

# THE BURNSIDE BEATS

March 2024

PS 396 FAMILY NEWSLETTER

Issue 39



## ROCKIN' WOMEN 2024

*A Message from our Principal, Nicole A. Tiné...*

March is Women's History month in the U.S. and International Women's Day was celebrated worldwide on March 8th. During this time of year, we take time to learn about women in history and around the world that have made positive impact on how we live.

Here at PS 396, we are very lucky to have some amazing women who help our school be the success that it is. So, in keeping with tradition in this edition I'd like to highlight some of the ROCKIN' Women who support your children, contribute to our community and share their passion and talents each and every day.



**Katie Dizzine**  
**4th Grade ELA Teacher**

I have worked at P.S 396 since 2012, and I have taught 2nd, 3rd and 4th grades. I absolutely love working here. The school has come to feel like a second home to me. I have loved connecting with different families, and I have established lifelong friendships with many of my colleagues.

When I am not at school, I am at home with my husband Chris and my two sons, Jack and Owen. Jack is 4 and Owen is 1 ½. They both keep me very busy, as they are both so energetic and lots of fun. I love spending time outside, or reading. I also try to practice yoga each day, even if it is just for ten minutes.



### **Gigi Beaumont, Special Education SETSS Teacher**

Working at P.S. 396 has been a truly incredible experience for me. I have met so many wonderful people here who have

become my extended family, making it a home away from home. As the SETSS provider I really enjoy guiding students to help them achieve their IEP goals. It is always an incredible feeling when a student masters something that used to be a struggle. I find that students are capable of so much more than they think they can do and it always brings me joy to see them achieve something they didn't always think was possible.

Outside of work, I love being outdoors and doing activities like hiking. I also enjoy volunteering my summers in animal shelters and basically anything to do with animals. I have a mischievous cat named Teddy who likes to get into things and two amazing children who are now grown up and leading fulfilling lives.



### **Allison Lebar Instructional Coach**

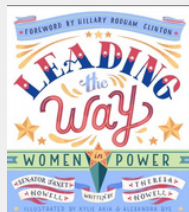
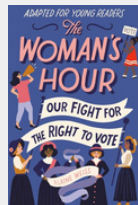
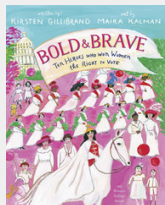
It's hard to believe that this is my 11th year working at PS 396 and my 15th year working in Bronx elementary schools! Throughout my years here I have taught 3rd grade, 5th grade and now I am the Instructional Coach. I love that I have seen so many of my students and their siblings and family members grow up and graduate as such impressive people! In my current role I also get to work with teachers on being the best teachers they can be. The PS 396 community is a special place to me. I'm grateful to all of my students, families and colleagues over the years for the hard work and dedication that it takes to keep the community strong and ROCKIN'!



### **Theresa Costello Assistant Principal**

I decided to use the social media trend, "I'm a mosaic of everyone and everything I've ever loved...." to share a little bit about myself with you. With that in mind, I decided to keep my last name after I got married because of my grandparents, Mae and Martin Costello, who planted their Irish roots in Brooklyn almost 100 years ago, with only an 8th grade education, a strong work ethic, and a humility that has grounded our family for generations. I consider my "home away from home" a place my Aunt, Sr. Kathy Costello, CSJ took me to called Esopus, where I learned the true meaning of serving others. Sr. Kathy, or Aunt Kate, as I called her, devoted her entire life to serving others, both as an educator/administrator, as a camp director of a sleep away camp for her deaf students in Esopus, and as a foster mother to children of incarcerated parents. I say "cawfee" instead of "coffee" and fold my pizza slice before taking a bite because I was born and raised in Sunset Park, Brooklyn, graduated from colleges in the Bronx and Manhattan, lived and worked in Queens, and spent the last 12+ years of my career back in the Bronx at PS 396. I still believe there's good in this world because of my colleagues, our students, and their families who never cease to amaze me. I take my kids camping, hiking, and on lots of other adventures- rarely to the same place twice- because of my parents, John and Pat, who instilled in my siblings, Bobby, Marcy, and Maura Kate, and me, a deep love of family, service, the great outdoors, and a traveling spirit. I laugh and have lots of fun because of my closest friends, especially my husband Paul, who continue to challenge me, love me, and support me. I find joy, light, and humor even in dark times because of the presence of my beautiful children, Sofia (9) and Ryan (6). Lastly, I'm simply a better person than I would be without the women that have gone before me and the women that stand beside me- without them, I'd be lost. Happy Women's History Month and a belated International Women's Day!

**Check out these great Women's History Month titles at your local library...**





## ALLERGIC TO SALAD

Working with our partners from the organization, Allergic to Salad, has been simply delicious! All of our classes had the opportunity to make two tasty and healthy meals while learning kitchen safety, knife skills and increasing their overall nutritional knowledge. We know that it can be difficult to get your kids to try new foods, but I loved the way the facilitators encouraged our students to give things a try before they dismissed any foods. "You don't know if you don't like it, unless you try it." Wise words! If students tried a food and ultimately did not like it, then they were also encouraged to tell us specifically why- It's too spicy for me, the smell is too strong, it feels weird on my tongue. No one was allowed to just say ewww or it's gross. For the most part, students who tried the foods, wound up going back for seconds and thirds during each visit.

I'm also glad that over 50 families joined us for the Family Cooking Night event on March 14th where we learned how to make rice noodle rolls, pickled cucumbers and a delicious berry mousse with fresh whipped cream.

We hope you all continue to include your children in meal prep and remember to encourage them to try everything and describe how it smells, looks, tastes and feels in their mouth. Such a great learning opportunity and easy way to make meal time, family time.



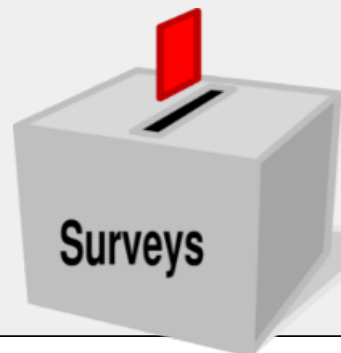
## Parent Coordinator Corner

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Families,

Every year, we ask all families, teachers, and staff in grades 3-K through 12, and students in grades 6-12 to take the NYC School Survey. **YOUR SCHOOL. YOUR CHILD. YOUR VOICE.**

Last day to take the survey is April 5 so you still have time. If you need help with surveys come to parent room 115.

The Parent Association will have elections in April for the 2024-2025 school year For President , Recording Secretary and Treasure.



## REMINDERS

- Complete or update the Emergency Blue Cards
- Register at our school Health Clinic
- Download and connect to ClassDojo for school and class information
- Create your NYC Schools Account for each child
- Arrival begins at 7:55AM
- Dismissal for Prek - 2nd grade is at 2:15PM, 3rd - 5th grade is at 2:20PM