connor
Williams '96
Meghan Mitchell
Allen '97

Sandra DeFeo
Borducci '97
Clayton Pope '98
Matthew Butler '00
Elizabeth Hayden
Fitzgerald '00
James Fitzgerald III '00
Leah Gogel Pope '00
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Ferguson '01
Elizabeth Harrell '02
Tom Shearer '02
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Sean Murphy '05
Lee Fabiaschi '08
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Elliott Bartsch '11
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Class of 2015
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www.BronxvilleSchoolFoundation.org