

LaFayette Big Picture TGIF

2018

SEPTEMBER 28

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



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

Another very busy week! I am not sure how we got to Friday this week. I think I blinked and the week was over! As part of the administrative team, I have set goals regarding student attendance, academic achievement and credit attainment, graduation rate, leaving to learn experiences, school culture building and parental involvement. I have also set personal leadership goals. One of my leadership goals is to increase my skill and consistency with documentation. One area that I am focusing on is to share my walkthrough data/documentation with the entire staff. After I visit classrooms, I make notes of what I have observed: are learning targets posted, are they referenced in the class, can students tell me how they met the learning target, who is engaged, whose voice did I hear in the classroom, are the questions asking students to think at a higher level or are they just repeating facts. My goal is to share these notes on a weekly basis with all staff so we can all see what is happening in each others classrooms. I am also documenting student interactions as a way to see patterns and assist in culture building. I also spent time this summer reflecting on my need for consistency in how I interview and record student issues. I am working to make these adjustments become routine for me. Just as it is for our students to learn something new or change a way of doing something, it takes practice and focus! As I am only 17 days into the school year, I can already see my own growth in these areas. I look forward to it becoming routine and not taking so much effort, but until it does, I will continue to give it attention and practice!

Another busy week at Big Picture. I spent most of my week working with students on various projects in the workshop and trying to reorganize the space. I have really been enjoying my new role in the workshop and there are many projects that I am helping students with.

This week's highlights:

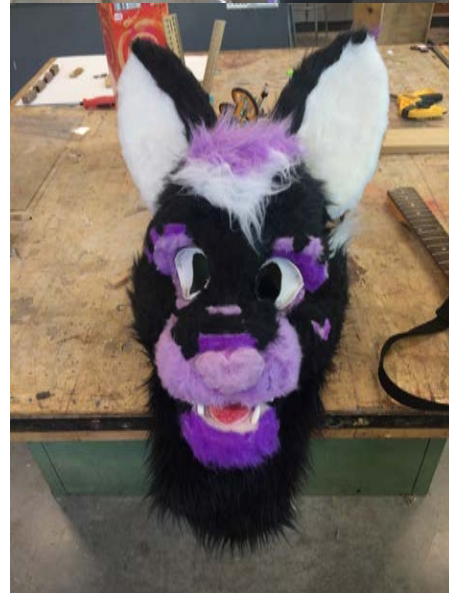
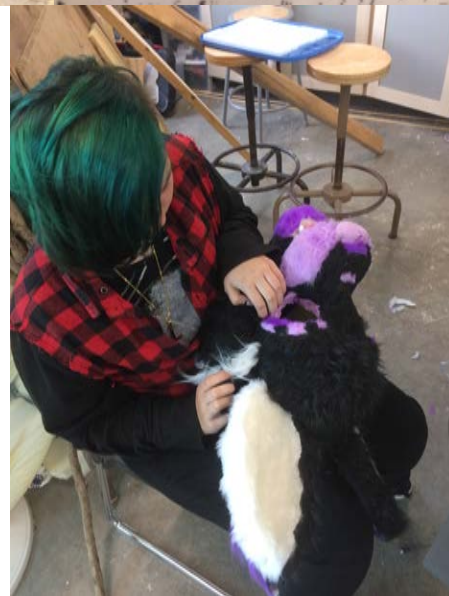
I worked with Stuart on his cosplay costume head this week, and he is making great progress on it. He completed all the shaping and tailoring, and now he just has to finish up the eyes, and it will be good to go. We also finished casting all of the claws and teeth that Stuart created, and began making another mold to cast paw pads out of silicone.

In entrepreneurship exploratory, we finished up our first batch of resin and wood jewelry. After much experimentation, we figured out a system works. We are hoping to complete 20 finished pieces by the end of next week, in order to start selling them.

On Thursday, I brought Cailyn, Stuart, Kyle, Daryl and Adam to the CNY SPCA to landscape. We spent most of the time weeding, trimming bushes and cutting back perennials that are losing foliage for the winter. Cailyn also met with Donna, the volunteer coordinator, and was able to

gain an internship working with the animals on Tuesday and Thursdays. Cailyn will also be planning her Senior Thesis Project around organizing an adoption event for them, and also redecorating and enhancing the cat rooms.

I helped Jamus this week with a project to create a solar powered cell phone charging station for our school. We have been salvaging parts from various broken electronics and are experimenting with how to harvest solar power from the solar panel that was used for the chicken coop. It has been a fun project so far, and we are hoping to have a prototype done by next week.



TGIF from Jessica

The 201's have shown growth and more acceptance of their responsibilities as students at Big Picture. As an advisory we are working towards taking initiative upon ourselves and choosing projects we are motivated to use grit and work to complete. To help with this, Lenny and I had the 301s pair up with the 201s. The 301s are very good at writing Specific Measurable Achievable Relevant and Timely Goals (SMART Goals). With this in mind, the 301s helped the 201s put their project ideas into goals and fill in their learning plans for their projects. Throughout the week I have met with the 201 advisory to go over how to fill in their Checklist; which is a spread sheet for students to write their goals for their workshops, assessments, independent reading books, etc.

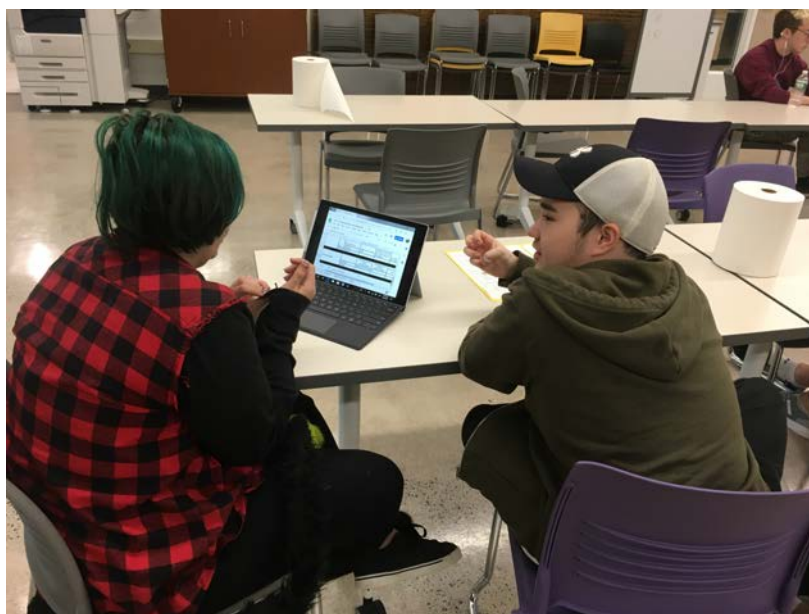
This week we have started our Advisory Reading book, *The House on Mango Street* by Sandra Cisneros. I am excited to journey through this book with them and talk about the different social injustices it presents. This book is all about discovering ourselves and deciding whether or not we will allow social norms to steer the path we go down in life. We are only a few pages in and the 201s are really enjoying this book. We have had great discussions after each reading. On Monday we talked about how we should be proud of what we have, value our families, and know that we are working to improve. We talked about how social norms dictate what is expected of humanity and how they put pressure on people to uphold these expectations. On Wednesday we talked about how the main character felt trapped by the social norms of her culture. We learned where her name came from and made predictions of how her name may or may not impact her future path in life.

Dawsun had the opportunity to go to Origins Cafe on Thursday. She met great people who taught her many things that will help her as she ventures to set up a coffee shop at Big Picture. Dawsun looks forward to going to Coffee Mania on Tuesday this coming week to continue learning more about her project. Elias went to the Cortland SPCA on Tuesday this week. He conducted an interview to learn more about toys he could make and donate to the SPCA.

Algebra students have all been working on writing functions based on tables and graphs. This year we are

developing our math vocabulary and working to improve our use of the calculators. Over the summer I spent some time creating topical work packets that contain regents questions over the past 4 years. I also conducted and reviewed data on the frequency of questions. As a result I have been able to design a focused content map. Students will always have extra practice problems that they can work on at home or during independent work time to improve their skills. They will also have the opportunity to work together in small groups with 1 teacher acting as a facilitator and 6 or fewer peers. In these groups they will be pulling apart questions, looking for key vocabulary, analyzing, and using logical reasoning to answer questions and evaluate their work. I have created a google classroom website that contains learning targets, vocabulary terms, and class notes (blank and completed). Please let me know if you would like to be added to the classroom your child is in. I update the website regularly.

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday students have the opportunity to meet with me during Exploratory to work on math. The purpose of this Exploratory is to help improve skills, provide more challenging content, work on quantitative reasoning for project development, build skills for the STAR Math assessment, provide support to students taking math courses at SUNY Morrisville or at the Junior/Senior High School, etc.



TGIF from Greg

The 101s have had a great start to Big Picture Learning. Building on the momentum started at the overnight, the group has made great strides. Their daily goal attainment and attendance rates are in the 90's. As a group they are very competitive and want to do well individually but also want to do well as a group. From the first day, Nikki and I have noticed their togetherness. They pick each other up when they are down and work well to push each other forward. Our advisory is reading "A Long Way Gone" by Ishmael Beah. The book describes the struggles of a young boy trying to survive during the civil war in Sierra Leone.

The 101s have also finished their first project which was a precursor to their "Who am I" project. Each student chose a Greek God to research and share the classic mythological history of the god. Students demonstrated initiative during this project. They created various products including slide shows, diaramas, posters, videos, singing, and oral presentations. The students worked on the timing of a speech as well as eye contact, articulation and responding to constructive criticism and feedback. October should be ball for the Shark Tank. (hoo ah ha).

TGIF from Alex

Another week down, another week closer to the 401s Senior Thesis Project (STP) Proposals. The excitement and anticipation is starting to become palpable! But let's put the talk of STP aside for and give a few shout outs to some 401s!

The majority of 401s this year are taking college classes at Morrisville or getting career specific training on top of their regular work at Big Picture.

I think that the best example of success comes from Sean. When somebody asked Sean about how he is doing in his college class Sean's response was simple, "I think I'm doing quite well... I'm getting 100.8%." Sean just said it with this straight faced delivery that was very matter of fact like it was just no big deal. Way to go Sean keep it up!

Keegan has also been working on applying to Syracuse University to attend next year! Keegan has been working with Carol's photography internship group. Currently the group is partnering with Light Work at Syracuse University. Light Work is a nonprofit that supports photographers through a community-access digital lab, residencies, exhibitions, and publications. The group is currently working on a project at lightwork that is called 4 freedoms. The project is a 50 state initiative whose purpose is to try and use art as a method for people to have more meaningful discussions about the civic issues and core values.

Cailin is in the final stages of securing an internship and STP with the local SPCA. One aspect of her project will be to help fundraise for the dog retirement cottage. Another aspect will be that she will be hosting an adoption event and will also be building an outdoor cat recreation area. She will be working with the organization on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Carlee has been busy pursuing her certificate in cosmetology through OCM BOCES. Currently Carlee is learning about PH scales. This is important because when doing a perm, a perm has both alkali and acid in them. So, if the person doing your hair doesn't do it right... your hair could fall out!

Wyatt has been taking a welding class at Morrisville. The class is a small group instruction

where students basically work independently on welding projects and the professor provides feedback when needed. Wyatt enjoys the class! He is currently thinking about post high school options. One of those is the Marines and he is currently being recruited by colleges to play lacrosse. One of those places that is actively recruiting Wyatt is North Greenville University in South Carolina.

Hunter has been working on his STP project as well as taking a college course in chemistry. The class has been a good challenge for him as well as a good place where Hunter has seen how college works differently than high school. For example, Hunter just took a test that was worth 20% of his overall grade. While Hunter didn't do as well as he would have liked on the exam, we now have a starting point to move forward!

Skariwate has been busy taking not one but two college courses. One math and the other global history.

The 401 group is starting to pick up of steam in terms of their project work as well.

Brandon Leet is getting his food preparation license he just started an online course. He has 30 days to complete his certification course. At the completion of the course he will have his license in food preparation.

Layton had a huge breakthrough in his STP after talking with Susan. He is going to compete some indoor artwork that would be in display at our school. Layton is still working on the details of the sculpture piece but he now has a direction that he can go and pursue! On a side note Layton has also been listening to "This is the Greatest Show" from the Greatest Showman. When he plays it off the speakers from the computer its cool and it puts us in a good mood!

TGIF from Lenny

Last week was jam packed with opportunities and experiences for students. Here are the highlights.

On the internship front, Kyle R returned to Goodman Auto and Truck Service and we established plans for an

internship. I had the opportunity to see Kyle in action and he helped achieve the correct tire pressure for my tires while at the site. Thomas, Kaia and Nikki continued to work with Carol in photography and Tresah had another shadow day at Blue Collar Doggie Day

Care. Josh, Emma and Kaia we also out at their SUNY Morrisville classes throughout the week.

On Thursday I had the opportunity to travel to PSLA at Fowler along with David and five BP Students. Our mission was to participate in student facilitator training for the school exchange program we are beginning soon. Our student facilitators are Brandon L, Alyssa, Bri, Audrey and Riley. Our students, along with five PSLA

students, were trained on how to facilitate dialogue that will take place with their peers. The students were

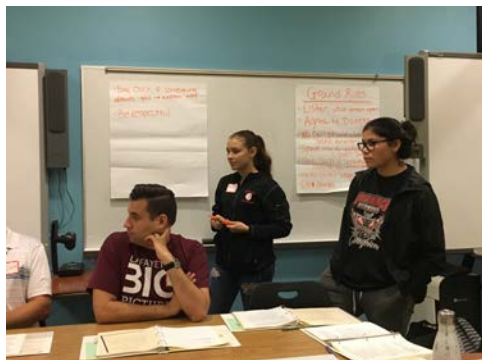
energized and excited about their role in this process. It was a great day and we are all excited about our first exchange in a couple weeks.



refurbish a golf cart and power at least some of the components with solar energy. We demonstrated how his troubleshooting electric circuits and learning how to use a voltmeter are perfect

examples of ER. We went through each learning goal with the group and provided examples from Jamus's project. The exercise benefitted both the 301s and the 201s.

We are ready for another exciting week that will kick off with a Morrisville Monday and end with the Apple Festival. Have a great week!



TGIF from David

I am working on one of my bedrooms in my house to turn it into the new bedroom for my wife and I. My house is an older house so some parts of it show its age. There has been so much wood to strip paint from, and then refinish. There are spots on the wall that need new spackling, and then sanded down. I am also painting the wall and I am fairly meticulous with the craft. I take my time with the edges, especially with the woodwork I have just refinished. My wife and I need to switch bedrooms because we are expecting our first child in the Spring. There is only so much good weather left to leave the windows open to allow the fumes to escape. The past two years have been a series of home fixes and it often feels like they will never be done.

People tell me that is the hardest part about being a homeowner. Although, I take delight in some of these projects because it allows me to practice my artistic sensibility. Like, what colors to match, furniture placement, what pictures to hang and what order, and etc. We can approach everything like an artist, which is a theme I believe I have talked about in the past, but is forever true. I thought about that idea while watching a documentary on Quincy Jones this weekend. Quincy Jones truly has the golden hand of King Midas. Everything he touched turned to gold, or in his case platinum records. That leads me into my efforts with students this week, or most importantly their efforts. We had in-depth conversations on project development. We talked about the steps needed to set up their projects and at times this even overwhelmed me because I do not have all of the answers. I can present many questions, but I cannot answer everything. This is much like my house, the constant upkeep, the changes, and the fine attention to paint lines. Students have felt their projects will never get done, but we know they can come close. Is any project ever really done? Is any project exactly how you wanted it to turn out? The truth is, no project is ever really done. I hope I can do my best to help our students understand this, but still have confidence in their efforts.

I talked with a number of our seniors as they prepped their Senior Thesis Projects. These projects will hopefully be the most rigorous and time consuming projects they have ever done.

Keegan distrusted some of the feedback I gave him, but after a few conversations he started to see my point of view. Cailin and I sat down to talk about her STP. I asked her a lot of questions as we thought out her STP. She visited the CNYSPCA on Tuesday to ask all of the questions we discussed together and she is on the path to solidifying her STP. Sue and I managed to help Layton realize a realistic STP because sometimes Layton can establish an idea that creates too many barriers for his success. Barriers are not bad as you can learn to work through them and develop certain skills, but there are some barriers that never even have to be put in place. All of our seniors will present their projects on Friday, October 12th.

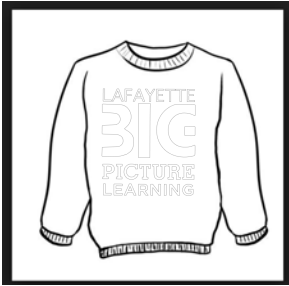
I continue to help specific students with their projects and I do not know if it is the nature of our new learning plan, but students are developing very large projects. Thinking big is good, but I hope due to time constraints the thinking isn't too big. Hopefully, we will figure this out as the weeks unfold.

Like always, we had shadow days and new internships beginning. Dawsun went to Origins in Homer. Tresah and Brandon returned to Blue Doggie Day Care. Kyle Rice started an internship at Goodman Auto. We also had a presentation on job opportunities from a representative from Advocates. Advocates is a CNY organization that assists families that have a family member with a disability. There was a lot of focus on shadow days, internships, and careers.

Finally, I mentioned Quincy Jones. I hope this TGIF has not been too all over the place, but I am always trying to relate student struggles to a public figure. Typically, I try to relate it to a public figure they actually know, so Quincy Jones may not be the most popular choice. Although, students probably should learn about him, especially our musically inclined students.

They should witness his work ethic. You should witness his work ethic, even his work ethic at 85 years old. He produced Thriller. Certainly, his work ethic is much better than mine. But, if you could just see the clean painting job I have done this weekend, you may be hard pressed to pick a side.

LaFayette Big Picture Learning Spirit Sale



Adult Unisex CREWNECK:
9 ounce 50/50 Fleece Dri Blend

Available Sizes: Adult Small-3xl
Available Colors:
Sports Gray Crewneck with Black Lettering
Black Crewneck with White Lettering
Purple Crewneck with White Lettering



Adult Unisex HOODIE:
8 ounce 50/50 Heavy Blend

Available Sizes: Adult Small-5xl
Available Colors:
Ash Hoodie with Black Lettering
Black Hoodie with White Lettering
Purple Hoodie with White Lettering



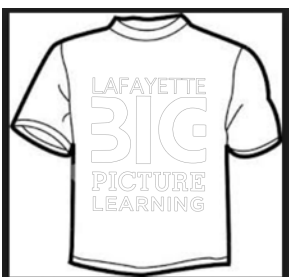
Adult Unisex FULL ZIP HOODIE:
8 ounce 50/50 Heavy Blend
Print on Left Chest and Back

Available Sizes: Adult Small-5xl
Available Colors:
Sports Gray Full Zip with Black Lettering
Black Full Zip with White Lettering
Purple Full Zip with White Lettering



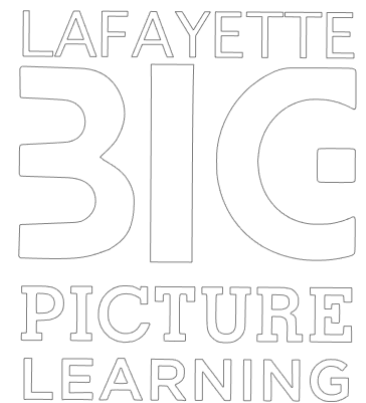
Adult Unisex JERSEY HOODIE LIGHTWEIGHT:

Available Sizes: Adult Small-2xl
Available Colors:
White LIGHTWEIGHT Hoodie with Black Lettering
Heather Navy LIGHTWEIGHT Hoodie with White Lettering
Black LIGHTWEIGHT Hoodie with White Lettering



Adult Unisex Softstyle T-shirt:

Available Colors:
Charcoal Tshirt with White Lettering: Small-4xl
Navy Tshirt with White Lettering: Small-4xl
Black Tshirt with White Lettering: Small-4xl
Berry Tshirt with White Lettering: Small-3xl
Purple Tshirt with White Lettering: Small-3xl
Jade Tshirt with White Lettering: Small-3xl



Name				Phone Number			
Email							
Adult Unisex Crewneck: 9oz 50/50 Fleece Dri Blend					PRICE	QUANTITY	TOTAL
Sports Gray CREW with black lettering	Small	Medium	Large	XL	\$22		
	2XL	3XL			\$28		
Black CREW with white lettering	Small	Medium	Large	XL	\$22		
	2XL	3XL			\$28		
Purple CREW with white lettering	Small	Medium	Large	XL	\$22		
	2XL	3XL			\$28		
Adult Unisex Hoodie: 8oz 50/50 Heavy Blend					PRICE	QUANTITY	TOTAL
Ash Hoodie with black lettering	Small	Medium	Large	XL	\$26		
	2XL	3XL			\$29		
	4XL	5XL			\$30		
Black Hoodie with white lettering	Small	Medium	Large	XL	\$26		
	2XL	3XL			\$29		
	4XL	5XL			\$30		
Purple Hoodie with white lettering	Small	Medium	Large	XL	\$26		
	2XL	3XL			\$29		
	4XL	5XL			\$30		
Adult Unisex Full Zip 8oz 50/50 Heavy Blend					PRICE	QUANTITY	TOTAL
Sports Gray Full Zip with black lettering	Small	Medium	Large	XL	\$29		
	2XL	3XL			\$32		
	4XL	5XL			\$34		
Black Full Zip with black lettering	Small	Medium	Large	XL	\$29		
	2XL	3XL			\$32		
	4XL	5XL			\$34		
Purple Full Zip with white lettering	Small	Medium	Large	XL	\$29		
	2XL	3XL			\$32		
	4XL	5XL			\$34		
Bella Canvas Unisex Jersey Long Sleeve Hoodie: Lightweight					PRICE	QUANTITY	TOTAL
White Lightweight Hoodie with Black lettering	Small	Medium	Large	XL	\$26		
	2XL				\$28		
Heather Navy Lightweight Hoodie with white lettering	Small	Medium	Large	XL	\$26		
	2XL				\$28		
Black Lightweight Hoodie with white lettering	Small	Medium	Large	XL	\$26		
	2XL				\$28		
Gilden Softstyle T-shirt Unisex					PRICE	QUANTITY	TOTAL
Charcoal T-shirt	Small	Medium	Large	XL	\$15		
	2XL	3XL			\$18		
	4XL				\$20		
Navy T-shirt	Small	Medium	Large	XL	\$15		
	2XL	3XL			\$18		
	4XL				\$20		
Black T-shirt	Small	Medium	Large	XL	\$15		
	2XL	3XL			\$18		
	4XL				\$20		
Berry T-shirt	Small	Medium	Large	XL	\$15		
	2XL	3XL			\$18		
Purple T-shirt	Small	Medium	Large	XL	\$15		
	2XL	3XL			\$18		
Jade T-shirt	Small	Medium	Large	XL	\$15		
	2XL	3XL			\$18		
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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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