

World Kindness Day 2018



Grimshaw 3rd graders participated in World Kindness Day activities this November. They began by reading the book *Each Kindness* by Jacqueline Woodson, and were genuinely empathic of the characters in the story. We followed the reading with a discussion about the ripple effect of kindness and the students gave examples of things they could do to spread kindness.

After the reading and discussion, the students drew pictures of themselves participating in activities that help spread

kindness and shared their pictures with the class. The 3rd graders were then able to put compliments to their peers in writing.

Each child had a piece of paper with a heart on it. The students moved around the room writing one compliment on each of their peers' hearts. It was wonderful to see how serious they took the activity and all the effort they put into giving their friends genuine compliments. The excitement grew as the students made it back to their own hearts and saw all the compliments they had received from their peers.

We also asked them how it felt to receive so many compliments and many of them expressed joy and gratitude for the compliments they had received. The smiles on their faces were priceless and you could feel the warmth of the atmosphere in the classrooms. World Kindness Day was on November 13th, but we have witnessed so many acts of kindness in 3rd grade since that day!

BIG PICTURE LEARNING SUNY Morrisville STEAM Competition Saturday, February 2nd

Attention STEP Students! You can compete in STEAM Activities. Competitions include Solving a Crime Scene and building a Rube Goldberg Machine. Connect with the Criminal Justice Department and the Nursing Program on Campus. Available for all STEP students grades 7th-12th. And check out STEP After School Painting, every Thursday.

ECOS



ECOS stands for the *Environmentally Conscious Organization of Students* and they meet a few times a month to share ideas and work on projects like this event. The members of ECOS coordinated, organized and executed a double period assembly for LaFayette's 7th & 8th grade students.

They gathered survey information from the students before breaking the students into "Green Stations" around the school where they taught mini-lessons and led activities. Bethany Miller and Charlotte Ryan spoke about "A Plastic Epidemic" as they shared some statistics about plastic overuse and offered suggestions for alternatives to plastic bags and other items the students use daily. Celia Bertlesman and Leanna Crouse introduced the students to the perils of ocean debris and helped them begin entries for the NOAA Marine Debris Calendar Contest. Victoria Kostiv and Jack Denué led a lesson about proper plastic recycling before running the groups through a Recycling Relay Race. The final station was led by Ashley Ohstrom, Amelia Shenandoah and Brandon Benjamin. They showed the students the new Solar Panel installed on the roof of the building and explained how it works to power a Cell Phone Locker and lower our carbon footprint. The students all regrouped in the Auditorium for a final Kahoot to review the lessons learned for the day.

This event was organized to support the NOAA Planet Stewards grant awarded to Mr. Amidon last year. The Planet Steward Education Project is a multifaceted program sponsored by NOAA (the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) and designed to promote environmental awareness in today's youth. LaFayette's Stewardship grant was used to purchase the new Cell Phone Charging Locker installed at the Jr/ Sr High School, as well as to purchase and install the new Solar Panel. The panel supplies enough electricity to offset the energy used by the locker - helping students lower their Carbon Footprint.

As you can see, all the students had a great time and, based on our survey data, the Junior High learned a lot.

CAPITAL PROJECT VOTE

Friday, January 11, 2019 1 - 9 PM

at LaFayette
Jr/Sr High
School



Message from the SUPERINTENDENT

As we head into the month of December, and bring an end to 2018, we have much to celebrate. Our students shine in the classroom, on stage, at athletic events, in their internships, and in the community. Our staff members continue to work hard each and every day to serve our students and school community. I, personally, am very grateful for the unfaltering support from our students, their families, and our community. Through our collaborative efforts, we will achieve our district vision statement - "Inspire, empower, and prepare all students to achieve excellence."

In 2019, we look to gain community feedback on our capital project. On January 11th, we ask our school community to consider safety improvements to our school campus through a proposed \$3.1 million-dollar capital project. This capital project will have no impact to our local taxpayers due to the use of state building aid. The project will focus on the following areas:

- Additional Security Cameras
- Campus Notification System
- Door Replacements
- Window Hardening
- Compartmentalization of Buildings Using Corridor Door Lock-Downs
- Masonry Repointing and Stair Replacement

Be sure to visit the Capital Project webpage on our school website. This has additional information about the proposed project. Voters can weigh in on these anticipated improvements Friday January 11, 2019 from 1:00-9:00 PM at the Jr/Sr High School. We look forward to seeing you at the polls. Please note that we did change the date for the vote from December 13th to January 11th to allow the district time to comply with a posting requirement in our local newspaper and to allow our voters sufficient time to consider the proposed improvements.

As we enter 2019, we will begin preparing our school district budget for the 2019-2020 school year. We will hold our community budget committee meetings on the following dates/times in the Big Picture Commons:

- Monday January 7, 2019 @ 5pm - location: Big Picture
- Monday January 28, 2019 @ 5pm - location: Big Picture
- Monday February 4, 2019 @ 5pm - location: Big Picture

We are looking for assistance from staff members, students, parents and community members in creating our budget for the 2019-20 school year. If you are interested in participating on the budget committee, please contact Vanessa Tryon at 315-677-9728 or vtryon@lafayetteschools.org

Thank you for your continued support of our students and school community. I wish everyone a successful end to 2018 and a happy holiday season. Be sure to come out and enjoy our school concerts, school events and athletic contests during the month of December.

Sincerely,
Jeremy Belfield, Superintendent of Schools

Business Office Changes

Tiffany Turner, Assistant Superintendent for Business, will be leaving LaFayette Central Schools for a leadership position at Baldwinsville Central Schools. Tiffany has done a outstanding job here in LaFayette leading the district through some challenging times. Under Tiffany's leadership, the district went from fiscally stressed to financially sound. Our loss is certainly Baldwinsville's gain. Tiffany - thank you for your service to our students, staff, and school community. We look forward to hearing of your continued success as you take this next step in your career. Congratulations Tiffany! You will be missed!

Paul Milograno was appointed as Interim Assistant Superintendent for Business to replace Tiffany while the district searches for a permanent replacement. Paul recently retired from the Whitesboro Central School district. Paul has many years of experience building school district budgets, and overseeing non-instructional departments (food service, transportation, facilities). Paul was also responsible for the oversight of several successful capital projects during his time in Whitesboro. Paul came highly recommended and he has a strong reputation among his colleagues in the field. Please welcome Mr. Paul Milograno to LaFayette CSD.

We will conduct a search for a permanent replacement for the leadership role in the business office during the Spring of 2019.

Fire Inspections

Fire and Visual inspections were conducted throughout the District on Wednesday, November 7, 2018 and at the Sewage treatment plant and concession stand on Tuesday November 13, 2018. Inspectors were Don Warnow, Health & Safety Officer of OCM BOCES, Connie Wallis, Sr. Risk Control Consultant of NYSIR Insurance, Jim Kesler, District Clerk of the Works, and Ron Cooper, Maintenance Supervisor.

Inspections went well. There were some minor non-conformances issues in all buildings. The issues were faulty emergency and exit lights, missing breaker panel labels, improper use of extension cords, fire doors not properly closing or closers missing, exposed wires in open junction boxes, rescue window blocked and housekeeping issues in storage areas. Most issues were corrected on the spot at the time of the inspection. Any items that could not be corrected immediately were corrected by November 13, 2018. The necessary reports have been completed, and processed electronically to the New York State Education Department and new certificates of occupancy have been posted in all buildings. We are still awaiting the insurance report and will process it in accordance with the Insurance company's time frame.

I would like to thank the entire district for their cooperation and patience during the inspection. Also, thank you to our custodial and maintenance staff for their quick response to necessary repairs. Finally, thank you to Don Warnow and Connie Wallis for their efforts in keeping the staff and students safe.

If you have any questions regarding the inspections, please feel free to contact Jim Kesler, Clerk of the Works at jkesler@lafayette-schools.org or 315-677-4141.

LAFAYETTE PUBLIC LIBRARY HIGHLIGHTS

Imagination Lab events

- December 12th – Wooden ornaments
- December 19th – Popsicle stick snowflakes
- December 26th – No Imagination Lab

Tuesday Tea – December 18, 2-4 p.m.

Held every month on the third Tuesday. Bring anything from knitting to coloring books or just bring yourself. We also have a jigsaw puzzle set up.

Step Up to Stop Falling – Wednesday, December 5th, 12th, and 17th at 10 a.m. in the library community room. This exercise helps core strength and aids in maintaining balance.

The library has three **Empire Passes** that allow access to any of the NYS parks, and **two passes to the Onondaga County parks**. Passes can be checked out for a three day loan period, only one per family at a time and no holds or renewals.

www.lafayettepubliclibrary.org

LAFAYETTE COMMUNITY COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Thank You: Lance Benjamin; Mike White; Erin Scofield; Renee Clemens; Dylan Kinsella; Aiden Griffin; Brandon Benjamin; Kevin Morel, and the High School's Varsity Boys soccer team players for volunteering time and effort to the LCC soccer program.

Ski Program: LCC supervised ski nights begin Jan. 4. Six lessons included with most ski packages.

We offer: **YOUTH SPORTS** (Basketball: Girls and boys, grades 3-4, and grades 5-6. Wrestling: Boys and girls grades K-6. Girls Volleyball: grades 3-6 begin soon.) and **ADULT EXERCISE** (Daytime/Senior Exercise, Yoga, WERQ®, Tai Chi and Men's Basketball)

Can you Coach basketball, volleyball or wrestling?

WE NEED YOUR HELP – please contact LCC at 315-677-7272. We cannot offer programs without volunteers who are willing to share their expertise.

www.townoflafayette.com

◆ Junior/Senior High School News ◆

Lafayette's Senior Lunch



On a warm and sunny day in October, Mr. Miller hosted a senior lunch for the Class of 2019. It was held near the South parking lot at the High School. Heather Castleman and the Athletic Booster Club donated the use of the grill. Mr. Russell, in the district Maintenance department, helped Mr. Miller bring the grill down from the snack shack. The Booster Club donated the hamburgers and Mr. Miller purchased hot dogs from the LaFayette Firemen. The Miller's supplied bottles of water, bags of chips, and homemade brownies as well. "I felt that it was something that would be fun to do, for no particular reason. It seems I was right," said Mr. Miller about the lunch. Thank you to all who helped make it happen - Mr. Miller, Mrs. Miller, Mr. Russell and Mrs. Castleman.

Spanish Club

The Spanish club has been very busy this year. We celebrated the Spanish heritage month. We had a display in the main office foyer of different Hispanic objects. The Spanish



students also went to see the Hispanic flamenco ballet dancers at Mexico High School. We then celebrated the day of the dead with the congo of the skeletons and a party. We are looking forward to celebrating Navidad.



Tech in the News

Lots going on in the technology rooms these past few weeks. The DDP class designed, built and tested some full size trebuchets. These real life seize machines were designed to launch apples and pumpkins, pictured left. 8th grade tech students explored some 21st century transportation technology (modeling after the Elon Musk Hyperloop using magnetic levitation) designing in AutoDesk Inventor and creating their real life prototype designs and then testing their designs while competing for the best time against classmates, pictured right. Mrs. Angello and I took the kids to the Build Em' and Bust Em' competition on Saturday November 10, 2018.



Journalism/Photojournalism Student Submissions

Believe it or Not

Seventh grade students were tasked with the challenge of writing stories based around a bizarre fact. They collaborated in groups of three to four to research, conference, write creative fiction and nonfiction as well as edit, all in preparation to present their stories to a panel of judges.

The stories had to sound realistic, contain a beginning, middle and end and have the five W's (who, what, where, when and why). Once students had completed their stories they met with various 7th grade teachers to have writing confer-

ences.

Students presented their stories in front of the entire seventh grade and judges panel with the hopes of tricking them. The judges panel consisted of; Mr. Fox, Mr. Zehner, Ms. Henderson and Mrs. Lockwood. If their story was true they wanted it to be perceived as false and if it was false, perceived as true.

"16 out of 58 students tricked two or more judges and Layla Ortiz is the only 7th grader who tricked all three judges" said Mrs. Edwards, 7th grade ELA teacher. Great job seventh grade!

by Keely Jocko- Photojournalism student

◆ Junior/Senior High School News ◆

Journalism/Photojournalism Student Submissions

Intramural Basketball



The high school gym teachers, Cheryl Polinsky and Karl Seemann, started up an after school event called Intramural Basketball. Polinsky stated, it is “to get more students to be active after school, to give a social outlet and to have fun competing with each other.”

Students will run intramural basketball starting next semester during gym class. The games take place every Tuesday and Thursday from 2:40-3:15, and they play two games for 10 minutes.

This is different from the existing program, run by Mrs. Polinsky and Mr. Seemann, because students from each gym class will have the opportunity to organize and run the event. Intramural basketball is organized for people within the school to be involved in an athletic competition.

Mr. Seemann and Mrs. Polinsky started doing Intramural basketball after school to get students active, reach the goal of 60 minutes of physical activity a day, and as an activity to relieve stress. Anyone can do this after school as long as they are academically eligible, even the teachers.

by Madison Homer - Journalism Student, Raven Bucktooth & Keely Jocko - Photojournalism Students.

Proportional Relationships

Throughout the month of September the 7th graders have been learning about proportional relationships in Math class. On September 28th, the 7th graders started their culminating projects with Mrs. Lockwood. Each student was given eight different situations that were presented as word problems and ratios. Using Google Sheets they had to change the problems into graphs and tables that represented the data.

The students then had to present their findings to their classmates and tell them if they were proportional or not proportional and explain how they could tell.

Mrs. Lockwood said, “One of the learning targets was for the students to be able to identify the independent and dependent variables in a word problem and to create a table.”

By the end of the unit, students will be able to use technology to accurately display data and explain if a situation is proportional by looking at a table and/or graph.

by Raven Bucktooth, Photojournalism student

7th Grade Students Dance



On Monday, October 22, the 7th grade students performed to the song “Thriller” by Michael Jackson, with full makeup and dance moves, to an audience made up of students and teachers.

According to Mrs. Polinsky “Thriller” has been performed by different groups all over the world. She decided that putting on zombie makeup to make a video would be a good way to get students excited to dance.

The goal of this performance was to introduce 7th grade students to dance, and she wanted to give the students something to look forward to. It was a success!

by Nathan Lajoie - Journalism Student, Heaven Elliott- Photojournalism Student.

Robot Can Cleanup Challenge

10, 11, and 12th graders in the Introduction to Robotics class spent time learning how to build and program robots to pick up items. The students had to knock over a pyramid of cans and then place the cans into a basket, to show that they could indeed control a robot. Once they mastered the use of the robot, the students competed in a bracket style competition.

At the end of day two, the scores were compiled while the class waited in anticipation and excitement to find out who had won. When the winners were announced, the students rose in celebration. The class was overall very competitive but yet still encouraging which created a fun learning environment.

by Heaven Elliott- Photojournalism student

◆ Grimshaw School News ◆

Grimshaw PE Corner

We had a productive first quarter in PE. Our intermediate students (grades 3-6) have completed highly successful units in flag football, soccer, and the recently completed indoor cross-country unit. Our primary grades finished important units in body control, body awareness, hand-eye coordination and cross country.

During our cross country unit, Grimshaw attempted to virtually take a journey from LaFayette to San Francisco, California. We were able to successfully visit 6 professional football stadiums along the way, accumulating a total of 3,148 miles.

In the fall, our Grimshaw running club met twice a week, putting many miles on their feet. Students were able to earn little feet for hitting different mile levels. We culminated our running club with a mile run race at the high school for 5th and 6th grade students. The high school cross-country athletes and coaches assisted in the run and helped to make the event super.

Lastly, with the help from Music, Art, Library and every teacher, student and parent, we were able to put on a highly successful 1st annual walk-a-thon fundraiser. We raised over \$8,000, with all the donations coming right back to Grimshaw. Thank you for all of your contributions to this event.



Grimshaw Holiday

To celebrate the season and build our school community, we are holding 5 **Spirit Days**, beginning December 17th through December 21st.

(1) **Monday, December 17th**
“Hats Off” - to the Holidays, wear your favorite holiday hat, elf ears, etc.

(2) **Tuesday, December 18th**
“Holiday Sock Party” - wear a pair of crazy holiday socks to school

(3) **Wednesday, December 19th**
“Red and Green Day” - how much red and green can you wear?

(4) **Thursday, December 20th**
“Ugly Holiday Apparel Day” - bring on the ugly sweaters/t-shirts, etc.

(5) **Friday, December 21st**
“Pajama Day” - get in the spirit of wearing your favorite PJs to be comfy and cozy!!! (Please no slippers for safety reasons.)

◆ Onondaga Nation School News ◆

From the Desks of
**JOHN GIZZI &
 SIMONE GONYEA**

We have been striving to connect cultural content and values with what students are learning in class. An example of this occurred at the Harvest Dinner, under the guidance of Onondaga Language teachers, students prepared and learned about some traditional recipes: corn mush, corn soup, and cornbread.

ONS has recently had many wonderful learning opportunities. Logan Staats, a Mohawk singer/songwriter, shared his life story and love of music. He is the season one winner of CTV's television series *'The Launch.'* His hit song *"The Lucky Ones"* went to number one overnight on iTunes. His message was to believe in yourself, stand up for yourself and follow your dreams. Eric Gansworth, an Onondaga author, visited and read from one of his most recent novels, *If I Ever I Get out of Here*, the story of a young man making his way through middle school. Mr. Gansworth made strong connections of identity and shared experiences during the question and answer period. Tom Porter and Dan Longboat shared their wisdom, told stories, and answered questions when they visited ONS. Mr. Porter shared an explanation of how clans and clan membership came to be. The explanation was vivid and powerful. Elisabeth Dockstader, an artist from Six Nations Reserve, visited in December and spent the day teaching our 8th grade students to make corn husk dolls.

In our general music classes, Mr. Shannon Booth, a community member and singer, came in and taught students about social dance songs. We are hoping that this instruction will continue as a part of our after school program curriculum. There is also the hope of creating an Onondaga Nation School Singing Group.

Our instructional staff are currently working on self-created academic/behavioral goals for students. We plan to utilize our common vision to raise the bar for students. Staff is also making a concerted effort to bring Onondaga language and culture into all classrooms. We would like to say Nyawenha to all our staff for their hard work and dedication.



◆ ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT NEWS ◆

La Fayette Varsity Baseball Spaghetti Dinner

February 2nd 4pm-7pm

Pasta-Meatballs-Salad-Bread-Drinks

50/50 Raffle

Silent Auction from 7-8pm

Fundraising event for Myrtle Beach Spring Training
La Fayette Fire Barn Rt. 11

JV Boys Basketball



Congratulations to the **JV Boys Basketball** team on winning the Lancers vs. Cancer Basketball Tournament.

Congratulations to the **Varsity Girls Basketball** team who won the More Than a Game Basketball Tournament at OCS.

Congratulations to the **Varsity Boys Basketball** team on winning the Lancers vs. Cancer Basketball Tournament. Thank you to everyone who came out and supported our tournament as we raised over \$2000.00 for the fight against cancer.



Thomas Long

Varsity Girls Basketball



Congratulations to **Thomas Long** who has been selected as an All CNY Golfer.

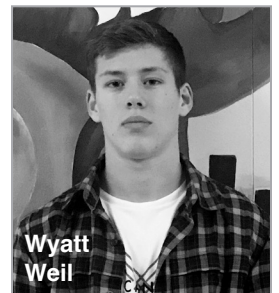
Congratulations to **Reid Jackowski** and **Kyle Lamson** who were selected to play in the Exceptional Senior Soccer All State Game.



Reid Jackowski
Kyle Lamson

Congratulations to **Wyatt Weil** who was selected to play in the Exceptional Senior Football Game.

Congratulations to **Charlotte Ryan** who was selected as the Wendy's High School Heisman Winner from LaFayette. She was also selected at a State Finalist.



Wyatt Weil

Varsity Boys Basketball



Congratulations to the following teams who had players that were Scholar Athletes:

- Boys Soccer**
- Boys Cross Country**
- Girls Soccer**
- Girls Cross Country**
- Golf**
- Football**
- Volleyball**



Charlotte Ryan

LaFayette CENTRAL SCHOOLS

5955 Route 20
LaFayette, NY 13084

Non-Profit Organization
CAR-RT Presort
US Postage Paid
PERMIT NO. 3
LaFayette, NY 13084

OCCUPANT
Rural Route/Boxholder
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.

December IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

- 13 Jr/Sr High Winter Concert
BOE Meeting
- 21 ONS New Yea Celebration
High School Day of Giving
- 24 – **Holiday Recess**
Jan. 1 **NO SCHOOL**



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Don't forget
to like us on
Facebook.

