



# BLIND BROOK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

BLIND BROOK-RYE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

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**ASHLEY WELDE**  
BOARD PRESIDENT

**PATRICK BRIMSTEIN, Ed.D.**  
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Dear Members of the Blind Brook Community,

We are thrilled to announce that construction work at the Middle and High School campus is nearing completion. The main feature is the Fabrication Lab (“Fab Lab”) that will be the anchor of many future learning initiatives. Additional campus improvements include new classrooms and shared spaces that link the two buildings together.

The potential instructional applications of the Fab Lab are vast and exciting, not only for STEAM curriculum, but ultimately for humanities and interdisciplinary work as well. The High School course catalog is being updated to promote new learning opportunities, greater student agency, and real-life challenges that will encourage our students to bring their ideas to fruition.

For example, an Entrepreneur course is under development that will challenge students to develop concepts and carry their solutions through design, material fabrication, and presentation. This opportunity will enable students to use their creativity, acquire project management skills, and solve problems in their communities and beyond – exactly the types of skills that young people will need to be successful and fulfilled citizens of the future.

While we celebrate the progress at the Middle and High School, construction work at the Elementary building has not proceeded to the same degree of satisfaction. Whereas minimal delays are not uncommon for large construction projects, it became evident to us in July of this year that the project was unacceptably behind its original schedule.

Together with district administration, the Board of Education committed to a deep diagnostic analysis of the capital project to identify impediments, conflicts, and uncertainty associated with the scope and sequence of the work, numerous change orders, time delays, and number of workers on site. To advise its in-depth evaluation, the Board contracted Paul Carr & Associates, a forensic engineering consulting firm, to discover the underlying causes of disputes and delays that had prevented the project from progressing on schedule to substantial completion.

Subsequently, the Board retained the legal services of Guercio & Guercio, LLP for its expertise guiding clients through complex construction issues. Their confident legal counsel has allowed the Board to reposition the District to represent the best interests of the community.

Most recently, School Construction Consultants (SCC) was hired to replace the prior construction management company. SCC has led the successful completion of dozens of school construction projects on Long Island and in Westchester, and we are confident in their ability to see our project through to the end. SCC is now working with the District to develop an aggressive schedule and disciplined path forward to move full steam ahead with the work at Bmprss.

Our unified goal is to reinvigorate the project and have it completed by a new target date. We will soon be able to submit the new project timeline to the Community. Our students, staff and taxpayers deserve the promised benefits of the new instructional and community spaces in the building, which promises to be stunning once completed!

Sincerely,

Ashley Welde  
Board President

Dr. Patrick Brimstein  
Superintendent of Schools