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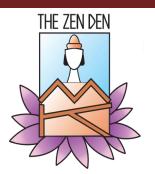
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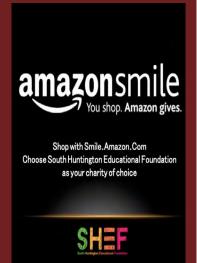
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October 14, 2020

Food for Thought

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"The secret of change is to focus all of your energy, not on fighting the old, but on building the new." -Socrates

Superintendent's Corner

We realize that all things Covid-related are passionate subjects at this point, and we are really trying very hard to chart a steady course free of the political rancor, media craziness, etc. However, we realize that everyone's view of the middle road is a bit different, and we really want to gather as much information, keeping things balanced and our students safe, while delivering the best quality instructional product. With that said, please know that we are incredibly appreciative of the outstanding patience and grace being demonstrated by our students, parents, and staff, and realize that it is this partnership that is making an incredibly challenging situation as manageable as possible.

News from Deputy Superintendent Dr. Joseph Centamore in the Curriculum Office

As we move forward into the school year, the district is committed to providing timely communication to our parents and community. To make access to information easier, the district created and launched a new website this past summer. Additionally, the principals routinely update their school homepage. The district also performs extensive outreach via social media, telephone, email, and texts. If you are not currently receiving telephone and email notifications, please contact Ms. Katie Daly at: kdaly@shufsd.org. Please provide her with your name, phone number and email, as well as the name and date of birth of each of your students. To receive text notifications, you can text # 67587 and enter the word "yes."

News from Assistant Superintendent for Business and District Operations Dr. Vito D'Elia

Once every two weeks you will receive an email and/or text from the school district to complete the Student Attestation. Please fill out one submission for each child attending school in the district. Upon completion of the submission, it will be routed to the administration of your child's school. The Student Attestation is also available on the district website under School Reopening & COVID-19 Related Links. Thank you so much for taking the time in submitting this form.

Some Thoughts from Assistant Superintendent for Student Services April Poprilo

We have had a few questions relative to the details of contact tracing in the event of suspected COVID cases. It is important to note from the outset that there are times when a case will come first to our district team, and other instances go directly to the Department of Health. In typical cases, we hear of a student or staff member who may have tested positive (usually from the family themselves), and we first make sure the infected individual is not in school,







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News from Jackie's Art Corner The present day restrictions have unfortunately put a crimp in many aspects of our lives, but South Huntington has gone beyond the roadblocks and has kept education for our students thriving. South Huntington Arts teachers have most definitely defied the challenges COVID has presented with creative new learning techniques for our students, which have been introduced with much love and fun during this difficult time. This year, the Band and Orchestra teachers at Birchwood and Maplewood have gone virtual due to the pandemic. They are keeping music alive by giving virtual Google Meet lessons with 5th graders, and creating wonderful beginner instrumental videos for all students who want to start an instrument for the first time. The videos cover information on learning how to play the Flute, Clarinet, Trumpet, Trombone, Violin, Viola, Cello and Bass. Music teachers, Mrs. Janet Holly, Ms. Sarah Weiss, and Mrs. Julie Brasch-Flatt, provide feedback for every student through the use of the FLIPGRID Program. BRAVO ladies for your ded-

and then immediately reach out to our Health Department contacts. We then immediately cross-reference notes with the medical team to ensure we are making the safe, responsible decisions for students and staff alike. We then spend the next few hours working with our District team to identify anyone with whom that infected staff member or student might have had contact. We then share the nature of that contact (in other words, did the two people pass in the hallway; sit near each other on a bus ride, etc.). The process requires us to review each person and the subsequent nature of that contact before chatting with the Health Department medical professionals to determine if quarantine is necessary. The Health Department then makes the official guarantine contact phone calls. However, we typically choose to make our own quarantine phone contacts, because our calls often get to the home first, and we like the families to hear from someone in the schools with whom they have a pre-existing relationship. Interestingly, as the year goes on, we have some situations where the staff member or student quarantine themselves and subsequent isolations have done their job accordingly, and no further guarantines are necessary. For example, over the past two weeks, we have two cases where it was reported to us that a student had tested positive, but the student had not been in class for approximately 2 1/2 weeks because they were quarantined in precaution for a family member who tested positive at the beginning of September. Therefore, the risk for second exposure had been eliminated by the guarantine procedure. Obviously, each case is different, but it is nice to see the protocols operating as designed, as we try to keep everyone safe by avoiding second and third person infections.

News from Dr. James Wright, Supervisor of Physical Education, Health, Athletics & Recreation

It may seem as if nothing is going on, but there is plenty happening on the sports front.

In spite of the moratorium on playing games, teams are working out with coaches as we speak, and have been since September 21st. While these workouts are being held following the governor's protocols, as well as the DOH and CDC, we are playing.

We will be bringing back any virtual student that wishes to attend, and we are prepared to apply extensive safety procedures, such as temperature taking, ensuring that no one shares a bottle, and that each virtual student completes an attestation.

We know that this is not easy, but I have full confidence in coaches, parents, and athletes to continue to comply with the standards imposed upon us as we get ready for the upcoming season.





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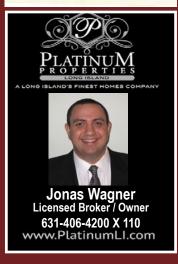
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632 Walt Whitman Road





249 Old Walt Whitman Road, Huntington, NY 11746



ication and the creative motivation you bring to your students every day!!!!

Art teacher, Mrs. Paula Beck, has created her very own YouTube channel for any student, especially remote students, who would like to work on some awesome art projects! Mrs. Beck has put up about 20 different videos from cartoons to landscape art styles. It's called Artwazze and the address is: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC6Eg325cjJnxRbh3Z2N5mOA/ Check it out!

South Huntington's Dance teacher, Mrs. Susan Turner Radin, has piloted a new creative movement workshop to K-5 schools bringing her expertise and grace of dance to our young students. They are guided through creative movement activities that teach them about their bodies' kinesthetic potential, concepts like time, space and energy, and provide them an opportunity to freely express themselves and have some fun. They remain safely separate but connect creatively. It has been an innovative program that has introduced the beauty of dance movement to our most enthusiastic younger students! Applause goes out to this amazing, innovative teacher for all she brings to South Huntington!

Walt Whitman High School is back in full musical force! The bands have been enjoying rehearsals both in-person in the PAC (socially distant, of course), and virtually through Google Meet, with the hope of having a small virtual presentation prepared by December.

Whitman's own Bina Joseph was selected to participate in the Symphonic Band at the NYSSMA All-State Festival on Tenor Saxophone. Congratulations Bina!!!

Last but not least, Whitman's Collective Studio Recording Club, and the Jazz Band, are looking forward to starting up again in the next few weeks!

As you can see, through the dedication of our teachers, and support of our Administration and Board of Education, South Huntington's ARTS continues to bloom and thrive!

News from School Nutrition Services



Exciting News!!

Effective immediately, all Breakfast and Lunch meals are free to all South Huntington students. Legislation was recently passed which has made it available to school districts throughout the country. The offer will be in effect through the 2020-2021 school year.

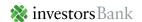
What a wonderful time for you to have your children give our School Nutrition program a try. We strive to provide the freshest, most nutritious, and at the same time, best tasting meal options to your children during the course of the school day. Your children are our "clients," and we wish to provide them the best school nutrition has to offer.

Meals are offered in the classrooms, in hallway kiosks, and along the serving lines in the High School. There are many avenues available with our job to serve your child in the most safe, most convenient manner possible.









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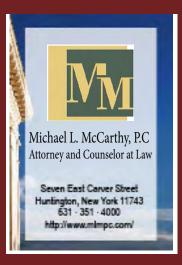




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Our menus are on display each month on the South Huntington website, under "Quick Links." In addition, follow us on FB (South Huntington Nutrition Services) and Instagram (shschoolnutritionservices). These sites will keep you up-to-date on all of the wonderful meals we are serving our children.

Give us a try!

News from Mr. John Murphy, **Principal of Walt Whitman High School**

Getting bored at home? Do you want to do something fun that is safe to participate in? How about a Drive-in Scary Movie night!!! On Friday, October 30th, at 7 p.m., the big screen is coming to Whitman! Come to our first ever drive-in movie night, or should we say, "a scary drive-in movie night to celebrate Halloween." Tickets are \$5 per person and must be purchased in advance at the Main Office. Be part of this 1st ever senior scary movie night! Teachers: feel free to join us for a night out!

Class shirts are coming in this week! Group A and Group B students can pick up their shirts this Thursday and Friday morning, before school, from 7 a.m. to 7:30 a.m. in the North Cafeteria. Virtual students - please come after school to the North Cafeteria on Thursday and Friday, from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., to pick up your shirt.

All 9th, 10th and 11th graders who did not sit for pictures earlier this year must do so on Monday, November 2nd. Remember these pictures are used to update our ID card and data management systems. Lifetouch will be back in the South Gym from 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. for Group A students, and from 1:30 - 6 p.m., for Group B students and All-Virtual students. You must sign up for an appointment on Mr. Varlamos' Google Form, which was emailed to your shufsd account this week. Appointments must be scheduled by October 28th. If you would like to order pictures, information packets are available in the Main Office.

To help boost community spirit, we will be holding two weeks of spirit week (October 19th – 30th) at the end of this month, to be able to encompass both the A and B groups in the festivities. Please see below the dates and themes for each one of these spirit days. If you have any questions, please contact the Main Office.

Group A Group B October 19th - Pajama Day October 21st - Disney Day October 23rd - Class shirt Day October 20th - Disney Day October 22nd - Class shirt Day October 26th - Pajama Day October 27th - Jersey Day October 28th - Jersey Day October 29th - Halloween October 30th - Halloween

Counseling Center News

In an effort to keep our parents informed, I have listed some important Counseling Center dates for your review. Please contact the Counseling Center if you have any questions.

- October 15, 2020 @ 7 p.m. Financial Aid Information Night
- October 20, 2020 @ 8:30 a.m. Fall College Fair
- October 22, 2020 @ 7 p.m. Grade 9 Guidance Night

The following Colleges and Universities have scheduled to meet with Walt Whitman students virtually. We ask that students please log onto your Naviance account daily to see the College virtual dates. We have listed some upcoming dates below, as well as the steps to view and sign up for a virtual visit. In addition to checking your Naviance account, we will be making daily announcements, and posting college visits to the District's weekly newsletter. All meetings will be hosted at 2:30 p.m. on the designated day.





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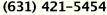


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College Virtual Visit Instructions

- · Log onto your Naviance account.
- Scroll down to "What's New"
- Click on "More Info"
- Click on "Register"

Once you have registered, you will receive a zoom link to the meeting sent to your SHUFSD email account by Ms. Genovese.

College/ University	Representative	Date	Time
Louisiana State University	Julian Radney	Thu October 15, 2020	2:30 PM
Providence College	Analee Benik	Thu October 15, 2020	2:30 PM
SUNY College at Potsdam	John Lewis	Thu October 15, 2020	2:30 PM
Mercy College	Joseph Armstrong	Fri October 16, 2020	2:30 PM
The New School	Talin Nathalie	Fri October 16, 2020	2:30 PM
Western New England University	Jana Kmec	Fri October 16, 2020	2:30 PM
CUNY Hunter College	Jarvis Dieujuste	Mon October 19, 2020	2:30 PM
Jacksonville University	Kyrstin Creswell	Mon October 19, 2020	2:30 PM
Rutgers University-			
New Brunswick	Theresa Mahoney	Mon October 19, 2020	2:30 PM
Johns Hopkins University	Jeremy Levine	Tue October 20, 2020	2:30 PM
Merrimack College	Kelley Garland	Tue October 20, 2020	2:30 PM
Pennsylvania State University	Donovi Lindsay	Tue October 20, 2020	2:30 PM
FIDM-Fashion Institute of Design	1		
& Merchandising-Los Angeles	Shannon Ress	Wed October 21, 2020	2:30 PM
Virginia Commonwealth University	Timothy Thurston	Wed October 21, 2020	2:30 PM
West Chester University of	gdioton		
Pennsylvania	Stephen Castaneda	Wed October 21, 2020	2:30 PM

News from Mr. Eddie Smith, Principal of Stimson Middle School

Please be reminded that Stimson Middle School is no longer distributing Progress Reports. All student grades are available and able to be viewed on the Parent Portal. This would be a great time to check your child's grades and review each class with them. Also, checking your child's attendance regularly is strongly recommended. This is particularly important for our students that are learning at home virtually each day. The expectation is that our students are logging on to each Google Meet with their teachers as soon as the class begins. Our teachers will take attendance and then provide further instruction from there.

After dismissal each day, every Stimson teacher is available from 2:15 p.m. to 3:05 p.m. for "Virtual Office Hours." Please encourage your children to attend. Yesterday, as I walked the building, I listened to many of our teachers engaging in 1:1 support with their students.

Just a friendly reminder that Thursday, November 5th, and Friday, November 6th, will be School Photograph retakes. On Friday, November 6th, from 2:30 p.m. - 4 p.m., we will hold a retake session for all students who are fully remote. All photos will be taken in the Auxiliary Gym. Please use the courtyard entrance in the back parking lot.

News from Mr. Steve Toto, Principal of Silas Wood Sixth-Grade School



After a relaxing long Columbus Day weekend, Silas Wood students returned rested, recharged, and ready to learn! During school last week, Mr. Obletz and I met with each of our four Teams of students for inspirational pep-rally-style Team meetings. We met with our virtual students as well. These meetings presented a

great opportunity for discussion about the "ins and outs" of Silas Wood, about what it means to be part of a Team, and for students to communicate their im-

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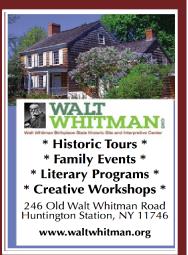












pressions and experiences garnered over these opening weeks of the school year. I posed the question "What is Your Awesome?" The meaning of this became clear after parents were able to view a video on a provided link https://youtu.be/l-gQLqv9f4o on the "Path toward Awesomeness!" Our students shared experiences on the benefits of hard work and taking chances, and about never giving up on dreams; we discussed the importance of following the right paths not only this year, but as they go through their lives.

Focusing always on safety first, Group A in-school students will participate in a Lockdown Drill (safety precautions in case of in-school-building event) on Tuesday, October 13th, followed by Group B on Wednesday, October 14th. On Thursday, October 15th, and on Thursday, October 22nd, Group A students will have the privilege of participating in a program offered by the Suffolk County Police Department, presented by Officer Sabrina Pitch, focusing on internet safety. This presentation will include appropriate and safe internet use, cell phone etiquette and, of course, proper use of social media. Group B students will participate in this program on Friday, October 16th, and Friday, October 23rd. All Full Virtual students will be invited to their team session on October 15th or October 22nd only.

With election season in full swing across our great nation, Silas Wood joins the fun, looking forward to our upcoming Student Council Homeroom Representative elections, open to Groups A & B, as well as Virtual students, to take place on Friday, October 16th, during Homeroom. Our representatives will be required to attend all Student Council meetings (to be held virtually for the foreseeable future), assist in before- and after-school events, communicate with homeroom about student council activities, assist homeroom teachers as needed, and, in general, promise to be positive role models displaying safe, respectful, and responsible behavior! In order to run in the election, interested students must return the form (that was provided) during homeroom by Wednesday, October 14th!

Coming the Week of October 19th – 23rd, Silas Wood will be in Spirit Week mode! Please keep an eye out for email and fliers outlining our super special "days," such as Sports Day, Pajama Day, and more!

Did you know?... The birthstones of October are opal and pink tourmaline; the flower of the month is calendula; October includes the zodiac signs Libra and Scorpio. Originally the eighth month of the Roman calendar, October comes from the Latin word "octo" meaning eight. Later, October became the tenth month when January and February were added to the Calendar. And then there are the pumpkins, pumpkins, pumpkins...

News from Mr. Anthony Ciccarelli, Principal of Birchwood Intermediate School

Learning Days for the week of October 19th

Group A - Coming to BW - Monday, October 19th, Tuesday, October 20th, and Thursday, October 22nd
Learning from Home – Wednesday, October 21st, and
Friday, October 23rd

Group B - Coming to BW – Wednesday, October 21st, and Friday, October 23rd Learning from Home - Monday, October 19th, Tuesday, October 20th, and Thursday, October 22nd

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Birchwood will be holding virtual parent-teacher conferences on Thursday, November 19th, and Wednesday, December 9th. Both of these days will be half-days of school for all our students. We will also hold a virtual parent-teacher conference from 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. on Tuesday, December 8th. If you have not done so already, please reach out to make an appointment with your child's teacher(s).





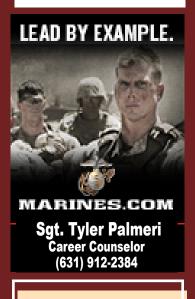






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If you have not returned your child's Emergency Dismissal Form, please do so as soon as possible. It is important that, in case of an emergency early dismissal, the bus driver knows who can take your child off the bus if you are unable to make it to the bus stop. If we do not have a form and you are not at the stop, your child will come back to Birchwood to wait until you can pick them up

As the cooler weather arrives, please label all jackets, sweatshirts, hats, etc., so we can return them to your child if they get misplaced. We will be going outside, unless the temperature is below 32 degrees. Please remind your children to come to school with the proper attire.

Participate in the PTA by clicking on the link: https://birchwood.memberhub.store/

News from Dr. Gayle Steele, Principal of Maplewood Intermediate School

We hope everyone enjoyed the long weekend!

This week students will be taking individual school photos on October 14th and 15th. Full remote learners will take photos during scheduled times after school. We are happy to be able to offer this opportunity to everyone and continue with a yearly school tradition.

Save the Date – On Friday, October 23rd, our PTA will be hosting a Drive-In Movie Night. Families will be able to view the movie *Hotel Transylvania* from their cars in the parking lot of Walt Whitman High School. Detailed information will be shared soon.

Families of our full remote learners have been attending scheduled "Meet and Greet" sessions at Maplewood. Students and their parents are able to pick up additional supplies and have some individual face- to-face time with the teacher. Thank you to everyone for participating and adhering to our safety guidelines.

Don't forget to buy your Spirit Wear! Please visit https://maplewoodfall2020.itemorder.com to make your purchases.

News from Dr. Annie Michaelian, Principal of Oakwood Primary Center

Oakwood Primary Center is sending a special thank you to the PTA for all of their help last week with organizing our school photos and making these days very exciting for all of our students!

We also would like to thank our PTA and all our families for attending our first Virtual Oakwood PTA meeting on Tuesday evening. It was great to share all of the special news and activities together as an Oakwood Family!

On Wednesday, October 14th, Oakwood Primary Center is once again teaming up with Birchwood to share in the first Family Reflection Night for the 2020-2021 school year! Please spend some time together with your family discussing the topic: Farewell to Worry! Discussion points and information have been sent home to make this a successful evening of spending time with family and good conversation.

The exciting energy continues into next week! On October 21st and October 22nd, Oakwood students will search for their pumpkin in the annual Pumpkin Hunt! We thank all of our wonderful staff in advance who have volunteered to help scatter over 700 pumpkins on the back field of Oakwood in preparation for the perfect Pumpkin Hunt for our students! Information and details have been shared with our families for these exciting days!



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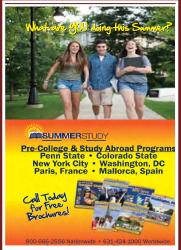
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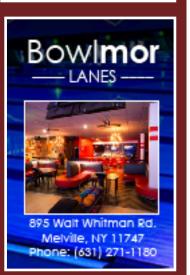
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We are continuing with our safety drills, and the students and staff are learning all about how important it is to practice them together.

Beginning October 19th, and continuing through November 1st, the Oakwood PTA is hosting its first Virtual Book Fair! The link below will become active for purchasing beginning October 19th! Happy Reading! https://www.scholastic.com/bf/oakwoodprimarycenter1

Stay connected and follow Oakwood at: Instagram: oakwood_primary_center

and

Twitter: Oakwood_PC

Wishing you all a wonderful week ahead!

News from Mr. Mitchell Levy, Principal of Countrywood Primary Center

We hope everyone had a nice long holiday weekend. It is hard to believe that we are at the midpoint of October already. Thank you to all of our families who joined last night's first virtual PTA meeting of the year. These are certainly challenging and unprecedented times for us all, but we will continue to work together in the best interest of our students and staff. We are working on new, creative, and fun ways to make school a safe, enjoyable, and enriching experience for all involved.

Our staff and students are excited for next week's Pumpkin Hunt (October 20th and 21st). A friendly reminder to our families; if you haven't already done so, please send in your pumpkin money to your child's classroom teacher. In addition, our Picture Day has been scheduled for October 27th and 28th; a flyer has gone home with details on this year's revised processes and procedures for photos. Please reach out to the PTA at CountrywoodPTA@gmail.com with any questions pertaining to photos.

We are happy to report a very smooth i-Ready Fall testing session for our in-person students, and we will be reaching out to our fully virtual students about their testing procedures very soon. Have a safe and enjoyable week ahead!

School Board Notes – A Message from the Board of Education

Our first Board of Education meeting for the month of October is tonight, and to the public it will be available to view from the link available on our website at 7:30 p.m.

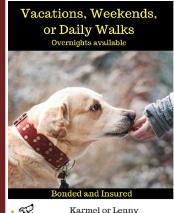
The first item on the agenda is a presentation highlighting the fabulous work of our entire Facilities Department with various projects recently completed. We urge our residents to watch and feel the pride we hold for these special staff members. Additionally, the status of hybrid and remote instructional models will be discussed.

Residents can pose questions to the Board of Education through the email account: boe@shufsd.org and the question/comment will be addressed during Voice of the Resident. The District's website also has the Zoom meeting link that will provide an opportunity for residents to pose questions from that platform to the Board of Education. We welcome the involvement and participation of our residents and staff members.

News from South Huntington Educational Foundation, SHEF







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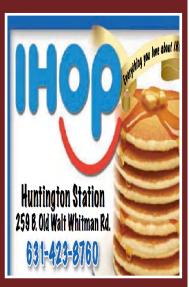
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The Weeks to Come

Wednesday, October 14th

JKAO: Board of Education Virtual meeting 7:30 p.m.

Log on to your individual school websites to view their calendar and upcoming events

Whitman Sports

No scheduled sports

Stimson Sports

No scheduled sports











Dr. Joy Scharf, OD Dr. Robert Davidowitz, OD

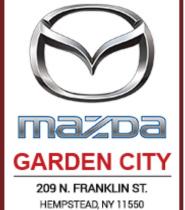
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Community and School District Flyers

In an effort to make our weekly newsletter more convenient, each of the flyers we receive are listed below. Click on the one that interests you and you will be automatically linked to that flyer.

> **SEPTA** 2020-21 Membership **Form English**

SEPTA 2020-21 Membership Form Spanish

The Spirit of Huntington Art Center Online Series

Join Boy **Scouts** Troop 68

Flag **Football** K-8th Grade

The **Boxfit** Experience All Abilities & Skill Levels

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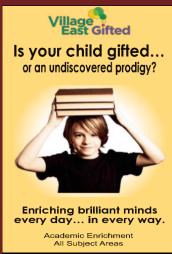


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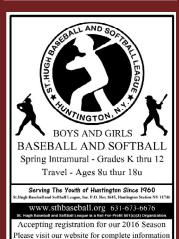
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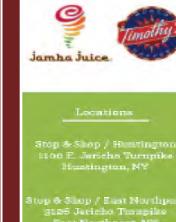
















Good for You and a Friend (first time guests and local







