

# LaFayette Big Picture TGIF

2019

FEBRUARY 1

We are **STILL PRESENT, POSITIVE** and **PASSIONATE!**



We are **PRESENT**. We are **POSITIVE**. We are **PASSIONATE**.

This was a short week for me as I traveled with my daughter to two figure skating competitions Thursday through Sunday. I covered many miles and was able to observe determination, focus, disappointment and success displayed by my daughter and hundreds of other skaters. The skaters were able to take risks some which lead to rewards of a medal and other risks that led to defeat.

Although the results varied, the constant was the trust the skater had built with their coaches. It is very similar to the work we are trying to do. As Big Picture staff, we are trying to encourage our students to trust us enough, believe in themselves enough to take the risk....to take the chance to succeed. The effort could lead to a win. It could also lead to a failure. The failure is okay. We want our students to know that our school is safe enough to fail. Our school is also a safe place to succeed. It might seem like a crazy concept but success is sometimes scarier than failure. This growth can be slow and hard to see and hard to measure, but it is happening. The growth that is not hard to see and not hard to measure is the growth of our aquaponic agriculture project that is occurring in our Main Room. Check out our beautiful plants!





## TGIF from David

There was a lot of SUNY Morrisville involvement this week. We brought the college campus to us, and then we took our students onto their campus.

SUNY Morrisville has a number of unique programs. The best people to introduce these programs are the actual professors. On Friday, we had professors from the Residential Construction Program and the Architectural Studies and Design Program present to our students. Students even had the opportunity to do a hands on project that Morrisville students complete at the beginning of their Residential Construction studies. Students soldered copper pipes together like they would on a plumbing project.

On Saturday, students participated in the 3rd Annual STEAM Competition. This is a competition put together by Morrisville STEP and CSTEP with assistance from the Morrisville-Eaton Liberty Partnership Program. Our students were in small groups together competing against LPP students. Students competed in a CPR Race, Crime Scene Investigation, Cryptography Code Breaking, Bridge Building, Rocket Races, DNA Extraction, and more. After the end of the competition at SUNY Morrisville, our students won the overall event by racking up the most points.







## TGIF from Greg

The 101 Shark Tank had a successful week in and out of the classroom. Claire and Julien both passed their American History regents and reached mastery. Our class goal attainment and attendance rate fluctuated, but continues to hover around 90%. Devon, Victor, Jarren, Austin and Garrett did a great job with culinary skills in their internship with Hollis. Aiden is finishing up his internship at Black Mamba skate shop, while Adam is plugging away at the LaFayette Veterinary Clinic. The rest of the group is performing well with Carol in photography, and really learning quite a bit. The class is halfway through our unit on the Holocaust reading "Four Perfect Pebbles". They have been learning in large group, small group and partner share

styles concerning social injustices during that era and relating the themes to their own world. Their goal for service learning is to do an outreach to a Veterans group. Audrey, our social work intern from last year, is helping us with the project. It's hard to believe how fast this year is going. The group really seems to have that family of caring attitude and they continue to support each other.



## TGIF from April

I had a fabulous meeting with Wyatt's mentor at the Manlius Fire Department this week! I told Wyatt how proud I was of the glowing review the Fire Chief (Brad) gave him! Wyatt is really enjoying his internship there. During my discussion with Brad he extended an exciting opportunity to Wyatt, which when I told Wyatt he seems to want. I will share more in the upcoming weeks as the opportunity unfolds. Way to go Wyatt!!!



Josh J. was to have a shadow day on Thursday at Loretto; the snow day challenged that so he will go next Tuesday. Josh is passionate about physical therapy so he is looking to see if he can work within the event-planning program at Loretto to understand the physical needs of the elderly. He hopes to create a plan that incorporates movement therapy for senior citizens. Hunter will be a terrific resource for Josh in this area.

Keegan is so amazing at preparing for his art/photography contest. He has wonderful support and such a great group of adults helping him navigate his STP that I just know it's going to be spectacular! Diana will be building her donation boxes starting next week, if all goes as planned. Cailin is working on her ELISA project at Ichor. Brandon mentioned today that he will be going on Tuesday to get the tubes and other materials needed for his Maple Syrup STP. Carlee and I are discussing how we might be able to make her STP more viable as she is not feeling successful at this particular time. We may have her piggyback on a project Hunter is working on at his Loretto internship. Hunter also interns in the evening with Advocates. I am so impressed with Hunter's willingness to make the world around him a better place for everyone, and every age! Sean, Layton and Brandon have started their college classes at Morrisville. I miss Sean 😊. Last semester there were days when out of the 401 class it was only Sean here for part of the day. This semester he is the one 'missing' the most as his college classes take him away 5 days a week- I'm

so proud of him! But I do miss seeing his face 😊.

I continue to work on QFT in USH and it really seems to be helping the students with their recall. I love it! I also love that even the most hesitant student is becoming courageous when it comes to asking questions. It appears they are beginning to shake some old stereotypes about themselves and learning history.

Friday brought Yoga exploratory, and again some new faces- Nice!

Ezra and I began preparing for a new exploratory workshop we will be hosting. We are going to be making latch hook rugs!! I am finding other students are hearing about it and want to join in so I had my daughter help me order some materials off of Amazon and Ezra and I are in the process of cutting a million little pieces of yarn and with my Amazon shipment we will have 5 tools and mesh to make patterns on. Students will then be able to make their own latch hook rugs! When they heard what we were doing Hunter and Carlee jumped in and assisted in cutting various colors of yarn into 2 ½ " pieces, which is helpful as we are going to need A TON of precut yarn pieces. Ezra and Carlee cut yarn during yoga on Friday; both tend to be very soothing activities! A student said to us today- "you know you can buy the kits". Yes, we know, but we found they are expensive so Ezra and I decided if we made the 'kits' more students would be able to join our exploratory workshop. If you happen to have an old latch hook tool, or old latch hook rug kit you never completed, lying around we would love to have them!

Thank you! 😊





## TGIF from Lenny

We began Monday morning with a real sense of purpose in advisory. Our 301s are beginning to write public policy papers as part of their PIG requirements. Walt and I collaborated on how to best support then in completing a rigorous, meaningful and accurate policy paper. We created clear steps to the process and will continue to scaffold the process in advisory and English workshop.

On Tuesday I joined Kaleb in a shadow day at Trillium Sport & Fitness on Erie Blvd. We observed a trainer working with a client and then the trainer worked with Kaleb on some of Kaleb's goals as an athlete. It was an amazing experience. The trainer was patient, informative and motivating. We are very appreciative of the time and care that was given to us.

I also dropped in to see RJ in action working for STUDCO, a local construction company. He was working with drywall and plaster that day and shared all that he had learned on the ride back to school.

In ER we continued to monitor and adjust pH and nutrient levels in our aquaponics set-ups. And in LE we learned about cancer a relatively new treatment call T-cell therapy. The students were very interested in this topic, as cancer has touched so many of their lives.

After a day off on Thursday due to cold weather, we had a packed day on Friday. A number of us attended a presentation and hands on experience led by SUNY Morrisville staff. The topics were architecture and residential construction.



After we learned about the programs that SUNY Morrisville had to offer, students were allowed to try their hands at soldering copper pipe. It was a great learning experience for our students. Thank you to the SUNY Morrisville staff for your time and generosity.

On Saturday, David and I took a group of students to SUNY Morrisville campus for the annual STEAM competition. I'm sure David's portion of the TGIF will elaborate on the event. But I'd like to say that it was a very enjoyable day. The students were engaged and behaved appropriately. Most of all we had a lot of laughs and many learning experiences. Once again, thank you to all of the CSTEP students and SUNY Morrisville Staff for putting in all the effort to make it a wonderful day.

Have a great week!





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401s



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WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU. IF YOU HAVE ANY SUGGESTIONS, COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT US!

*Susan Osborn*

201s



301s



101s



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