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# POW WOW

BRENTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL BRENTWOOD NY 11717 MARCH 2011 VOLUME 42 ISSUE 3

## Brentwood Heroes



...un-  
ter firefighters at the local Brentwood fire department.  
Why risk so much and do all of this for free you ask? Both Martin and Javier feel it is an honor and plea-

By day they're just ordinary students who go to school and attend their classes just like every other high school student. The only difference is that as soon as that 2 o'clock bell rings they are more than just high school students... They are firefighters. Brentwood high school's very own Martin Viera and Javier Valentine are vol-

sure to help serve their community in order to give back to the community in which they grew up. Martin stated, "Somebody has to do it right? So it might as well be me. I don't mind at all. By doing this I get to help people and hopefully help make a difference by putting out one fire at a time." After asking Martin we also asked Javier why he chose to become a firefighter. Javier replied, "It's what I love to do, running into a burning building while others run out. I'm part of the true pride of Brentwood and to be serving this community is what I love to do, it's not a 9 to 5 job, it's 24 hours, 7 days a week."

Both Martin and Javier get calls in the wee hours of the morning, not worrying about the fact that they have school the next morning. Sure they might be a little tired the next day and restless but both firefighters say it is a small price to pay for knowing that they can help save people and help out the community. The Brentwood Fire Department is the busiest fire department on Long Island and sometimes the fires get pretty bad. Javier said, "It truly is amazing being able to stare fire in the face and go against it." Not many people can say they went into a fire

and made it out fine. Martin also added, "It truly is something else being in a fire, words can't describe the feeling and you just feel like you can do anything."

Both Martin and Javier go out of their way and beyond what is expected of them in school and on top of their jobs, homework and other stuff they somehow manage to get by. So you can sleep tight at night and stay calm because Martin and Javier are always ready to go to the call, no matter where they are or what they are doing, you can count on them being there. Brentwood thanks you.



## Brentwood's St. Patrick's Day Parade 3/19/2011



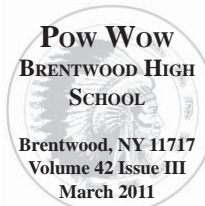
photos by Mr. S. Rochester



The Pow Wow has an EMAIL!!!!

Write to [powwow@bufsd.org](mailto:powwow@bufsd.org) with comments, ads, contributions, or announcements!





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## Letter from the Editors

As we leave winter and walk into the fresh spring air of March, one is reminded of the best that life has to offer. This school is full of people getting ready for the warm weather, and with that, the thought of summer comes to mind. Ahh, the warm air, the cool breeze of the ocean as you walk through the sand. The images of summer flood the mind. Nevertheless, it is important that one not lose sight of his or her future. This is especially true for you, seniors. Though you may feel as though the year is over and that you do not have to do anything anymore, this is not true. Don't cave under the pressure of not going to class or missing assignments. These things still matter. You may not know this now, but colleges will sometimes ask for your scores and grades from the second half of the year. For all you slackers, I sure hope that this is a wake-up call. Do not fall victim to laziness, and abandon all of your hopes for the future. It is still important to do well; your future depends upon it.

On a different note, spring break and prom are coming up sooner than you think. Yes, this is the best time of our lives, and you should enjoy it as such. Do not let anything interfere with what you want to do in life, so be careful with your choices. That being said, prom is like our "going out celebration", and we should all enjoy it as much as possible. Plan ahead, and start making arrangements for your party buses and locations for after prom. Don't let it come down to the last few weeks of the spring, where you are stuck in a jam with no one to go with or no bus to go on. Start early, and the faster you make plans, the less you will have to worry. At the end, it should be a night that we all remember, and the only way for us not to be stressed out is to finish things early. Oh, and please help plan the event. Let's make it great! Well, to the Class of 2011: We are almost there! Keep up all of your hard work.



Sincerely,  
Alex

Dear Sophomores,  
I'm sure you guys are just itching for the summer to come with such a dragging winter. But don't let this early case of senioritis fool you. Third quarter might just be one of the worst times to let "your guard down" in school. Take it from me, the worst feeling is regret. Regret of thinking "oh I could have done so much better last year". So, listen to me now so that next year you won't have to beat yourself up over a scary situation. You'll be stuck in a gamble, less assured about which college or university you're bound to wind up in. You'll be surprised how much easier school work is when you step away from Black Ops and actually get your assignments done on time.

Dear Juniors,  
Less than half a year away and we're seniors! So from what I've heard and from what some of you guys might not be aware of, college admissions senior year is DREADFUL! (That's the nicest way I can describe it.) You might think the essay will be easy because most of them are personal relations to you, but WRONG WRONG WRONG! Colleges want to see these essays as art, weaved with different writing styles and enhanced with fancy words. Over the summer you might just sit outside, tanning on your beach chair thinking about how school drained you. Make it easier on yourself. Start those admission essays during the summer. Because we all know for a fact that once the school year comes rolling in, there's no stopping it. The work piles on and on and that's one of the last things you'll ever want to happen.

Sincerely,  
Vivian

## ATTENTION SENIORS, SOPHOMORES, AND JUNIORS:

Write about your friends! Show off your work to your parents! Make your English teachers love you! (Not necessarily a guarantee.) The Pow Wow is always looking for new, dedicated members! All are welcome to join and voice their ideas. We are looking for individuals interested in the layout process, poets, reporters, cartoonists, sports reporters, artists, photographers, and anyone else who wants to contribute school news! This paper is ours, let's keep it that way! Ask yourself - What are you going to do to make a difference this year?



# MARCH IS...

## LITERACY MONTH



## NATIONAL NUTRITION MONTH



## WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH



# March Madness!!!

by Alexander Hayden

It's here! The Madness is upon us! Every March, the best college basketball teams from around the nation are invited to what is known officially as the NCAA Championship, but unofficially, as the Big Dance or March Madness. Since the seasons began in the winter of 2010, the star athletes of colleges and universities have played and won upwards of 20 games in many cases. This feat has earned them a spot in the tournament



that, when over, will produce the best team in the nation. March Madness is exactly what its name says it is. People go "mad" over making their predictions for the winners and the losers; and can sometimes consume their lives for a few days. And soon, men and women from every state will be sitting down anxiously awaiting the team that they believe in to win it all.

Some of you may ask, "How are the teams chosen and how does the tournament work?" Starting around the end of February, each of the Division I schools of the NCAA enter their respective conference tournaments. Examples of these championship games include the ACC, the Big East, and the Big 10. The winners of each of these conference championships will receive an automatic bid to the NCAA Championship. These teams make up the first of 64 slots that are opened each year. The remaining slots are at-large berths, with teams chosen by an NCAA selection committee. The selection process and tournament seedings are based on several factors, including team rankings, win-loss records and other analytical data. The lowest-seeded teams compete in the "opening round games" to determine which will join the other 60 teams in the first round of the tournament.

One of the most popular activities that goes along with the Madness is filling out brackets. Brackets are simply a tournament-structured diagram that documents how the progression of the tournament occurs. Often, people, companies, and other social clubs will fill out brackets in hopes of predicting who will win it all (usually, there is some sort of prize or money given to the winner). This popular game/event is based upon one's personal beliefs of who is going to take it all. Some people go with the analytical approach, while others simply choose teams that they like on a random basis. Only one thing is



certain: nothing is ever certain in the Madness.

So which teams are in the tournament this year? Who are the favorites and who are the underdogs? Let's start with the top teams from across the nation. The way the tournament works is that there are four divisions: the East, West, Southeast, and Southwest. Each division has a total of 16 teams, meaning that there are four #1s and four of every rank (one for each division). The four #1 teams are: Pittsburgh University, Kansas University, Duke University, and Ohio State University. Each of these teams is great in its own respect, but in many cases, the #1 teams may not win the entire tournament. As was the case this year, Pittsburgh was the biggest upset thus far, being eliminated by a #8 team - Butler. Many more times, a #2 or #3 has taken the Big Dance by storm and proven to everyone how rank doesn't mean everything. Other great teams in this year's tournament are: the University of Kentucky, the University of Connecticut, University of Texas, Brigham Young University, Syracuse University, University of Florida, University of North Carolina, and many others. Brigham Young University, although somewhat unheard of on the East Coast, is one of the best schools in the nation and is home to the best player in college (according to ESPN): Jimmer Fredette. And who is moving quietly in the shadows this year? Which team will be looking to drive a dagger through the hearts of the top teams? According to Yahoo, viewers should watch for #10 seeded Michigan State. Other teams include: George Mason University, Richmond University, and the Temple University. Be careful! Your brackets could be busted sooner than you think. Already there have been massive upsets in the brackets, with Richmond beating Vanderbilt and Morehead State beating Louisville in the first round, and Richmond continuing on to beat Morehead State in the second round.



So fill out your brackets folks. The time is upon us. Will you choose one of the top teams to win it? Will you choose the dark horse that makes a Cinderella story run for the title? It's up to you. Personally, I think Connecticut and their star player Kemba Walker will come out on top.

# The Story Behind St. Patrick's Day

by Alexander Hayden

In America, nearly everyone will celebrate St. Patrick's Day in one way or another, at some point in their lives. In elementary school, teachers made their classrooms green, pretending leprechauns were hiding around the corners, and hiding little gold pots from us. As time passed, and we became older, the happy days of childhood left us; in its stead were more modest gestures that showed that we remembered the holiday. Some of us still wear green on March 17 to remember the holiday. Others have taken to buying shirts that have the popular slogan "Kiss Me! I'm Irish!". Perhaps the most popular remembrance of the holiday are the parades that most towns will hold on the weekends surrounding the holiday. The one held in New York City, which draws crowds from across the country is one of the largest. However, looking past all of the celebrations, many of us still do not know the answer to the question, "What is St. Patrick's Day and why is it actually celebrated?"

First off, there are two stories to why St. Patrick is famous. One, which is more of a folklore version, is that at some point during the 4th Century, he charmed the snakes off of the island of Ireland and brought happiness back to its people. The only problem behind this story is that it doesn't make sense. First, it was proven scientifically that snakes could not have lived on the Irish island, simply because it was nonexistent when snakes first came to exist millions of years ago.

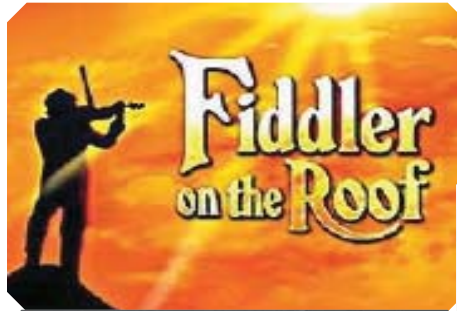
When the world separated into the seven continents and hundreds of islands, Ireland didn't exist. Hence, snakes couldn't have existed on the island and St. Patrick could not have rid the countryside of them.

A second theory to why St. Patrick's Day is so popular still to this day is due to a more realistic approach to the matter. According to historical documents, St. Patrick was a religious figure in the country. As the story goes, he was born in Britain to a wealthy Christian family, but was kidnapped by raiders from Ireland. After having some sort of epiphany, he escaped, and upon his return to Britain, studied to become a priest. Patrick then returned to Ireland, and upon his arrival, began work as a missionary, converting the native polytheistic people to Christianity. He used the shamrock to explain the principles of Christianity to them - hence why the little green plant is so popular today.

So whichever of the two stories is more appealing is dependant on what you believe. In the end, St. Patrick's Day is an international holiday marked by the wearing of green, the eating of the ethic foods of corned beef and cabbage, and the annual parades that are enjoyed by countless numbers of people. Happy St. Patrick's Day to all, and for those of you who didn't know, these are the stories behind why we celebrate.



# Brentwood Musical : FIDDLER ON THE ROOF



*Fiddler on the Roof* was the 2010-2011 musical presented by the music department. An annual show that is performed by Brentwood students from 3rd grade up through twelfth grade. The money earned from the ticket sales of the show, which is open to the community, goes back to the music department and into student music scholarships for any students majoring in music, performance, acting, and more. This year, with a full house on the Saturday show of March 12, 2011, the Brentwood school district surely is thankful for the community's support.



## Interviews



### Mr. Ed Callaghan

**Question:** Any comment on your experience in this year's musical in particular?

**Answer:** In my 24 years as director, I must say that *Fiddler on the Roof* was a magical experience. From the set, to lights, to sound, and orchestra, everyone assisted the cast to bring the show to life.

**Question:** Any note about the musical program in general (comments on budget vote)?

**Answer:** We hope to enjoy the continued support of the Administrators, Board of Education and the community in maintaining a complete arts in education program.

**Question:** What is your favorite part about the program?

**Answer:** Seeing the growth in my students from the first time I met them, up to their senior year. And, watching the show that is in my head come to life on the stage.



### Mr. Brian Smith

**Question:** What are your comments on your experience this year?

**Answer:** It was great this year. I actually had help pulling the set together with the art department to create the setting of the show. This year I had the pleasure to work with an art teacher to make the scenery look a bit more realistic.

**Question:** What is your favorite part of the musical?

**Answer:** The actual performances have to be my favorite with everything being pulled together from the lights to the sound, to the actors and the tech work of the props and scenery; it's exciting.

**Question:** What do you like about the musical and what are your comments on the budget vote?

**Answer:** It would be a shame to lose all the programs that the budget vote could easily take away from the students. This is a great program and I am honored by the support of the music and art department and to the Board of Education.



### Mrs. Danielle McCullagh

**Question:** Any comments on your experiences?

**Answer:** My experience has been very special. It was a joy to work with everyone; the cast worked very hard and I was impressed with the way everyone bands together to take the lead to bring the show up from missing many rehearsals due to snow days.

**Question:** How do you feel about this being your last year?

**Answer:** You all made it so easy for me, doing such a good job and being so eager to please. It will be sad to leave this group of kids especially since I've seen them grow up. It is great closure, I believe it was the best last performance.

**Question:** What is your favorite part of this program over all?

**Answer:** The people, the staff I work with, the people who share my love and passion for music and performing.

**Question:** Are you worried about the budget?

**Answer:** It is always scary every year as we face the budget vote but I have faith in the people of this community to keep this program alive because of how much it means to the kids.



### Ms. Marie Maniscalco

**Question:** Please comment on your experience?

**Answer:** Out of the four years working as a choreographer for the musical program, this has to be the best show.

**Question:** What is your favorite part of the program overall?

**Answer:** The Saturday rehearsals are my favorite. It is all focused on dancing.

**Question:** What is your take on the budget vote?

**Answer:** I always think it would be a shame for students in all grades to lose their musical experience but I think the people would realize the importance of it and do the right thing.

## AFJROTC Cadets Inducted Into Kitty Hawk Air Society

by Diana Hernandez

There is no doubt that the cadets of the AFJROTC program all strive to achieve success in every avenue of their scholastic career. Deeply committed to their studies, community service, and their future after high school, these students represent everything a well-rounded adolescent should. Now, with great pride, the instructors of the AFJROTC program have awarded these outstanding cadets with an evening worth remembering.

The Kitty Hawk Air Society is an academic honor society that recognizes the achievements of its cadets. Founded in the late 1970s, the Kitty Hawk Air Society now has over 150 factions all over the United States. Although Brentwood High School was once home to this honor society, the induction of new members did not continue until now. The renewal of the Kitty Hawk Air Society began about a year ago, when our very own AFJROTC cadets began lending their time to the Brentwood Public Library by helping and tutoring young children with their homework every Wednesday evening. Since then, the Kitty Hawk Air Society has gradually expanded, with more students gaining interest in the admirable and selfless work these cadets commit themselves on doing.

The induction was undoubtedly a night of many stars. Our very own Alexander Hayden, the top ranking senior in Ross, was proudly inducted as the President of Kitty Hawk Air Society. The induction of new officers included Diana Hernandez as Vice President, Kevin Salamanca as Secretary, and Martin Viera as the honor society's Treasurer. The National Honor Society's President, Stacey Forte was also an inductee, along with many other outstanding cadets who were awarded that evening. Distinguished guests included many of the high school's administrators, as well as members of the board of education.

Following the ceremony, all guests and proud parents of the inductees were treated to refreshments of apple cider, shrimp, and a very successful chocolate fountain. The Kitty Hawk Air Society was also very lucky to lend their ears to the very talented quartet that supplied the night's entertainment. For all those involved, the evening was truly a night to remember, full of excitement, emotion, and the acknowledgement that the outstanding contributions of these cadets to their school and community does not go unnoticed.



## AFJROTC Donates to US Soldiers Overseas

by Martin Viera

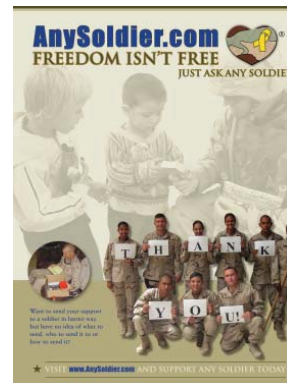
Picture this scenario: one January night, sounds of splintering wood and foreign shouts, and an awakened resident of the Helmand Province in Afghanistan. Accompanying this were the sounds of explosions and a nearby fire fight that pitted US Special Forces and Coalition troops against the Taliban forces in the area. Over 7,000 miles away from the United States, these noises and the looming shadow of death are a constant presence in the everyday lives of the people who live there and the soldiers who fight there.

Though this is not intended to represent an actual event, it very well may resemble the everyday lives of our men and women who are serving overseas. Thousands of miles away from home, the only comfort that they know is the spirit of camaraderie that links every soldier. They have abandoned the comforts of home, giving everything, and going away to serve and protect the people of this nation. Many of us do not think of these honorable men and women every day, presuming that they are getting on just fine, and that the government is taking good care of them. While this may be the case in some instances, it is not in many others. More often than not, these soldiers spend time at field bases where the basic necessities of living are hard to come by. They lack the basics: things as simple as soap and shampoo. This is a problem being faced by thousands of service men and women, and it needs to be fixed.

How does this tie into our lives? Well, the cadets of the AFJROTC program sought to be a force of change in the lives of the soldiers. They realized that they can put forth a few dollars or items for donations to those who are ready to die for the freedoms that we celebrate here. Organizing this event was Cadet Lieutenant Colonel Alexander Hayden, who first introduced this idea at the beginning of the 2010 school year. He said that through an online website known as [anysoldier.com](http://anysoldier.com), people could donate items to US units via the requests of specific soldiers in that unit. This idea quickly became popular with the instructors, all of whom did their time in the Air Force, and who agreed that this should be one of our unit goals. We agreed that twice during the year, we would donate care packages to a few US units spread across the war-ravaged nations of the Middle East.

Starting at the end of December and lasting until the last weeks of January, there were several boxes set up in the back of the AFJROTC room. Each of these boxes were addressed to a different soldier's unit and each asked for different items. The items that were asked for almost always included the following: soap, shampoo, deodorant, body wash, razors, crackers, sunflower seeds, hard candy, gum, playing cards, DVDs, CDs, books, and magazines, among many other things. It was a slow beginning to the collections, with only a few cadets bringing in any goods, however, things changed. At the end of the collection period, there were four large boxes filled to the brim with donations. Soon the packages will be shipped out into the open arms of the soldiers who welcome anything that they can get. To them, these packages are like Christmas, they never know what they will get, and what they do get, is much appreciated.

As Americans, we should pay more attention to those who are serving our country. It is not enough that we just acknowledge them, rather, we should embrace them as we would as a brother or sister. Give to them as we would to anyone else that we care deeply for. Remember these lasting words: For those who have paid the ultimate price, and those who have given up their freedoms so we may enjoy ours, let us return the favor – let us give back a little at a time.



## Paving the Way to the Future

by Alexander Hayden

In February 2011, AFJROTC's very own Chief Taylor headed down to South Middle School with Cadet 2nd Lieutenant Martin Viera for the career day that they were holding at the school. Some people may think, "Isn't it too early to start recruiting the kids for the program?" The answer is no. This trip wasn't just a briefing on what we do in JROTC, or a session outlining all of our accomplishments. Rather, it was a motivational speech in which Chief connected with the class based upon his past experiences. There he gave his personal input on how to handle certain situations. In his speech, Chief talked about everything; where he came from, as well as all the hardships that he faced in order to get to where he is today.

After Chief's riveting talk, he introduced Cadet Viera to the class as one of the unit's brightest cadets; right from the start amazed the class. Being that the class was an ESL class, the students immediately began to relate to Cadet Viera when he told them that he was also a Hispanic student who had overcome the difficulties of a language barrier. Not only did he relate to them,



but he understood just how they felt and what they were going through which made the connection between the students and him that much stronger. Cadet Viera also shared his experiences of how he struggled as an ESL student in the first few years of his high school career. Eventually, he was able to overcome the language barrier and now excels in high school as one of the top academic students in Ross. Cadet Viera also shared with the class that he was a firefighter at the Brentwood Fire Department, which both amazed and amused them. Thanks to Chief and Cadet Viera, the kids really got something out of the speech. It was very inspirational to the kids seeing as they had two role models standing before them. Cdt. Viera ended the speech by saying, "What we are overall is one great big family and one big team. You should all work together to learn and teach each other English, and to accomplish all of your goals and dreams because as long as you believe and strive for it, you will always make it."

# facebook

# Exposé

## “Who’s Badder?”

## “Brentwood’s Finest”

by Vivian Vuong

It’s something you see all over Facebook, something that you just can’t avoid. You read “Brentwood Versus,” “Who’s Cuter,” “Brentwood’s Finest” and can’t help but wonder, who made these pages? The curiosity builds and builds and then before you know it, you clicked on one of those links and started shuffling through the pictures.

There are three situations that you stumble upon. One, you see people who you never knew existed and can’t help but laugh to yourself believing that whoever created the page must’ve tried publicizing the names of their friends. Two, your picture is part of the page and you have not a clue as to how on earth it got there without your approval. Or three, you’re just flat out disappointed. The girls and boys who are already well-known are being praised for being better looking than someone else, and that just makes their heads get bigger and bigger. Meanwhile, the people who “lose” these contests are left dry. They more or less feel saddened, whether they admit it or not. Gina D’Ambrosio and Tiana Heath were asked for their honest opinions about these kind of pages. Gina

responded, “Honestly, I think they’re hurtful, especially because the people don’t ask to be put into the “contest”. It lowers people’s self esteem and just makes them feel bad about themselves.” Tiana Heath was in a few of these so-called contests and believes, “I mean honestly it’s pointless to have them. Everyone is pretty in their own way, there’s no need for competing or anyone’s opinion on if this person looks better or not. It brings low self-esteem.”

So why can’t those people who created those pages see that they’re hurting others? Those who voice their opinions on who’s “prettier” aren’t getting paid, so why do it? Be the better person and do not comment at all. It’s just simply not worth the time and it’s just mean.

“Rate on a scale of 1-10???”

Tag This Photo  
Edit This Photo

## Why Do We Still LOVE Movies?

A blinding light illuminates the screen in front of you, the sound of a projector rolling is music to your ears, the smell is nothing new, and the taste of a good old coke sucked through a signature red straw is the cherry on top of this composition. You may think that you’re here for 10 dollars worth of entertainment and that hottie leaning on your shoulder, well you’re not. You’re here to learn life lessons that otherwise you may have never learned. You’re here to develop your imagination and experience the world in a whole new way. You’re here to ease the stress of life and become inspired to achieve the impossible. Movies are making us learn, feel, imagine, what we may never have been able to before we were in that comfy little chair.

Many movies teach us things in ways that we will remember forever. *Forrest Gump* taught us that our outlook on life



is the only thing keeping us from having successful lives. Although *Gump* grew up in hard times and was always told what he could not do he kept his chin up high and met a couple of friends along the way. *The Pursuit of Happiness* taught us that all you need to achieve your dreams is persistence and willingness through all the pain and hardships. *The X-men* and *Avatar* franchises taught us that we should accept the people who are different. All these lessons are prevalent in movies and we don’t even realize that we are learning lessons for life while sitting back and just relaxing.

If movies had never been created, who would we be? What would be our morals? Human beings learn a great deal by watching what others do and that is what movies are, watching others live their lives just like you are trying to do right now. So live! Learn! And sit back and enjoy the show!



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# Fashion Pop Quiz: What style describes you?

## 1. What would you rather do on the weekends?

- A. Watch a movie at your house with your friends
- B. Catch the football game
- C. Get your nails done
- D. Go to a house party

## 2. If you could only save one thing in your house from a fire, what would it be?

- A. Your cellphone
- B. Your sport's trophy
- C. Your favorite purse
- D. Your sneakers

## 3. If you could live off of one drink, which would it be?

- A. Soda
- B. Gatorade
- C. Water
- D. Monster

## 4. Your school wants you to wear something that represents you as a person, you choose:

- A. A teshirt you bought from vacation
- B. Your team jersey
- C. A family heirloom such as a necklace
- D. A fitted hat/baseball cap

## 5. What tv show and movie could you watch all day long?

- A. The Office and Titanic
- B. Lost and the Blindside
- C. Pretty Little Liars and the Notebook
- D. Jersey Shore and Freedom Writers

## 6. You're forced by your parents to join a team afterschool before you apply to college, you choose:

- A. Track
- B. Lacrosse
- C. Tennis
- D. Soccer

## 7. What season do you like best?

- A. Spring
- B. Summer
- C. Winter
- D. Autumn

## 8. What's the color of your bedroom walls?

- A. White
- B. Green
- C. Purple
- D. Red

## 9. You had the longest day at school and you decide to go out for dinner, what do you pick?

- A. A Cheeseburger and fries
- B. Steak
- C. Breadsticks and salad
- D. It's straight to the desert menu for you!

## 10. Which artist could you never get bored of?

- A. Eminem
- B. B.O.B
- C. Katy Perry
- D. Drake

**\*\* If 6 or more of your answers are A then your style is casual. If majority is B, your style is Sporty. If majority is C, your style is Preppy and if majority is D, your style is Street.**

## How to Look Like A Celebrity at Prom:

It's no surprise that fashion seems to be the focus at the Oscar's year after year. Light flowy fabrics seem to be a celebrity favorite. They flatter any body shape, are not tight fitting so that you get overwhelmingly flustered, and they really extenuate a softer, more natural side. So when you're stuck at Estelle's or David's Bridal picking out a prom dress, keep this tip in mind. No one wants to have a horrible night at prom because their dress is too uncomfortable and irritating. Appearances of course are important at prom but choose wisely.



Sandra Bullock



Mila Kunis



Halle Berry



Cameron Diaz



Celine Dion



Reese Witherspoon

The Oscars has 11,717 friends

# STUDENT VOICES

*As a Brentwood Student... by Emma Maldonado*

As a senior, this is your last year to make things right. For the other students remaining, they still have to deal with a lot. Over the years at Brentwood High I have learned a lot to take into the real world, as the teachers say, and it's both good and bad things. Some students leave with good memories, others leave with bad experiences, some with both. You know what is good though, it's that it happened now while you are a teen instead of when you are an adult because these experiences will only make you stronger.

Some people will forget the people they were once friends with and others will continue with the friendships and relationships. Brentwood High has given me so much. Boces is one of those experiences. If it wasn't for that program many students wouldn't know what they want to be for the rest of their lives. Thanks to that program I now know what I want to do with my life. It is like seeing college before you go. The classes are college level so it is not easy to pass and it is hard work, but well worth it.

Not only did Brentwood have Boces but the sports, music, and arts are filled with talent. The sports are the future for a lot of teens here. Most are good at the sports that they play. Students try to attend games and show they care for the team pumps them up because it make them feel like they're the all stars of Brentwood. Seeing the art exhibits when they're on display will show the students that their talent is being seen by the public and they are not hiding their goals and success.

See, as a senior you learn a lot. It is not just what you do, it is how you show other people who you are that you have something that stands out from others and how you encourage them. Everyone has a talent here even if you don't show it to other people you know what it is and that helps you know who you are. Seniors have the hardest work, they have to deal with college, with prom, and with their personal and social lives. As for the rest of the year, it will fly by as there are a lot of things going on. It is almost the end of senior year of 2011 and it's the time to realize what you have and what you have lost. Don't leave with bad memories of your high school. Leave with happiness in yourself because you got to meet different people and have examples of what to do and what not to do.

I think that senior should not end friendships or relationships here; they should continue. Don't leave on bad terms with people. Your new life is starting and it is time you become the adult and fix what you have messed up. It is never too late to make up the damage that has happened. As far as relationship goes it could continue if you make it that way.

I just have to add that cutting class is the wrong thing to do because high school, believe it or not, is your future. If you mess up you won't be able to get into the college you want. Everyone should be able to make their dreams come true so do your work and go to class.

Friendships should never end. High school is almost over but studies still go on and so do friends. Don't lose them. Brentwood High School is where the future starts but it is also where you have to learn how to become an adult for the rest of your life. High school is important for everyone and what ever happened to you here is a life lesson that was learned for your future.

## Acceptance

*What is it about acceptance that's so critical?  
Compared to someone's self esteem, it's quite pinnacle.  
Pinnacle to one's well being and happiness.  
But is it that important to cause such distress?  
Honestly people should learn to be accepted by oneself.  
Then eventually they'll be able to function by them selves.  
Does it really matter what others think of you?  
Isn't it just your morals and values you hold true?  
Questioning such intelligence is becoming exiled.  
But if you ask me, such thinking should be defiled.  
I'm not seeking to prove others wrong or right.  
I'm just seeking to prove it to myself with my own might.  
Sure I may have been affected before.  
But I'll let you know now that shall be nevermore.*

*by Kevin Amaya*

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY DR. SEUSS!!

photos by Mr. S. Rochester



## BHS Spirit Week!!

