

LaFayette Junior High Sends Teams to Science Olympiad Competition

On Saturday, March 3rd, two teams of LaFayette students braved the roads and competed in the Midstate Regional Science Olympiad competition held at North Syracuse Junior High School.

A snow day on Friday could not hold the Lancers back as the teams matched skills with top squads from many schools in the area. Our combined teams included 9th Graders Kendra

Doupe, Colton Keane, Daphne Reyburn, Amelia Shenandoah, Jack Martorella, Hunter Martorella and 8th Graders Claire Virnoche, Carolyn Redmore, Jonathan Dix, Caitlyn Oristian, Riley Thornton, Jonaca Thornton, Scott Heath and Anna Goddard from the Jr/ Sr High School and the Onondaga Nation School. We were the smallest district to send multiple teams.

Science Olympiad is a national organization focused on increasing interest in STEM topics and activities K-12. The competition day is like a STEM track meet - students prepare for specific events that focus on a variety of topics and skills. Some events are simply academic exams on very specific subject matter, like astronomy or herpetology. Other events test the students' abilities in science-related skills, like Experimental Design or Crime Busters.



The Impound events are often the most exciting as students build a contraption to a specific set of parameters to accomplish a specific goal. These include events like Hovercraft, Roller Coaster and Towers.

Our students had a great time and saw success in many events. The following students earned medals in their events:

Ecology: **Riley and Jonaca Thornton**

Mystery Architecture: **Caitlyn Oristian and Carolyn Redmore**

Fast Facts: **Hunter Martorella and Anna Goddard**

Hovercraft: **Kendra Doupe and Colton Keane**

Road Scholar: **Kendra Doupe and Carolyn Redmore**

Duct Tape Challenge: **Hunter Martorella and Amelia Shenandoah**



ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT NEWS

Congratulations to **Charlotte Ryan** and **Grace Dow** (pictured left) who were both selected as 1st Team All League Basketball Players.

Congratulations to the following boys who were selected as All League Players:

Kyle Tracy – Honorable Mention

Dylan Lyons – 2nd Team

Reid Jackowski – 1st Team

Isaac Dow – 1st Team

(pictured right)



Message from the Superintendent



In the wake of the recent school shooting in Parkland, Florida, I have been connecting with parents, community members, staff, and students here in LaFayette over the topic of safety. We are fortunate to have a school campus that has undergone many security enhancements. From discussions at board meetings, conversations in the cafeterias with students, and survey responses from students, it is obvious that the safety of our students is our number one priority.

When I asked, “Do you feel safe at school?”, most of our students responded that, yes, they do feel safe at school. Students also provided some insights into ways that we can help enhance security. For example, students felt that we should increase safety drills and involve students more in safety training. On April 20th we will hold a student safety workshop sponsored by Armoured One, which is a school security firm. The training will emphasize that students are often the first ones to know about threats of violence and they serve a vital role in keeping each other safe by reporting these threats or any suspicious activity. You can make such reports at any time via the “Tip Line” link on our website or by contacting me directly. We will also be providing additional safety training to staff and will devote time this spring to practicing our emergency drills.

Our school board has placed student safety as a standing item on the meeting agenda during our open forums. At some of our recent board meetings, community members have emphasized the need for additional armed security at our schools. The New York State Senate recently passed a school safety bill which provides additional funding for armed security at schools. We are hopeful that this legislation will move forward and gain approval by the New York State Assembly and Governor Cuomo. We have also used local funding to allow for coverage by armed Onondaga County Sheriff’s deputies at our LaFayette schools. In the wake of the Parkland incident, we have used local dollars to increase this deputy coverage. For the Onondaga Nation School, we are appreciative of support from Onondaga Nation security personnel who keep a watchful eye on our school and our students.

We have identified monies available for a security capital improvement project. Information gained from a security audit will be used to plan for additional security measures to improve safety on our school campus. We will begin conversations for this upcoming capital project this month and plan to bring the proposed security project forward to the voters in the fall.

It is a privilege and honor to serve the students and school community here in LaFayette. We have an outstanding community that rallies around our students. Thank you for your continued support!

*Sincerely,
Jeremy Belfield, Superintendent of Schools*

Next Generation Learning Standards Implementation Roadmap

To support school districts and educators with the transition to full implementation of the New York State Next Generation Learning Standards, NYSED has released the English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics Standards Implementation Roadmap. The Roadmap is a recommended three-year plan that includes goals and activities for stakeholders to raise awareness of, build capacity around, and implement the Next Generation Standards.

The New York State Next Generation Learning Standards were adopted by the Board of Regents in September 2017. The new Standards are the culmination of a two-year process that resulted in substantive changes while maintaining rigor, and involved committees composed of more than 130 educators and parents.

NYSED would like to thank all of our partners including, but not limited to, NYSUT, the Staff and Curriculum Development Network, the Big 5 School Districts, BOCES District Superintendents, the statewide Professional Learning Team, and representatives from school districts for their thoughtful contributions during this collaborative process.

Parent Resources About the 2018 Grades 3-8 ELA & Math Tests

New parent resources about the 2018 Grades 3-8 English Language Arts and Mathematics Tests are now available on our assessment website. The resources have important information about what parents need to know about the 2018 assessments and answer many frequently asked questions about the tests. The 2018 tests have been reduced to two testing days per subject, down from three days per subject as in past years. You can find additional details about this change and much more in the new documents. Check out What Parents Need to Know and the Parent FAQ.

LaFayette Central School District Nominating Petitions

The LaFayette Central School District is looking for honorable community members who are looking to serve the greater good of our community as members of the school board. As a school board member, you will have the opportunity to make major policy and financial decisions that positively impact the lives of hundreds of students. If you are interested in learning more about serving on the board, you can stop by the district office to meet with Jeremy Belfield, Superintendent of Schools on Monday, March 12, 2018 at 4:00 PM or Tuesday, March 13, 2018 at 4:00 PM.

Three terms of office on the LaFayette Central School District Board of Education will expire on June 30, 2018. Two candidates will be elected for three year terms from July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2021; and one candidate will be elected for a two year term from July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2020 at the annual school district election to be held on May 15, 2018.

Candidates may be nominated only by petition. Each nominating petition must be filed with the School District Clerk, LaFayette Central School District Office, 5955 US Route 20, LaFayette, New York 13084 no later than 5:00 pm on April 16, 2018. Each nominating petition must state the name and residence of the candidate and be signed by at least 25 qualified voters of the school district. Each person signing must also state his or her residence. It is good practice to obtain more than 25 signatures from qualified voters.

Under the law a qualified voter is one who is entitled to vote at a school district election. To be entitled to vote a person must meet these three qualifications:

- A citizen of the United States
- At least 18 years of age
- A resident of the school district for a period of at least 30 days prior to the election.

Nominating petitions are now available. If you would like a nominating petition, please contact the district office at (315) 677-9728 or email vtryon@lafayetteschools.org.

♦ Junior/Senior High School News ♦



From the Desk of the **JSHS PRINCIPAL**

Reminder to our Junior High parents, the New York State 3-8 assessments will begin during the month of April. This year all 7th and 8th grade students will be taking part in computer-based testing in both in Math and English Language Arts. As the exams draw closer, teachers will work to help familiarize students with the testing software.

The 3-8 assessments provide teachers and administrators with imperative student data that helps make informed decisions about the best educational programming for each of our students. As of recently, there has been much controversy around these exams and has resulted in an increase in the refusal rate of students both throughout our district and the state. As a result, the State of New York has made some dramatic changes to help alleviate some of the concerns that have been expressed by various stakeholders. Some of those changes include: decreasing the number of days the exam is given and allowing students unlimited time to complete the exams. I am hoping that these changes will make our students and parents feeling more comfortable about the exams resulting in an increase in our overall participation. If I can be of further assistance or provide you with additional information about the changes in the testing platform, please do not hesitate to contact me by email at jpryan@lafayetteschools.org or by phone at 315-677-3131.

Jason Ryan, Principal

◆ The BIG PICTURE School News ◆

Big Picture **OPEN HOUSE** at 3122 Rt. 11 North



April 11th
AND
May 16th
6 – 7:30pm
Big Picture Common Room

If you are interested in learning more about Big Picture please attend. We will discuss our daily routines, unique teaching and learning styles as well as our one student at a time approach through individualized learning plans.

Staff, current students and parents will be available to answer questions and talk about projects they have completed. We hope to see you there!

◆ Grimshaw School News ◆

PRINCIPAL INPUT

Congratulations to Sophia Taylor, who was a featured as a showcase author in the *Echoes* performance put on by Merry Go Round Theater. The following students received Honorable Mention awards for their submissions:

Layla Ortiz	Luke Peios
Madison Baker	Kayleigh Olrich
Brooke Branch	Digby Collingbourne
Reed Warren	Gabrielle Brown
Sophia Taylor	Eva Stivers
Amie Shute	Mackenzie Loughlin
Aiden Moltion	Thomas Oakes
Mason Kozubal	Marquise Williams
Madison Simmons	Sophia Taylor

Echoes is a performance of original scripts created by students in Grades 6 through 8, that cross genres and the State of New York.

A few friendly reminders now that the weather is changing. Please make sure that your child is dressed appropriately for school, the sun may be shining, however the temperature is still cool. Drop-off for students is no earlier than 7:30 a.m. The door will remain locked until that time. When you drop-off your child in the circle, please do not park.

The pick-up of students continues to be at 2:20 p.m. with the door remaining locked until that time.

If you need to go to your child's classroom for any reason, please stop at the Main Office and sign in and receive a visitor badge. Thank you again for your continued support.

Mrs. Blossey, Principal



It's the time of year for 2018 Jump Rope for Heart!

On March 29th, Grimshaw students in Grades 1-6 participated in the *Jump Rope for Heart* kick off party presented by Meg Gibbons, otherwise known as the "Heart Lady".

Each student was given a packet to be filled out and returned before our May 8th Jump Rope for Heart Event. This event was held in the gym from 1:00 until dismissal for all students who contribute. Highlights of the event include pouring slime over our very own Superintendent, Jeremy Belfield, if our school raises \$4,000.

Students are able to earn a variety of different prizes depending on the amount of donations they contribute. Online donations are also accepted and preferred using a secure online site through Jump Rope for Heart.

Emails can also be sent to family and friends so they can help your student meet their goals.



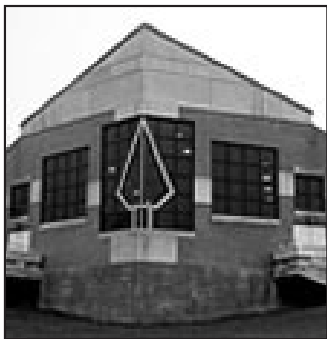
Registration is online at: heart.org/jump

If you have any questions, please contact tlarose@lafayetteschools.org

Over the 12 events in 24 years, Grimshaw has raised over \$60,000!

Thank you in advance for your support to help the many that are affected by heart disease.

◆ Onondaga Nation School News ◆



From the Desks of John Gizzi and Simone Thornton

Spring is in the air at the Onondaga Nation School. Teachers and students have begun using learning targets in many classrooms. We see evidence of learning targets being discussed and shared throughout the building. A second grader, during lunch, as she munched on her cheeseburger, said, “I can determine, using details from the story, the point of view of specific characters”. In the course of a small RtI math class fourth grade students explained to the principal and their teacher how their “picnic” choices reflected their understanding of fractions.

Students in sixth grade art are using several watercolor techniques to create their underwater animal projects. Pre-K students were able to tell the difference between text to self connections compared to text to world connections as they participated in read aloud. Band students made deep personal connections between their inner voice as they rendered illustrations of the musical instruments they played in our recent grades 4 to 8 band concert.

On March 15, the Grades 4-6 Band, and Grades 7-8 Band played a wonderful concert to a packed gymnasium of family and community members. Students enjoyed playing familiar tunes and themes such as Clair De Lune, Beethoven’s Ninth and Batman. All of that musical fun was capped off by Mrs. Stafford, the music teacher and band director, leading the Grades 7-8 Band’s rendition of Star Wars using her very own lightsaber as a baton. Mrs. Capella enriched each performer’s experience by giving them the opportunity to represent their musical voice in visual form as “instruments” lined the walls surrounding the Culture Center as well as in a vessel display focused on Anasazi inspired artwork.

On Monday March, 12, a chartered bus carrying 60 Albany Men’s Lacrosse players and 4 coaches stopped in to the Onondaga Nation School to make a special guest appearance to the delight of students and staff. Two members of the team, Mitchell Laughin and Colyn Lyons, graduates of ONS, shared very inspirational words to all students and staff. Mitchell, grandson of Charmaine Booth, our secretary extraordinaire, made the visit very special. The young men shared their stories and told our students to work hard and to believe in themselves, always do your school work and, someday, they too could be playing on the No. 1 ranked collegiate lacrosse team in the country.

ONS has hosted grade level luncheons, the BOCES Planetarium, Mr. Jack Gramlich, our “favorite naturalist friend”, visits from community elders sharing their life stories with our 8th graders, a Gathering of the Families Night for the community, and a Talent Show--all of these events and gatherings are happening as we prepare for an Academic Galleria, NYS Tests, a visit from Mr. Tom Porter, the Colgate University Theater, writer Ken Nesbitt, PTS Spring Art show, Maple Syrup Breakfast, Community Give and Spring Dinner. We would like to thank our staff and community for all of their work and commitment to the students of ONS.



LaFayette Public Library News

Upcoming events:

Imagination Lab

April 4th:	Build a paper tower
April 11th:	Tessellations
April 18th:	Perler beads
April 25th:	Lego Free play

Tuesday Tea – April 17 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. held every month on the third Tuesday, People bring everything from knitting to coloring books or just bring yourself. We also have a jigsaw puzzle set up.

Summer Reading events schedule thus far:

June 27th at 2 p.m.	Kick off party with the musical McCarthy's
July 11th at 11 a.m.	Gravitation Bull
July 18th at 11 a.m.	Moreland the Magician
July 25th at 11 a.m.	The M.O.S.T
August 1st at 11 a.m.	Zoo-to-you
August 8th at 2 p.m.	Bubbleman



Starting in mid-April the library will be featuring the art of students who showed in the **Scholastic Art fair**. Come down and take a look.

If you would like to **display your craft, hobby or collection** or know of someone who might be interested in displaying their work in our display case, please let us know.

We have an ongoing **jigsaw puzzle exchange** in the entryway to the library. Pick up a puzzle or two – leave a puzzle or two. It's very popular and we have some really cool puzzles come through here. We also have a puzzle set up in the library so come in and fit a piece or two (or three).

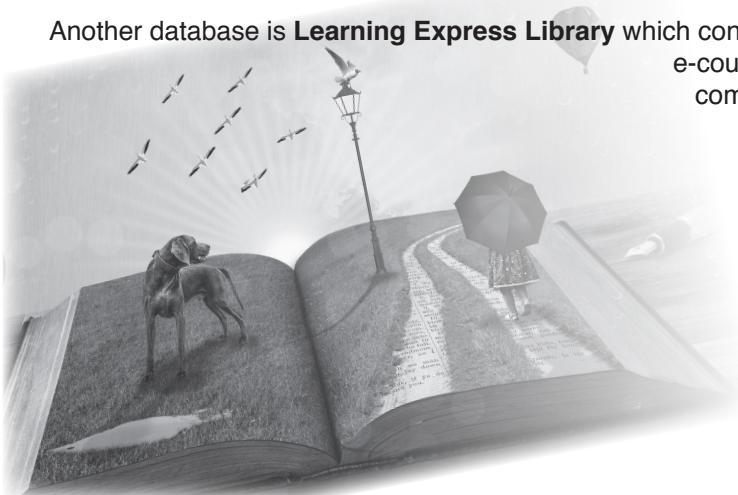
Speaking of imagination, our **3D printer** is available for public use. Please come on in and be creative!

The library system has a number of **databases** available that range from full courses to newspaper archives to genealogy. Many of these databases are available on any device that can access the internet using your library card and pin number.

Others are in-library use only. **Ancestry.com is accessible for in library use.**

Another database is **Learning Express Library** which contains practice exams, downloadable study guides and e-courses for job related certifications, academic entrance exams, computer tutorials, and more.

**Go to www.onlib.org
and click on the "learn" tab.**



LaFAYETTE COMMUNITY COUNCIL NEWS

YOUTH PROGRAMS

Pre-Season Baseball and Softball (boys and girls grades 3-6): Saturdays in April (7, 14, 21, 28), 12-3 p.m., in the Grimshaw Elementary School's gymnasium. Girls and boys in grades 3-6 are welcome to attend these sessions to work on baseball/softball skills.

Tee-Ball/Baseball/Softball (boys and girls grades K-6) – The registration deadline has passed and players have been assigned to teams. Practices will begin in April. League games begin in May and run until mid June.

ULA lacrosse (boys and girls grades 3-6) – You can still register BUT the deadline for registration is April 30. Games are scheduled to begin the week of June 11 and Opening Tournament weekend will be June 15th and 16th in Auburn.

Instructional Tee-Ball (girls and boys grades Pre-K & K) – Dates, times and location are to be determined.

Instructional Lacrosse (girls and boys grades K-2) – Dates, times and location are to be determined.

ADULT PROGRAMS

Daytime/Senior Exercise: Classes are held Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, 8:30 – 9:30 a.m., at the LaFayette Community Center. The current session runs March 27 – May 3. The next session will run May 8 through June 14. The cost for the regular 6-week session is \$36. Walk-in fee is \$4 per class.

Yoga: Classes are held Mondays and Wednesdays, 6:30-7:45 p.m. at the Grimshaw Elementary School. The current session runs through June 20, 2018; costs for this session are \$75 (approximately \$3/class) if attending classes one night per week, and \$140 if attending classes two days per week. Walk in fee is \$4 per class

WERQ® (This class replaces Zumba and Tabata): WERQ® is a dance fitness class that tightens and tones the entire body through athletic moves and dance steps choreographed to dance, pop and hip-hop music. Classes are held Mondays and Thursdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the Grimshaw Elementary School cafeteria. The current session runs through April 19, 2018. The costs for this session are \$42 if attending class one evening per week, Monday or Thursday, and \$80 if attending classes both Monday and Thursday evenings per week. Walk in fee is \$4 per class.

Tai Chi: Beginner and advance classes are held at the LaFayette Community Center on Monday mornings 8:30-11 a.m. Call instructor Lynn Perrine at 315-677-8114 for details.

OTHER PROGRAMS

“Step Up To Stop Falls”: A falls prevention program designed to raise awareness about falls and how to prevent fall-related injuries among older adults and includes an exercise class designed to improve strength and balance. The

classes are taught by Yoga instructor, Kate Farrar. Classes are held on Wednesdays, 10:00-11:00 a.m., at the Community Center. Classes are scheduled to run weekly until May 23. There is NO FEE for this program.

Hall Walking: The hallways of Grimshaw Elementary School are available for walking weekday evenings from 6-8 p.m., through April. Please use the gymnasium entrance and bring dry footwear to wear while walking the halls. A note book will be provided in the gymnasium foyer for sign-in.

Walking: The recreation path at Stafford Park is also available, every day, dawn to dusk. During the winter, only the south section of the path will be maintained for walkers. Signage will be posted to indicate whether or not the path is open.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Community Council Board Meetings: Scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month. Dates of upcoming meetings are: April 5, May 3, and June 7. All are welcome and encouraged to attend as we need your help and input. Please consider becoming a member of LCC as a participant on its board or as a coach – we can't provide our programs without your help.

First Aid and CPR/AED course: We hope to offer this training in April; time and location TBD.

For additional information about LCC programs, phone 677-7272 or send e-mail to: lafayettecommunitycouncil@cnyemail.com

THANK YOU

LCC would like to thank the following individuals for volunteering their time and efforts to help LCC provide our community with positive and quality sports experiences; you have our sincere gratitude for all you do.

Wrestling - Mark Chapman; Todd Briggs; Christopher Mueller; Nick Moltion; Joe Clemons, and Steve Albro

Youth Basketball - The Shute Family (Adrian, Morgan, Mason); Chris Porter; Matthew Daniels; Joe Greco; Jeremy Ouimette, Dave Thomas, John Stanton; Jay Colburn; Julie Clarke, and Kerry Evans

Volleyball - Mackenzie McElhannon; Alyssa Worth; Junee Shenandoah-Kurtz; Serena Harrington; Lexi Harrington, and Griffin Garbutt

Ski Club - Wendy Moltion, Julie Clarke

Adult Men's Basketball – Luke Ternosky and Joe Greco

LCC INFORMATION

www.townoflafayette.com • 677-7272

Town Hall at the Town Offices, Tuesdays 6:00-6:30 p.m.

lafayettecommunitycouncil@cnyemail.com

P.O. Box 98 Lafayette, NY 13078

LaFayette CENTRAL SCHOOLS

5955 Route 20, West
LaFayette, NY 13084

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LaFayette, NY 13084

NYS Income Tax Code: 325

Jeremy Belfield, Title IX Compliance Officer, LaFayette Central School, 5955 Route 20, West, LaFayette, New York 13084

The LaFayette Central School District does not discriminate on the basis of age, color, creed, national origin, race, sex, or handicapping conditions in its employment practices or educational programs.

April

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

12	BOE Meeting
13	End of 30 weeks
19	Jr High Honor Society Induction
20	ONS Spring Dinner
23-27	Spring Recess - No School

Don't forget
to like us on
Facebook.

