Volume 5, Issue 2 - Spring/Summer 2026

CTE NEWSLETTER

Career and Technology Education
CTE - Hands-On Learning for Real-World Success



Your Future Starts Here! CTE Teachers Celebrate the Value of CTE Through Creative Branding Initiative

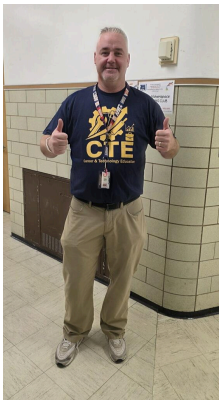
Massapequa's Career and Technical Education (CTE) teachers are taking innovation to the next level by branding their courses to inspire and engage students. From eye-catching logos to dynamic taglines, these educators are showcasing the incredible opportunities CTE offers while building strong identities for their programs.



Adding to the excitement, teachers are now proudly wearing newly designed T-shirts featuring their official CTE logo and slogan—creating a unified, professional, and highly visible presence throughout the buildings. This initiative not only highlights the pride CTE educators have in their fields, but also helps students and families more easily recognize and connect with the diverse programs available.

The branding effort has sparked meaningful collaboration and has energized classrooms, hallways, and department communities. As these new visuals roll out, the district celebrates the dedication, innovation, and passion of its CTE teachers—educators who continue to elevate student learning and champion the value of Career and Technical Education.





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Skills in the Spotlight as MHS Celebrates CTE Month



Career and Technical Education programs at Massapequa High School champion the district's mission of encouraging students to pursue their passions and achieve success through numerous pathways. February was CTE Month, which raised awareness of programs that prepare students for college and careers.



Massapequa High School's CTE programs build on the foundation that is developed at Berner Middle School and the Ames Campus, where students begin personalizing their course schedules through increased access to elective courses. CTE includes business, family and consumer sciences and technology.

The College Financial Accounting course allows juniors and seniors to earn six college credits through St. John's University. Teacher Denise DeLury said the fast-paced program introduces students to financial accounting as they learn bookkeeping, how to read and understand financial statements, and explore accounting careers. They do case studies on business fraud and analyze financial controls that could have prevented it.



College Marketing teacher Adrienne Scamardella said her students do individual and group projects to analyze the marketing strategies of major companies. They learn key concepts and terminology, and participate in the annual Adelphi Apprentice Challenge.

The culinary arts room is used nine periods a day because of the popularity of courses such as Cooking For Today, International Foods and College-level Creative Foods. In the International Foods class, students span the globe to create cultural dishes. With Lunar New Year in February, they were in the Asian cuisine unit, cooking items such as butter chicken, fried rice, steamed chicken dumplings and naan. They will later move on to foods from France, Italy and Latin America. Teacher Courtney Puricelli stressed





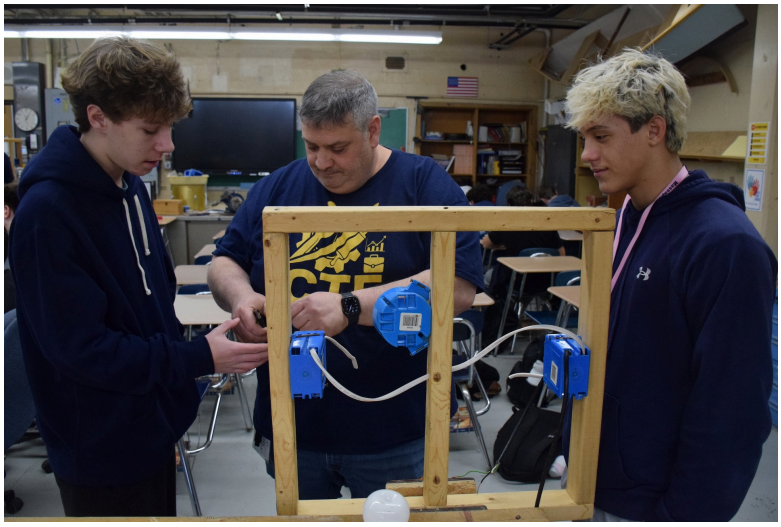
the importance of communication and teamwork to successfully make their dishes.



“I love that we get to make different kinds of food from other cultures,” sophomore Daniella Foley said.

Creative Foods is an advanced baking class. Teacher Christina Sabbiondo said many projects are based on food trends, such as cookie and cupcake competitions. An annual event is the cake-decorating contest, with students' confections displayed in the main office so staff can vote on their favorite designs.

Another part of the family and consumer sciences program is Parent and Child Development, and college-level Children and Families. Two days per week, the high school students run a preschool program for local children. The rest of the week is spent studying child development and planning the themed preschool lessons.



“The reason I did this was to get a head start,” said senior Riley Lavin, a student-intern in the college Children and Families course and aspiring elementary school teacher.

In the technology wing, Transportation Systems is a hands-on course that covers aquatic, air and ground vehicles. There is a class car to work on and they also do simple repairs on student or staff cars to learn how to diagnose and fix a problem. In a community known for its waterways, the class is also working on a small boat, with the designs produced by students in the Design and Drawing for Production class.

In Architectural Drawing, a highly-anticipated project is building treehouse models. Students draw floor plans, then create a digital 3D model before building. Teacher Matthew Swanson said students use professional-level software for the planning process.



Residential Structures is an engaging course in which students ultimately build a shed that mimics a house. From the foundation to the walls to the roof, it also includes electrical and plumbing systems so students experience all components of home building.

“I love building things and I don’t get to do anything like this in any of my other classes,” sophomore Kurt Amaya said, adding that he likes seeing a project through from start to finish.

“I might want to do it as a future career,” added Craig Mifsud, who most enjoys the electrical aspect. “It’s a good taste as I explore my options.”



CTE Supervisor Patricia LiVecchi said that the department has recently been working on branding, unveiling a new logo that is on T-shirts and CTE classroom doors. She noted that the program equips students with the knowledge, technical skills, professional competencies and confidence needed for success in a wide range of career fields. Students can explore career options early, gain employable skills before graduating high school and prepare for a smoother transition to college programs.

“CTE is an educational pathway that combines academic instruction with hands-on, career-focused learning to prepare students for college, careers and real-world success,” Ms. LiVecchi said. “It integrates traditional academics with practical, job-specific instruction to create meaningful, applied learning experiences. CTE matters because it helps students to see the relevance of school to future goals.”

Massapequa Graduates Give Back at Ames Career Day



Ninth graders got a glimpse of the future as the Ames Campus hosted its 19th annual Alumni Career Day on April 24. The program featured 23 graduates of Berner or Massapequa high schools, who shared information about a wide range of careers.

All students attended two panel discussions, each about an hour long. During that time, presenters spoke about their respective careers as well as their individual professional journeys. Many shared that they are now in jobs they never envisioned when they were younger. The sessions ended with a few minutes of time for ninth graders to talk one-on-one with presenters.

The graduates spanned from as far back as 1967 to as recent as 2021. They spanned multiple professions including business, education, engineering, government, health care, hospitality and law enforcement. With Career Day a nearly two decade-long tradition, several of the presenters were once in the audience as Ames students.



Alumni Career Day was organized by Career and Technical Education Supervisor Patricia LiVecchi, School-to-Career Coordinator Denise DeLury and business education teacher Christine Poggioli. Career and Community Connections teachers Sal Calderone and Kathleen Wegener also organized a presentation

for their students, including a current Massapequa High School student who works for Sweet Clementine's and a graduate who owns a business making garden gnomes.

Ms. DeLury said that speakers discussed their job responsibilities and qualifications, as well as how their experiences as Massapequa students helped launch their journeys.

"They all spoke very passionately about their careers," Ms. DeLury said. "That's a very important message for our students – to find something that you love. Students could see how their experiences in Massapequa schools shaped them into the successful individuals they are today."



Ninth grader Mia Cespites said she enjoyed the panels she attended, particularly learning about careers as an ASL interpreter, nurse and police officer. Two pieces of advice stuck with her – it's OK to fail if you keep trying, and it's important to make connections with other people.

Genevieve Geritano noted how many of the speakers have changed professions at least one time, as they took advantage of opportunities that came to them, even if unexpected.

"It was really interesting to think that you're going to do one thing in life," she said, "and then make a complete career change and still be successful."



Robotics Club Shines at Competition

This year, our 7th and 8th Grade LEGO Robotics Club had an exciting and rewarding season competing in the **FIRST LEGO League UNEARTHED Challenge**. Throughout the season, students collaborated to design, build, program, and refine their robots in preparation for competition. In the process, they developed valuable skills that extend far beyond robotics, including teamwork, strategic thinking, creativity, and perseverance. Students quickly learned that success in robotics is not only about construction, but also about problem-solving and persistence when faced with unexpected challenges.

The UNEARTHED Challenge focused on themes of archaeology and discovery, providing students with the opportunity to complete a series of mission-based tasks on the competition field. Teams were responsible for selecting which missions to prioritize, designing and constructing custom attachments, and developing precise programming to ensure their robot could consistently and accurately complete each task. Each practice session served as a learning experience, filled with experimentation, collaboration, and continuous improvement.



The team's hard work culminated in an outstanding performance at the competition, where they earned an impressive score of **255 points**, placing them among the **top 10 teams** in the robot game at their event. This achievement reflects the dedication, focus, and determination demonstrated by our students throughout the season.



Most importantly, our students represented the school and the Massapequa community with pride. They supported one another, adapted under pressure, and demonstrated resilience and sportsmanship. Through their participation in LEGO Robotics Club, students are developing not only technical skills, but also confidence, leadership abilities, and a lifelong passion for learning.

Congratulations to our LEGO Robotics Club members on a remarkable season. Their accomplishments in the UNEARTHED Challenge are a source of pride for our entire community.

Child Study Preschool Enjoys a Memorable Gym Day Field Trip



On Thursday, April 23, our Child Study Preschool students participated in a special Gym Day field trip in collaboration with Physical Education teacher, **Ms. Canle**. High school "teachers of the day," along with students from **Ms. Fierro-Gregg's** and **Ms. Scott's** Child Study classes, helped create an engaging and energetic experience for our preschool learners.

Throughout the event, high school students guided the children through a variety of activities, including basketball, bowling, freeze dance, and scooter races. These interactive stations provided opportunities for our youngest learners to develop new skills while fostering movement, coordination, and teamwork in a fun and supportive environment.





The day concluded with a highlight for all participants—a lively parachute activity led by Ms. Canle—bringing everyone together for a joyful and memorable finale.

This field trip was a wonderful example of collaboration, leadership, and hands-on learning. Our high school students

demonstrated patience, creativity, and enthusiasm while working with the preschoolers, making the day both meaningful and enjoyable for all involved.





A great day was had by all, and the smiles shared throughout the event will surely make this an experience to remember!



Students Design and Develop Custom 3D Printed Golf Putters

Students in our DDP classes at Ames recently engaged in an innovative, hands-on engineering project in which they designed and manufactured their own custom golf putters. This experience combined creativity, technical skill development, and real-world application, offering students meaningful insight into the intersection of design, engineering, and technology.

Using Autodesk Inventor, students began by developing foundational skills in 3D modeling. Throughout the design process, they explored key engineering concepts such as measurement, symmetry, weight distribution, and structural integrity. Each student created a unique putter head, carefully balancing both form and function to ensure optimal performance.

Once their designs were finalized, students transitioned from digital modeling to physical production using the Anycubic Kobra S1 3D printers. Observing their designs come to life reinforced the connection between conceptual design and manufacturing. In addition, students gained valuable experience using slicing software, setting up printers, and troubleshooting—essential skills in today's technology-driven environment.



The project will culminate in an authentic learning experience as students take their custom putters to Batter Up Mini Golf to test their designs in a real-world setting. There, they will evaluate performance, accuracy, and consistency while analyzing how design variations influence outcomes. This hands-on testing component reflects the iterative process used by engineers and product designers, allowing students to refine and improve upon their work.

Overall, this project strengthened students' technical abilities while fostering creativity, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills. By participating in the full design cycle, students gained a deeper appreciation for the role of technology and innovation in everyday products. We look forward to seeing how their designs perform and how they continue to refine their work in future iterations.

Students Gain Real-World Financial Insight Through Guest Speaker Visit

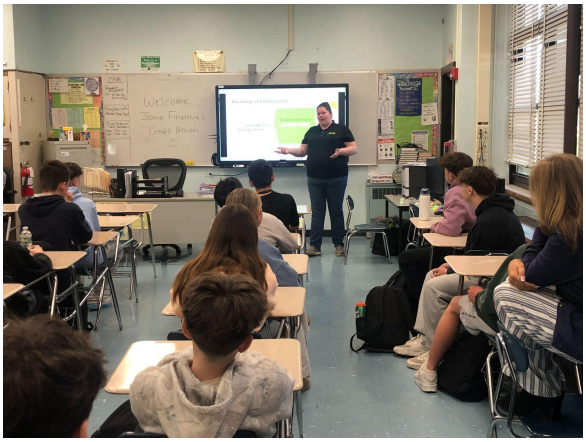


Students in our 9th grade Career and Financial Management classes recently had the opportunity to participate in a valuable real-world learning experience through a visit from guest speakers representing **Jovia Financial Credit Union**.

During their presentation, Jovia representatives provided practical guidance on essential financial topics, including budgeting, saving, responsible credit use, and setting financial goals. Their insights helped students make meaningful connections between classroom learning and real-life financial decision-making.

The visit also offered students the opportunity to engage directly with financial professionals, ask questions, and deepen their understanding of personal finance in an authentic context.

We are grateful for Jovia Financial Credit Union's continued partnership and support in helping to equip our students with the knowledge and skills necessary for financial success in the future.



Culinary Students Showcase Creativity and Skill

Students in our College Creative Foods classes recently demonstrated their culinary talents through a series of engaging and competitive challenges. The Cookie Challenge highlighted students' creativity, with participants designing cookies that stood out in flavor, texture, and presentation. From classic favorites to innovative flavor combinations, entries were evaluated on originality, visual appeal, and balance.

In the Cake Decorating Competition, student groups brought themed creations to life using advanced techniques and mediums such as fondant, gum paste, and sugar glass. With themes ranging from the beach to Disney, each cake reflected precision, collaboration, and artistic expression.





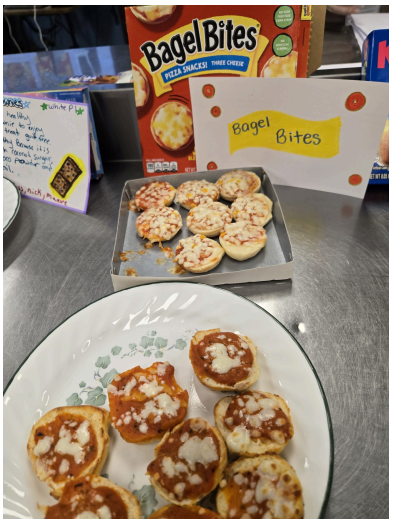
Students in the College Food for Fitness class took on the task of reimagining childhood snacks with a healthier focus. Their creations were

judged on taste, creativity, presentation, and nutritional improvement, demonstrating both culinary skill and an understanding of healthy eating.

Additionally, International Cooking students showcased their teamwork and creativity through the Empanada Challenge, developing unique recipes while refining essential skills such as dough preparation and presentation. Each dish was evaluated based on taste, creativity, and presentation.

These hands-on experiences continue to foster creativity, collaboration, and real-world culinary skills among our students.







Sean, Cat, and Kyrea gained some valuable real world experience creating a music video at the Long Island Media Arts Festival at Five Towns College this past March.

Lights, Camera, Action: Our Broadcasting Stars Take the Stage

The hallways of our high school have never been more vibrant, thanks to the relentless energy and creativity of our student-led Broadcasting Program. This first year, our crew has taken "school spirit" to a professional level, producing polished weekly news broadcasts that keep students and faculty alike informed and entertained. Our weekly broadcasts, full length features, and sports coverage can be found on their Massapequa Broadcasting Network YouTube Page https://www.youtube.com/@MBNChannel1/playlists. From breaking down the latest school updates to capturing the high-octane energy of our varsity sports teams, these students are proving that they have the grit and the vision to handle the fast-paced world of journalism.

Our program's excellence hasn't stayed within our school walls; it has commanded attention on a much larger stage. Our talented creators proudly represented the district at the Long Island Media Arts Festival (LIMA) at Five Towns College, where their technical prowess and storytelling earned high marks from industry professionals. Students also had the opportunity to gain some valuable real world experience filming a music video for a local band at the event. Furthermore, our involvement with the Broadcasting Alliance for Senior High (BASH) programs has allowed our students to network with peers across the region, sharpening their



Some coverage of the Pulsera Project fundraiser for Central America

skills in cinematography, editing, and live reporting. These competitions aren't just about trying to get awards; they are a testament to the hours of "behind-the-scenes" dedication our students pour into every frame.

Beyond the headlines and the accolades, the heart of our program lies in its commitment to our community. Our features on the Special Olympics and local school fundraisers such as the Pulsera Project have highlighted the inclusivity and generosity that define our student body. The voices given to these vital events by our broadcasting team are more than just reports—they build bridges and foster a sense of belonging. Whether they are on the sidelines of a championship game or documenting a charity drive, our media team is there to ensure that every story worth telling is heard loud and clear.



Our reporter Johnny Broadcasting from the Special Olympics held at A.G. Berner Middle School on Saturday May 2, 2026

Shadowing Success: Students Explore Careers in Education

As a follow up to the district's InspireEDU event that was held in March, several students had the opportunity to get a firsthand look at what it's really like to work inside our schools. Through a special job-shadowing experience offered by the School-to-Career program, students spent the day alongside teachers and support staff - seeing the heart of education from inside out.





The students observed classrooms in action, learned how lessons are planned, and discovered how many people work behind the scenes to keep a school running smoothly. They were able to see the teamwork, creativity, and problem-solving that happens every day. The experience helped them picture themselves in future careers they are considering.

For our district, the event was more than a single day of exploration. It was an investment in future educators, leaders, and community partners. By opening our doors, we helped students connect their interests with real opportunities—and reminded them that their talents are needed in our schools.





Residential Structures Students Build Skills from the Ground Up

Springtime at Massapequa High School signals the return of a hands-on tradition in the Technology Department—the construction of a student-built shed. As part of the Residential Structures course, students are once again designing and erecting an 8’ x 10’ shed in the MHS parking lot, applying classroom learning to a real-world construction project.

Throughout the project, students engage in all phases of residential construction. They begin by planning and preparing a level platform for the shed’s base, followed by framing the walls and roof. As construction progresses, students explore appropriate siding and roofing materials, learning how material selection impacts durability, function, and design.

Once the structure is weather-tight, students move on to interior work, installing drywall and developing finishing skills such as taping and spackling. This comprehensive project allows students to experience the full construction process while building technical skills, problem-solving abilities, and teamwork.

The annual shed project highlights the value of experiential learning and showcases the strong connection between technical education and real-world career pathways.











March Marketing Madness Brings NCAA Tournament Concepts to Life

Students in Mr. Everitt’s Sports Marketing classes recently explored the business side of college athletics through a dynamic unit centered on the

NCAA Basketball Tournament, titled March Marketing Madness. While marketing the tournament has long been part of the curriculum, this year's unit was enhanced through the collaboration of Mrs. Powell, a student teacher who has been working with the classes since the start of the third quarter.

During the unit, students examined key marketing strategies associated with the NCAA Tournament, including the important distinction between marketing of a sport and marketing through a sport. These concepts helped students understand how major sporting events are promoted while also serving as powerful platforms for branding and advertising.



To apply their learning, students selected an NCAA men's or women's tournament team and conducted in-depth research on both the institution and its basketball program. This included analyzing the college's location, graduation rates, academic offerings, team records, key players, and NCAA history. Students then synthesized their research into creative and informative posters highlighting their chosen schools.

From the combined work of Mr. Everitt's two Sports Marketing classes, the top four posters were selected and recognized as the "Final Four," adding an engaging competitive element that mirrored the excitement of the tournament itself.

This enhanced unit provided students with an authentic look at sports marketing while reinforcing research, presentation, and critical-thinking skills—bringing real-world relevance and excitement into the classroom.



Berner Technology Club Students Design and Build Custom Pickleball Paddles

Students in the Technology Club at Berner Middle School are gaining hands-on engineering experience through an innovative project focused on designing and manufacturing custom pickleball paddles. The project provides students with an authentic opportunity to explore material selection, manufacturing processes, and how material properties influence real-world applications.

The project began with an introduction to **Computer Numerical Control (CNC) manufacturing**. Students reviewed **Computer-Aided Design (CAD)** drawings that were used to cut paddle blanks on a CNC router, giving them firsthand exposure to modern manufacturing methods. This experience highlighted how many products are produced in industry today, as more than 65 percent of U.S. manufacturers utilize CNC technology.





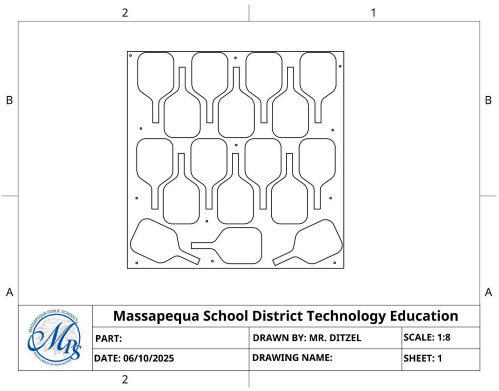
Students then examined the materials used in paddle construction and discussed why their characteristics made them suitable for the

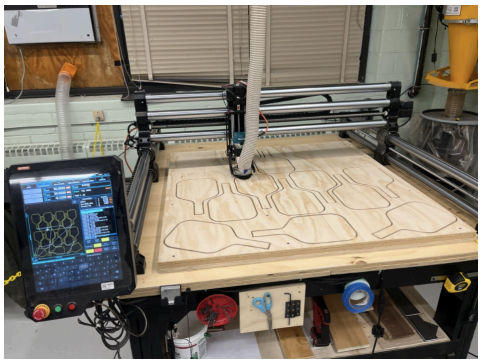
project. The paddles were constructed using ½-inch A/C plywood, paired with hardwood handles made from either maple or cherry. Maple dowels and wood glue were used to secure the handles, reinforcing concepts related to strength, durability, and material compatibility.

Once fabrication began, students processed their paddles using a variety of tools and techniques. They assembled handles with hand drills, shaped their paddles using rasps and files, and refined the surfaces through progressive sanding methods. Students also had the option to personalize their paddles using a laser engraver, exposing them to another widely used manufacturing technology.

To complete the project, students applied multiple coats of matte polyurethane, learning about protective finishes and why matte polyurethane is appropriate for durability and performance in this application.

The final phase of the project will involve testing the paddles through gameplay, allowing students to evaluate performance and identify areas for improvement. This reflective process reinforces the importance of iteration in design and engineering. Overall, the pickleball paddle project offered students meaningful, real-world learning experiences while strengthening problem-solving, technical, and design skills.









Culinary Classes Continue Tradition of Giving Through Baking

For the second time this school year, Massapequa High School culinary students participated in King Arthur Baking Company's *Bake for Good* program prior to spring break. Under the guidance of teachers Courtney Puricelli and Christina Sabbiondo, students across all cooking classes engaged in a meaningful, hands-on project that combined skill development with community service.

As part of the program, each group prepared two loaves of fresh bread—one to enjoy and one to donate. Through the process of mixing, shaping, and baking, students created a total of 50 loaves, which were donated to the YES Community Counseling Center food pantry to support local families.

This initiative is particularly impactful, as homemade baked goods are not commonly available through food pantries, making the contribution both thoughtful and meaningful. To conclude the experience, students used their



remaining bread to prepare French toast, reinforcing culinary techniques while celebrating their efforts.

This project builds on the success of a similar bread drive held in the fall prior to Thanksgiving and continues to highlight the culinary program's commitment to community engagement, service, and real-world learning opportunities.

From Design to Finish

Our 7th grade students have been hard at work designing and building their own wooden key racks! This hands-on project guides them through the full design and manufacturing process, including measuring, cutting, filing, sanding, laser engraving, and applying a protective finish.

A major highlight of this project is that students were able to choose and create their own designs. This creative freedom has encouraged them to take real ownership of their work, resulting in a wide variety of unique and personal projects that reflect their individual interests and styles.





Throughout the process, students have been developing important skills such as precision, patience, and problem-solving. They've also been learning how to safely and responsibly use tools and equipment while following step-by-step procedures. When challenges come up—as they often do in real-world building—students are practicing how to adjust, improve, and keep going.

It has been exciting to watch their confidence grow as their ideas turn into finished products. We're looking forward to seeing all of the completed key racks and celebrating their hard work and creativity!

Massapequa High School Students Explore Sports Business Careers at UBS Arena



On Wednesday, March 18, 2026, Business Education students from Massapequa High School participated in Sports Business Day at UBS Arena, hosted by executives from the New York Islanders organization. This immersive experience provided students with a behind-the-scenes look at the wide range of careers that support a professional NHL team beyond the game itself.

Students enrolled in College Marketing, College Introduction to Business, Entrepreneurship, Accounting, Sports Marketing, and Fashion Marketing attended the event, which aligned closely with coursework focused on marketing and business career pathways. These classes are taught by Ms. Scamardella, Mrs. Delury, Mr. Everitt, and Mr. Aromando, who emphasize real-world applications of business concepts.

Throughout the day, Islanders management and senior executives led presentations at various locations throughout the arena, highlighting the business operations that drive a professional sports organization. Students learned about the business of sports, ticket and luxury suite sales, sponsorships and partnerships, analytics, and the importance of building fan loyalty through social media engagement.

Students found the experience both informative and eye-opening. One student shared, *"The trip showed me how many different jobs are involved in running a professional team. I never realized how much work happens behind the scenes."* Another student noted, *"Learning about ticket packages, sponsorships, and marketing strategies helped me understand how sports and business connect in the real world."*

Executives from the Islanders' Community Relations department discussed how the organization builds a lasting legacy through charitable initiatives and youth hockey programs. The experience concluded with a tour of the event-level areas, where students learned about the coordination required to manage ice operations and ensure a successful game-day experience. As one student reflected, *"Seeing the arena and learning how everything operates made the careers feel more real and attainable."*

Overall, Sports Business Day at UBS Arena provided Massapequa High School students with a valuable opportunity to connect classroom learning with real-world careers, broaden their understanding of the sports industry, and gain insight into potential professional pathways.

Some thoughts from our students about the NY Islanders Sports Business Day:

Tyler L
At the UBS trip, I enjoyed learning about how much each luxury suite cost for the clients and companies. Learning how expensive it was per game and what is included for them at games was super interesting to me.

Lexi C.
The field trip to UBS Arena opened my eyes to so many different jobs that fall under the umbrella of one field. It showed me all the different components that make up one organization or one business. This one trip was able to develop and change my ideas on job opportunities.

Nick G
I liked how we got a tour of the entire arena and got to meet everybody with business and marketing jobs for UBS. I learned about what each job does and it helped me learn about types of careers I can do in the future and how well they pay.

Daniella F.
What I loved learning about at the field trip to UBS was hearing the marketing staff talk about the tickets and how they have special packages when you buy tickets through the Islanders App. I also liked how they partner with different companies for food in the stadium and also hearing about all the community events they host at UBS.

Andi S
I liked when they spoke about the sponsorships and who the team and arena were sponsored by.

Sienna S
One thing that stood out to me about the Islanders UBS trip was how they market their team and collaborate with different companies.

Addi M
What impressed me was the social media team talking about events they participated in such as the Islanders teaching hockey to children.

Bianca M.
I like how they had employees from different departments to talk to us. Ticket sales were especially exciting! Love the giveaways of jerseys, pucks and other merchandise.

Violet A.
I enjoyed the field trip because we learned about many jobs for the team and saw a lot of cool rooms in UBS arena.

Delaney D.
I really enjoyed hearing about all the people's careers and being able to see the stadium after hours, without anyone there it was very interesting and fun.

Chris H.
I personally liked the entire trip, getting to see the locker room, seeing each of the suites was also really cool, learning that one of the suites was able to see the players exit the locker room and go onto the ice. I also thought that each of the sponsors such as BMW, Hyundai, and Ford and the arena had a car from each company.

Eighth Grade Computer MAGIC Students Bring Game Design and Digital Media to Life



Students in 8th grade Computer MAGIC have been doing some amazing work as they continue to grow their skills in coding, creativity, and digital problem solving. Our current focus has been Flowlab Game Design, where students are learning how games are built from the ground up using logic, sequencing, and creative thinking.

Recently, students completed a side-scrolling adventure game, where they designed levels, coded character movement, added obstacles, and tested gameplay for bugs and improvements. This project challenged students to think like game designers and programmers while learning how small changes in code can greatly affect how a game functions.

Now, they're taking things to the next level by coding a space pilot game. In this project, students are expanding their skills by programming more advanced mechanics such as scoring systems, enemy behavior, player controls, and game progression. Along the way, they continue to practice problem solving, debugging, and perseverance as they refine their designs and bring their ideas to life.

After our game design unit, students will shift their focus to the media side of Computer MAGIC. They will explore digital media and marketing by designing social media marketing campaigns for a local business. This unit will help students learn how media, technology, and communication work together in the real world as they create visuals, write persuasive content, and think strategically about audience and branding.

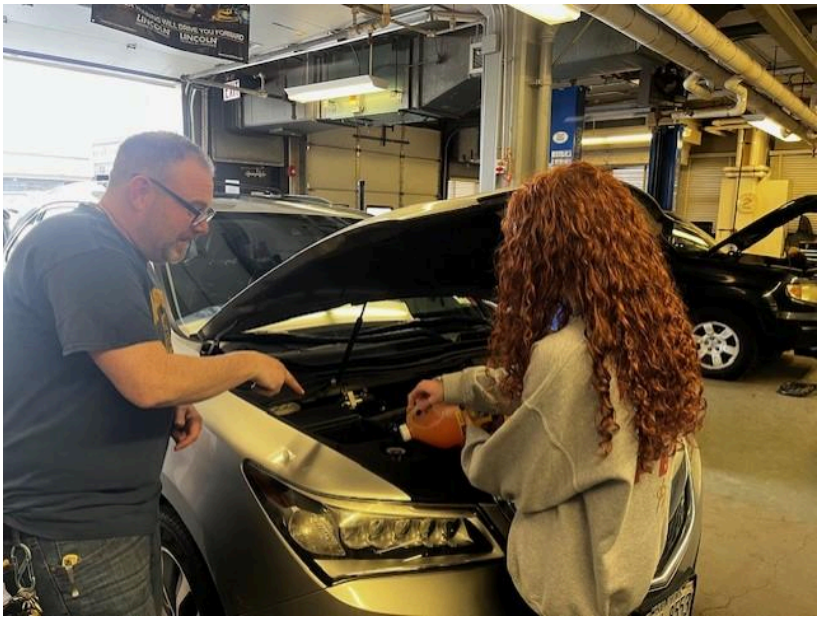


Computer MAGIC continues to provide students with opportunities to be creative, think critically, and apply technology skills in meaningful ways. Thank you for your continued support as students design, code, and create!

Hands-On Learning Drives Career and Technical Education Across Programs

This spring, students across multiple Career and Technical Education programs are engaging in hands-on, project-based learning that reinforces technical skills, collaboration, and real-world applications.

In the **Advanced Automotive Maintenance** program, students have had a highly productive semester. Working in collaboration with the Transportation Systems class, students are completing the construction of an electric minibike, applying essential skills such as soldering, electrical systems, welding, and fundamental mechanics. The project is expected to be completed this week. In addition, as many students have recently earned their driver's licenses, the class has focused on installing back-up and reverse camera systems. Other high-demand automotive



projects have included brake system work, oil changes, wiper blade replacement, and tire maintenance.

Complementing this work, the **Car Care Club** recently completed an engine build for the program's Dodge Charger, a former New York State Police vehicle. The course will conclude with project-based activities designed to reinforce and integrate concepts taught during the first and second quarters.

Students enrolled in **CCC Tech** are currently constructing bird feeders using reclaimed wood. Each student has completed an individual project using hand tools and craftsmanship techniques, including cutting, screwing, gluing, sanding, and painting. These completed bird feeders are scheduled to be finished and distributed in time for the Mother's Day and Father's Day holidays, giving students a tangible product to share.

In the **Architecture** program, students are utilizing professional-grade software, Autodesk Revit, to design original structures. The curriculum has progressed through three phases: designing a basic residential home, creating a personalized "dream home" with a custom feature, and culminating in the design of a modern, code-compliant commercial building. Students interested in pursuing careers in architecture also participated in a Shadow Day, spending time observing professionals at a working architecture firm.



Massapequa High School continues to support career exploration through a variety of opportunities, including Shadow Day, internship, and apprenticeship programs coordinated by **Ms. Denise Delury** through the Career and Explorations Office. These experiences provide students with meaningful exposure to potential career paths. As one professional noted, *"It's truly amazing how far the students have come in just one year."*

Together, these programs highlight the district's commitment to experiential learning and preparing students with the skills and knowledge needed for future success.



The Sewing Journey of an 8th Grader

In a classroom filled with focus and the steady rhythm of needle and thread, eighth grade students took on the challenge of hand-sewing their own small stuffed animal

projects. During this unit, students learned a variety of hand-sewing techniques while developing patience, precision, and craftsmanship.





Working without the speed of a sewing machine, students practiced three foundational stitches: the running stitch, overcast stitch, and blanket stitch. Each student selected a sewing kit featuring different animal options and carefully cut pattern pieces and fabric to bring their designs to life. Personalized details—such as stitched eyes, felt ears, and decorative accents—gave each animal its own unique character. The slower pace of hand sewing encouraged collaboration, as students shared tips, helped untangle thread, and assisted one another in reinforcing seams. By the end of the project, classrooms were filled with handmade animals, each one distinct and thoughtfully crafted. Beyond sewing skills, the experience emphasized perseverance and the value of creating something carefully by hand.





Once students completed their hand-sewn projects, they transitioned to using sewing machines to create pillows from recycled T-shirts. After cutting the shirts into square or rectangular shapes, students stitched the fabric pieces together, leaving a small opening to turn the fabric right side out and conceal the seams. The finished pillow became more than a repurposed T-shirt—it served as a reminder that with basic skills and thoughtful effort, something old can be transformed into something new. Through this project, students also learned creative and practical ways to recycle materials.



Sixth Grade Technology Program Sparks Creativity, Problem-Solving, and Innovation

We've been having a lot of fun and doing some great learning in 6th grade Technology! We began the year by focusing on two very important foundations: lab safety and measurement. Students learned how to safely and responsibly work in the technology lab, practice proper behavior around tools and equipment, and accurately measure using standard units. These essential skills help prepare students for hands-on projects and real-world applications.

Right now, students are hard at work on their Sling Puck Board project, and excitement is building as their designs begin to take shape. During this unit, students are applying the Engineering Design Process—planning, designing,

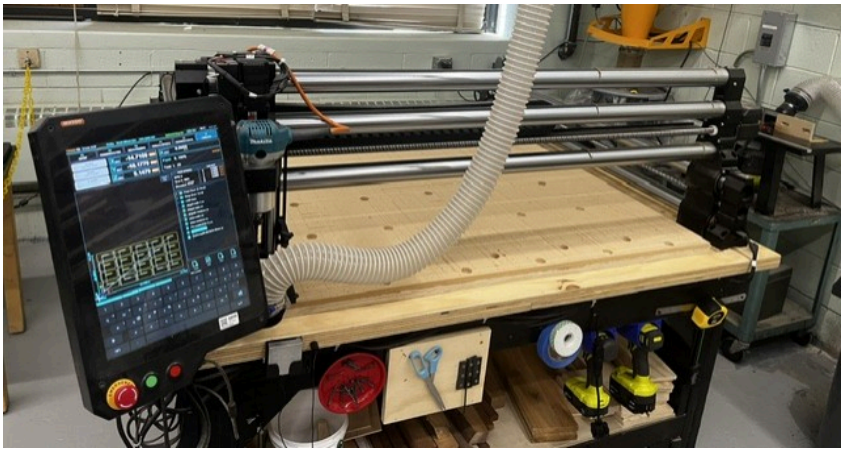
building, testing, and improving their work. As they move through the woodworking process, students are practicing safe tool use, precise measuring, and thoughtful problem solving. They are also learning that mistakes are a normal and valuable part of learning, and that redesigning often leads to better results.

This project encourages creativity, patience, and perseverance. Students are taking pride in their work while learning how to solve problems independently and collaborate with classmates. Safety and responsibility continue to be emphasized every step of the way as students gain confidence in the workshop.



Up next, we will be diving into the exciting world of LEGO Robotics! Students will explore how robots work and use coding skills to program them to complete different challenges. This unit promotes teamwork, critical thinking, and creativity as students test, adjust, and refine their code to achieve success.

Thank you for your continued support and for encouraging your child's curiosity and creativity. We're looking forward to an exciting stretch of building, coding, and hands-on learning in Technology class!





Berner Technology Classrooms Enhanced with Modern Equipment Upgrades

Over the past two years, the Berner Technology Department has undergone significant equipment upgrades to modernize instructional spaces and align with current safety and industry standards. Much of the original equipment dated back to the building's opening in 1961. As technology continues to evolve, these updates were essential to ensure both student safety and high-quality, hands-on learning experiences. In addition, the technology labs were thoughtfully reorganized to maximize efficiency and optimize the use of available space.

One of the most notable upgrades was the addition of **SawStop table saws**, which are widely recognized for their advanced safety technology. These saws feature a patented system that stops the blade in less than five milliseconds upon contact with skin, significantly reducing the risk of serious injury. After careful consideration, the department selected the **SawStop Compact**



Table Saw, a portable and space-efficient model well suited for instructional workshops.

In addition to the table saws, several new pieces of equipment were installed across the technology labs, including dust collection systems in four classrooms, CNC laser engravers, a CNC router, miter saws, band saws, router tables, new bench tops, and updated wood storage racks. These enhancements support a wide range of projects and provide students with access to tools commonly used in modern manufacturing and construction settings.

Together, these improvements reflect the district's continued commitment to providing safe, relevant, and forward-thinking technology education that prepares students with the skills needed for future academic and career success.

Eighth Grade Technology Students Engage in Design and Engineering Projects

Technology education begins long before students enter a classroom, as technology plays a vital role in everyday life from birth onward. At Berner Middle School, eighth grade Technology classes help students make meaningful connections between the technology they encounter daily and the skills they will continue to develop as they progress to Ames Campus and Massapequa High School. The coursework builds a strong foundation that prepares students for more advanced technology education in the years ahead.

Currently, eighth grade students have recently completed a **tower design project**, which challenged them to construct a structure within specific size limitations and using a limited set of materials. Students demonstrated exceptional problem-solving and engineering skills, with more towers supporting the maximum number of books than in any previous year. Remarkably, structures weighing only a few grams were able to support over 100 pounds, reflecting both thoughtful design and precise construction.



Two of the many students who's towers held all the books. 3.5 pounds per book.

Students have now transitioned into their final project of the year, informally referred to as the **"IKEA Project,"** a catapult-building challenge. In this project, materials are pre-cut, and students must follow detailed assembly instructions while drilling holes and constructing the final product. The project emphasizes accuracy, sequencing, and teamwork. Despite the approach of the end of the school year, students remain focused, engaged, and motivated as they work through the final stages of the course.

These hands-on experiences continue to reinforce engineering concepts, critical thinking, and perseverance, providing students with a strong foundation for future learning in technology education.

Massapequa Celebrates 43 New Inductees at 14th Annual Business Honor Society Ceremony



The Massapequa chapter of the New York State Business & Marketing Honor Society held its 14th Annual Induction Ceremony May 20, 2026, celebrating the achievements of the 43 new inductees for the 2025-26 school year. This special event recognized outstanding students who have demonstrated dedication, academic success, and leadership within the fields of business and marketing. This year's ceremony honored a remarkable group of students whose achievements reflect hard work and commitment. Each inductee has shown dedication not only to academic success but also to active participation in extracurricular activities and community service. Their accomplishments highlight the strength and future potential of the next generation of business leaders. A key moment in the ceremony was the recitation of the Honor Society pledge. By taking this pledge, students formally accept their role as ambassadors of excellence within their school and community. The ceremony also paid tribute to graduating members who have exemplified excellence throughout their time in the program. The event concluded with a delicious breakfast prepared by Mrs. Sabbiondo's College Art of Baking classes and Mrs. Puriceli's Food & Nutrition and International Cooking classes.