

As a child, Brittany managed to keep her parents busy with school and sports. She played tee ball, baseball and most of all, midget football. At the age of ten, Brittany became the only female player in the midget football league of her era. She retired from football with the Best Defensive Player Trophy, highlighted since she was the only female on the field. She also has the talent of playing the clarinet as well.

Brittany received her elementary education from **Joseph A. McNeil School**, formerly known as **Franklin Elementary**, where she became a permanent fixture on the Honor Roll all through her years there. In ABGS Middle School, she once again became a permanent member of the school's Honor Roll. Consequently, Brittany was the Hempstead High School Valedictorian for the class of 2008 which served as a fitting summation to her collective academic achievements. This was the last stop before entering the real world..... or what she thought was the real world.

While attending the State University of New York at Albany, she pursued her first-degree graduating Summa Cum Laude in Actuarial Science and Mathematics. After graduation, she went to work for one year at an insurance company, which became the life of an office job. It wasn't enough. Her puzzle pieces of curiosity needed to fit within another pursuit. The medical field became that calling. With that in mind, she completed a post- baccalaureate course at SUNY Stony Brook, then on to the MCATS. From there, she applied to several medical schools and in August of 2015 landed at St. Louis University School of Medicine. In her fourth year of medical school, the process started for matchday. On March 15, 2019, Brittany matched with Winthrop University Hospital in Mineola, NY for her internship and Barnes Jewish Hospital in St. Louis, Mo. On May 20, 2019, it became official. Graduation took place and she is now a Physiatrist, a physician that specializes in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. She will continue her residency at Barnes Jewish Hospital in St. Louis Missouri for the next three years.

Her world finally became a real world with measured, meaningful success. As Dr. Brittany D. Dukes says, "Try to always follow your passion. The road may be long, but the rewards through self-determination is something no one can take from you."

Congratulations Dr. Brittany D. Dukes