



LaFayette

GREEN SHEET – School District News

CENTRAL SCHOOLS

REVISED Pages 3 and 11

April 2015

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Grimshaw Students Exhibit Art at Beaver Lake Nature Center

Art works by **Lily Amidon** (2nd Grade), **Emmett Dix** (3rd Grade), **Keara Heffernan** (3rd Grade), **Brandy Gibson** (4th Grade) and **Andrew Kostiv** (4th Grade) were selected to represent Grimshaw Elementary School at a special exhibit celebrating the artistic achievements of elementary level students. During the month of April, visitors to Beaver Lake Nature Center will enjoy a variety of work relating to nature themes, including animals and landscapes in the form of paintings, drawings, prints, collage and more. The styles range from highly realistic to incredibly imaginative!



Amidon

An opening reception will be held on Sunday, April 19, from 5-6 p.m. to honor the young artists. Each of the students will receive a certificate and ribbon in recognition of his/her participation in the show. Refreshments will be served while family members and friends enjoy the reception.

“Student Art – Naturally” is organized annually by the Central Region of the New York State Art Teachers Association in co-operation with Beaver Lake Nature Center. Contact Amanda Reppi, Grimshaw Art Teacher, at areppi@lafayetteschools.org for more information regarding the exhibit.



Dix



Heffernan



Gibson



Kostiv

Josh Klimsa Participates in Ski Racing



Joshua Klimsa, a 7th Grade student at the JSHS, was selected by the New York State Ski Racing Association (NYSSRA), to participate in the New York State Championships at Gore Mountain on March 5-8, in the sport of Alpine Ski Racing.

According to the letter he received, “Much dedication, time, and effort is invested to achieve a high level of proficiency in the sport of Alpine Ski Racing. Being selected to participate in this event is quite an accomplishment.”

Way to go, Josh!

FROM THE DESK OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

My top two priority areas of daily focus as superintendent are safety and security for students and staff, and increasing academic achievement. Last week, we made significant progress in terms of safety and security, and were advised of great results on the academic side.

Until recent years, there was little need for the worlds of public education and law enforcement to connect. Unfortunately, that has changed. We need to be prepared for events that were unthinkable just a few years ago. To that end, on the recent Superintendent's Conference Day, we conducted a drill for staff so that we are better prepared in the case of an untoward event in our schools. For some, it was a nerve-racking experience, but one that I feel was essential. My deep gratitude goes to Captain Raub, Sergeant Rogers, Trooper Guyette, Trooper DeRochie and the approximately twenty Troopers from the New York State Police who led the drill and helped us to debrief afterward. My thanks go to our staff who participated, and to those who are continuing the conversations in thoughtful and proactive ways. I appreciate their engagement in the activity and the subsequent feedback and discussions.

In the world of reading, you might recall that last year, when I served as Interim Director of Special Education, I recommended that we assess most of our students to determine their reading comprehension levels in terms of Lexiles. We administered the Scholastic Reading Inventory as the assessment tool. Based on the results, we decided to utilize Scholastic's literacy interventions called *Read 180*, *System 44* and *iRead* in an effort to increase the reading levels for students who were below expected levels.

Now for the good news: Considering that the first year of implementation of a new program typically presents "new user challenges", such as our not starting until late in the fall, in the short period of time that we have used the interventions, our results have far exceeded our expectations. In just a few months of the students using *Read 180*, 68% have increased their Lexile levels, as have 80% of the *System 44* users. Forty-three percent of the *Read 180* students have already met their personal growth goal, something not expected until the end of the school year. Similarly, 40% of the *System 44* users have met their personal growth goals. Some students have even met twice their personal growth goals---28% of the *Read 180* students and 7% of the *System 44* users. As an illustration, thirty students in one school have increased their Lexile levels by an average of 69 by mid-year, which is significant considering that 67 was their end-of-year goal. At the Onondaga Nation School, our youngest students also use *iRead*, which is showing equally strong results in terms of software usage, minutes per session, and number of topics being completed.

What this all means is that the Scholastic Interventions are helping to close the literacy gap for students by increasing reading skills. In fact, our partners at Scholastic indicated that they have never seen a district make such dramatic progress in the short period of time as we have. My thanks go to the principals and their staff members who have worked hard to implement this new program, maintain its fidelity, and create these outstanding results, and to the students who are working very hard to increase their reading levels. Great work, everyone.



May 2015 Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the May 2015 LaFayette Newsletter will be Monday, April 13.

The LaFayette News (Greensheet) is published eleven times per year and is available online @ lafayetteschools.org.

Information should be sent to: ritabush@secny.net It is requested that all articles be emailed in Word format whenever possible. Pictures should be emailed in JPG format at 300 dpi. It is important that a photo is not inserted or embedded within the actual Word article.

Your adherence to these requests is greatly appreciated.

District News ♦ District News ♦ District News

Board Petitions Available

Any qualified LaFayette Central School District resident interested in running for a seat on the Board of Education is reminded that the deadline for filing a petition for the post is Monday, April 20, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. in the District Office. Two 3-year terms will be available. Currently held by Matthew Dodge and Mark Whitney, these terms will expire as of June 30, 2015.

To qualify for membership on the school board, an individual:

- Must be able to read and write.
- Must be a qualified voter of the district, that is a citizen of the United States, at least 18 years of age, or older, and not adjudged to be incompetent.
- Must be and have been a resident (but need not be a taxpayer) of the district for a continuous and uninterrupted period of at least one year immediately before the election.
- May not have been removed from any school district office within the preceding year.
- May not reside with another member of the same school board as a member of the same family.
- May not be a current employee of the school board.
- May not simultaneously hold another incompatible public office.

Nominating petitions are available in the District Office during business hours, upon request. For further information, please contact Sarah Munnell, District Clerk, at either 677-9728 or smunnell@lafayetteschools.org or Tiffany Turner, School Business Official at 677-5504.

FROM THE DESK OF THE SCHOOL BOARD PRESIDENT

Here it is mid-March as I compose this article. It wasn't that long ago I was of the mindset of being in Virginia in a cabin, overlooking a lake, relaxing on a big overstuffed couch next to a fireplace, and just enjoying the view. In actuality, I was still here in LaFayette, enjoying nature, as we survived the coldest February in history, according to the meteorologists. Every day was a continuation of the last, and it seemed there was no end in sight.

I do believe we have turned the corner, as today has the possibility of reaching 50 degrees. Our school and town are coming back to life: The Lacrosse Team is in the parking lot waiting for the field to show itself; the members of our community are walking and enjoying Stafford Park; many of the critters are definitely becoming more active.

The Capital Improvement project is underway, with the first phase beginning in the LGI Room at the high school. As I look in the windows, it seems there is some major movement that leads to excitement, as we see this transformation starting to take shape.

I would like to thank everyone for their perseverance and understanding in surviving the winter, and now as spring is around the corner, we can all enjoy the new season. I look forward to seeing everyone outdoors as the weather keeps warming and things begin to dry up.

Enjoy your spring!

Matthew Dodge, School Board President

Sign Your Child Up to Receive a FREE BOOK EVERY MONTH

Each participating child will receive their free book through the mail until their fifth birthday.

Families may register their children by e-mailing the following information to gaps@lafayetteschools.org

Please include the following:

Child's Name

Birth Date (Month/Day/Year)

Names of Parent(s) / Guardian(s)

Mailing Address and Phone Number



District News ♦ District News ♦ District News

Inspections Conducted

Fire and Insurance inspections were conducted Wednesday, February 18, by OCM BOCES Safety Officer Don War-now, Connie Wallis from NYSIR, and me.

The violations that were discovered were minor and limited to only a few for the entire District. Most violations were corrected at the time of the inspection and others were completed the next week. Also, some of the insurance recommendations have been corrected, while others are still being dealt with. All building principals were notified of the items that need correction.

The required SED forms have been completed, signed, and sent to the State. Should you have any questions regarding this year's fire/Insurance inspection, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Jim Kesler, Director of Facilities

LaFayette Central Schools

(315) 677-7725, Office • (315) 677-3372, Fax
jkesler@lafayetteschools.org

Private and Parochial Transportation

If you will require school bus transportation for your child to a private or parochial school for the 2015-2016 school year, you will need to submit a written request to the District Office no later than April 1, 2015. The school you are considering should have forms for this purpose. The deadline date is set by the State of New York. Requests received after this deadline may be denied.

If you have questions concerning private or parochial transportation, please contact our Transportation Supervisor, Daniel Sawkins, at 677-9700.

Emergency School Closings

During the school year, there may arise an emergency situation when school may close, or be delayed, or dismiss early, i.e., weather emergencies. Please listen to the following stations for school related information:

95X Radio (95 FM)

Y94 FM Radio (94.5FM)

WSTM TV (Channel 3)

WTVH TV (Channel 5)

WSYR TV (Channel 9)

Your News Now: (Time Warner Channel 10)

WSEN Radio (92 FM)

WHEN Radio (6.20 AM)

WSYR Radio (5.70 AM)

Testing Explained: New York State 3-8 Assessments

English Language Arts

Testing Dates: April 14–16, 2015

Make-up Dates: April 17–21, 2015

The 2015 Grades 3–8 Common Core English Language Arts Tests are administered in three sessions on three consecutive days. Students are asked to demonstrate their understanding of reading passages and writing prompts.

For all six grades, the tests consist of multiple-choice and short- (2-credit) and extended- (4-credit) response questions.

(Source: 2015 Common Core English Language Arts Tests Teacher's Directions)

Mathematics

Testing Dates: April 22–24, 2015

Make-up Dates: April 27–29, 2015

The 2015 Grades 3–8 Common Core Mathematics Tests are administered in three sessions on three consecutive days. Students are asked to demonstrate their understanding of mathematical concepts.

For all six grades, the tests consist of multiple-choice and short- (2-credit) and extended- (3-credit) response questions.

(Source: 2015 Common Core Mathematics Tests Teacher's Directions)

Further information can be found on the New York State Education Department's website: www.nysed.gov by clicking the "Assessments" quick link.

School Lunch Menu Notification

Please refer to the LaFayette School website: www.lafayetteschools.org to find out what the menu is for your child's school.

There are changes that are made after the Menu is printed in the school's newsletter, and it was decided that it would be more accurate and up-to-date to post the menus on the website.

If you do not have internet access, please call your child's main office and a menu will be sent home with your child.

♦ Junior/Senior High School News ♦

from the Desk of the **JSHS PRINCIPAL**

The final quarter of the 2014-2015 school year has begun. Most of our students are on track to have a successful and rewarding year. There are also those who continue to struggle academically and are at risk of not passing one or more courses.

Regardless of the category a student is in as we begin the final quarter of this year, it is important to understand how the final grade in full year courses is determined. The report card grade for each quarter, plus the final exam score, are added together, then divided by five. What that means is that 40% of the final grade in a full year course is yet to be determined.

Now is not the time for those whose year has been successful to slow down or go on auto pilot. If they do, with 40% of the final course grade still to be earned, they may find their success is in jeopardy. For those who are at risk of failing, it is critical that they focus on what needs to be done to be successful when the year ends. If they do, with 40% of the final course grade still to be earned, they will reap the rewards of their efforts when the year ends. Continue to support and encourage your children as they finish the 2014-2015 school year.

James Chupaila, Principal

The After Prom Party

The After Prom Party is at Flamingo Bowl at 7239 Oswego Road, Liverpool, NY, immediately following the Prom on Saturday, May 9th. This event is free of charge; money has been raised all year by the After Prom Committee so that your children can have a safe alternative for an after prom event.

All Junior and Senior students from LaFayette JSHS and their dates are invited to attend this event, even if they don't attend Prom. The After Prom Party will run from 11:00 p.m. to 2:30 a.m. Students wishing to attend this function must have their parent fill out a permission form for both themselves and their date. If their date is from another school, they also need to fill out a permission form in order to attend. **They will not be admitted to the After Prom Party without this permission form.** The forms will be sent out to the students in early April. If you are in need of a form and did not receive one, please contact Kim Agedal at agedalk@gmail.com.

Yearbook Needs Pictures

Yearbook is looking for any and ALL pictures taken by YOU of our students: Award ceremonies, athletic competitions and just plain goofing around. Send your pictures to: aflemming@lafayetteschools.org or mnastasi@lafayetteschools.org. Yearbooks are still able to be purchased through Jostens.com for \$60 +sh/h. On Picnic Day, yearbooks will be \$75. Why pay more than you have to? Reserve your copy today!

Seniors and Attendance

Attendance is a critical component of school success. However, after receiving college acceptance letters, many Seniors seem to denigrate the value of on time daily attendance. In addition, there seems to be a growing trend of pre-planned class "skip" days in between athletic seasons, as well as in the weeks before graduation.

Let's be clear: there are **no** sanctioned "Senior Skip Days." We expect all students to be in school, on time every day, attending all scheduled classes. Unauthorized/illegal absences will result in disciplinary consequence. Should a significant number of Seniors – or members of any class – be absent on a given day, failure to provide an acceptable and verifiable medical excuse will result in loss of Senior Privileges and/or In School Suspension.

Our concern is for the safety of our students. On days when large numbers of students are not in school, they will often congregate in a place that is unsupervised. The inherent dangers need not be enumerated. These unsupervised groups are at risk. A party atmosphere often results with drugs and alcohol involved. The consequences can be fatal.

We ask for parental support to help avoid potential tragedies. Please discuss with your child the value of attendance through to graduation, as well as the safety risks associated with "skipping school." We can react after the fact, but parents can be proactive and prevent tragedies. Keeping your child out of harm's way is a home/school partnership.

Another concern at this time of the year is Senior pranks. We do not tolerate them and will prosecute any criminal mischief/trespassing/vandalism. Again, we ask for your support.

SPIRIT SALE!!!!

**The LaFayette Jr./Sr. High School
Student Council
will be having a
Spirit Sale at the end of
March, and into the
beginning of April.**

**Please watch the high school webpage
for more information and order forms.**

**Any questions, please contact
Kelly Kubeja at
kkubeja@lafayetteschools.org
or**

**Tiana Poplawski at
tpoplawski@lafayetteschools.org.**

♦ Junior/Senior High School News ♦

Project Lead the Way Students Visit Syracuse University



Project Lead the Way students meet Otto the Orange at Syracuse University

The Project Lead the Way (PLTW) classes were provided the opportunity to visit Syracuse University's College of Engineering and Computer Science on February 24th. The purpose of the visit was to continue an ongoing theme of teaching the students what engineering is and how to become an engineer. By visiting the college the students had the chance to see what the next step is on the engineering career path and gained an understanding of what engineering looks like on the collegiate level.

Upon arrival, the students toured the campus and learned various facts about college life and traditions. They met up with Otto the Orange in the Student Center, and several students were quick to grab selfies with the beloved mascot!

Students then visited the College of Engineering and Computer Science's lab spaces where they met with students and faculty actively engaged in designs and projects. In the Electrical Engineering department our students met with SU students working on their senior design projects. Our students walked through the lab and talked with the seniors about their projects. They saw evidence of teamwork, independent learning, and problem solving. In the Civil Engineering department our students walked through the concrete lab and observed a full-scale concrete beam that had been tested to the point of failure. In the materials lab several Mechanical Engineering students showed our students how they take their ideas and concepts from the computer to real life with



Students examine a concrete beam that was analyzed and tested by Syracuse University Civil Engineering students.

3-D printing. Finally, in the Aerospace Engineering department, our students had the chance to sit in the college's flight simulator. SU students use the flight simulator to "fly" airplanes that they design.

For those who want to learn more about engineering, Syracuse University's College of Engineering and Computer Science will be hosting an Open House on Saturday, April 18th, for prospective students. The event is free; however, registration is required. Registration can be completed online at <http://ecs.syr.edu/openhouse>.



Seniors in the College of Engineering and Computer Science discuss their project with LaFayette students. The project combines concepts in electrical engineering and computer programming.

SAVE THE DATE 2015 Junior/Senior Prom

When: Saturday, May 9th (6-10 pm) • Where: SKY Armory, Syracuse

QUESTIONS: E-mail pmcelhannon@lafayetteschools.org, or call 677-5506

♦ Junior/Senior High School News ♦

THE AFTER PROM PARTY

11:00 p.m. to 2:30 a.m. • Flamingo Bowl at 7239 Oswego Road, Liverpool, NY

This event is Free • All Junior and Senior students from the LaFayette plus their dates are invited
No admittance without permission form • Contact Kim Agedal at agedalk@gmail.com for more info

GUIDANCE/COUNSELING DEPARTMENT NEWS

UPDATES

All students in Grades 8-11 have completed their schedule for next school year. In May, a list of the classes all students enrolled in will be mailed home for final review. The Junior Class attended the Syracuse National College Fair at OCC on March 12. Prior to the visit, they conducted a college search.

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES

Congratulations to the following students who have been accepted to colleges for the upcoming 2015-2016 school year:

| | |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Zeina Akl | Nazareth College |
| Carl Dickhut | Montana State University |
| | Clarkson University |
| Chase LaCava | Mount Saint Mary College |
| | Nazareth College |
| | Rochester Institute of Technology |
| McKenna Merwin | Le Moyne College |
| Dustin Rosello | SUNY Cortland |
| | Buffalo State |
| Chloe Terrell | Nazareth College |
| | SUNY Geneseo |
| Jade Williams | SUNY Fredonia |
| | Le Moyne College |

COLLEGE AND CAREER FAIR

On February 27, LaFayette Junior Senior High School hosted a College & Career Fair. Grades 9-11 attended five 35-minute blocks and obtained information from the following, both colleges and occupational routes:

Binghamton, Bryant & Stratton, Civil Service, Crouse School of Nursing, Cornell University, Haudenosaune Promise, Keuka College, Le Moyne College, Military, SUNY Morrisville, Nazareth College, NCAA Clearinghouse, Onondaga Community College, SUNY Oswego, Tompkins Cortland Community College, St. John Fisher, St. Josephs School of Nursing, and Syracuse University

Additionally, students chose to hear about the various programs they can take at BOCES during Grades 11 and 12, or they attended a roundtable discussion with TC3, Ithaca College, and Hobart & William Smith Colleges.

On the same day, the 7th and 8th Grade students from both the Jr. Sr. High School and ONS attended five 35-minute career presentations given by professionals in various careers.

Students were able to choose from 19 different presenters, many of whom were LaFayette alumni, parents, and community members:

| | |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| Bruce Bailey | BMX Rider, BMX Business Owner |
| Kevin Connors** | NYS Police officer, K9 Unit |
| Jason Evans** | Architect |
| Alyssa Dzaugis | Software Product Manager |
| Marianne Hunt** | Speech Language Pathologist |
| Tim Kirk | Secret Service |
| Stephen Landon | Chef |
| Kelly McArdell | Engineer |
| Brittany Miller** | Occupational Therapist |
| Victoria Monty** | Lawyer |
| John Mueller** | Forester |
| Renata Rehder** | Veterinarian |
| Kayla Robinson** | Cosmetologist |
| Niko Tamurian | Sports Director/Reporter |
| SUNY Morrisville | Nursing |
| SUNY Upstate | Pharmacist |
| Tom West | Secret Service |
| Paul Welder | Welder |
| Carrie Wojtaszek** | General Manager @ Galaxy Events |



Chef Stephen Landon with his daughter and sous chef, Elsa.

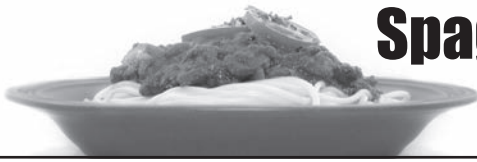


Kayla Robinson styles another student's hair.

If you are interested in presenting to our Junior High students about your career, or know of someone who might like to do so, please contact Kristeen Cool at the Jr. Sr. High School by calling 677-7848, or via email at kcool@lafayetteschools.org.

***Presenters are LaFayette alumni, parents, or community members.*

♦ Junior/Senior High School News ♦



Spaghetti Dinner - Prom Fundraiser

Friday, April 17th at the LaFayette Fire Department (from 4-8 p.m.).
Adults - \$8, Children 12 & under - \$6. Proceeds to benefit the Jr./Sr. Prom

Going Green: More Than Just Lancer Pride



The LaFayette 8th Grade has partnered with SUNY ESF and the Syracuse Center of Excellence this spring to learn some hands-on lessons involving recycling. Olivia Powers, Shomita Bhattacharya, and Orena Wong from the Sustained Materials Management (SMM) Stewardship will be interning with Mr. Amidon over the next few months and will lead the class through a number of lessons surrounding the concept of Sustainability. Lesson One focused on creative uses for recycled items and limiting the flow of trash. In the future, we will build kitchen-counter compost bins and explore other topics such as analyzing the miles food travels before it reaches your plate.

In addition, the SMM group will be initiating a compost program in the Jr./Sr. High School Cafeteria and coordinating student groups to manage the enterprise. We are also looking to run a campus clean-up for Earth Day in April. Finally, students will be asked to create infographics about a particular item they use weekly to analyze the impacts of recycling on landfills and energy usage. We will look to display these in the school and out in the community.



Physical Education Classes Take Advantage of the SNOW!



The Jr./Sr. High School PE classes took full advantage of the snow. We spent one day going over how to put on snowshoes and cross country skis, and the next class we were ready to make our trails though the rolling hills at the high school. Most of our classes had an opportunity to snowshoe, and some of our classes even cross country skied.

It was a great way to explore an activity that can be done outdoors during the winter months.

Another way to get active in the Community is to head down Route 20 to our neighbors in Skaneateles. The Seniors took a morning trip to the Skaneateles YMCA to use their facility for both ice skating and swimming. We received multiple compliments on how polite and well behaved our students were at the YMCA. The off campus trip helps to address the NYS Standard for PE which states that students will be aware of and able to access opportunities available to them within their community to engage in physical activity. It helps to make them more comfortable in trying new things or even going to different facilities on their own.



♦ Junior/Senior High School News ♦



LaFayetteLancers #LCSinnerBeauty 2015
#RealBeautyIs #NativeBeautis



LaFayetteLancers #LCSinnerBeauty 2015
#RealBeautyIs Teen Institute



LaFayetteLancers #LCSinnerBeauty 2015
#RealBeautyIs Being the real you!

Teen Institute Redefines Beauty

The LaFayette Teen Institute is redefining beauty! Staff and students at both the Jr. Sr. High School and the Big Picture School participated in Operation: Natural Beauty on February 26th by coming to school with no makeup. Participants received a ribbon and badge to show their support, and were encouraged to snap their picture with TI's life-sized Instagram frame during lunches, finishing the phrase "#RealBeautyIs..."

Over 80 students enthusiastically signed up to participate, including a surprising number of boys who agreed to show their support for the female participants. More than 20 staff members also agreed to take the risk of showing up at school makeup-free, showing their genuine concern for adolescent self-esteem.

The LaFayette Teen Institute is thankful for such a great turnout, and we're glad so many people agree that our inner beauty doesn't need make up!



| ACT Test Deadline | Registration Date | Late Fee Required |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 4/18/15 | 3/13/15 | 3/27/15 |
| 6/13/15 | 5/8/15 | 5/22/15 |

ACT recommends registering online at: www.actstudent.org/start

| SAT Test Deadline | Registration Date | Late Fee Required |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 3/14/15 | 2/13/15 | 2/27/15-3/3/15 |
| 5/2/15 | 4/6/15 | 4/17-21/15 |
| 6/6/15 | 5/8/15 | 5/22-27/15 |

SAT recommends registering online at: sat.collegeboard.com



The LaFayette After-Prom Party Committee

is holding a
Bottle Drive
at the Dollar General parking lot from
March 16th through April 30th

*Please help support this fundraising project
for the After-Prom Party.*

Thank you for support!

DRIVER'S EDUCATION

2015 Summer Course

LaFayette Jr.-Sr. High School is offering its' Driver's Education summer course again this year.

Class component will be held July 6 - Aug 4, 8-9:30 a.m.

Monday - Thursday. In-car driving will be scheduled weekdays during non-in classroom time as well as possibly Fridays and Saturdays, and may be scheduled through mid-August.

Enroll in the Guidance Office -- Fee \$140

Monday, May 4th through Friday, May 15th.

Priority given first to Seniors, then Juniors, etc.

and then by registration date. Student must 16 years old on or before July 6 to sign up.



Enjoy a short stack for a tall cause.

You're invited to an
Applebee's® Flapjack Fundraiser breakfast to support
LaFayette After Prom Party

Tickets are \$6

75% of the proceeds will be donated to the foundation.

When Sunday, April 26 • 8-10 a.m.
Where: Applebee's Neighborhood Grill & Bar
3189 Erie Blvd., Dewill, NY

If your child is a Junior, he/she will be asked to sell Applebee's Pancake Breakfast tickets to raise money for their After Prom Party. The Junior Class students will also need to work at the Pancake Breakfast from 7:30-10:30 a.m. on Sunday, April 26th, so please mark your calendars and sell your tickets!!! Thank you!

◆ The BIG PICTURE School News ◆

The LaFayette Big Picture School is currently located
at 5940 Feather Drive, LaFayette

Is the Big Picture School right for you?

We believe that students learn best when they are doing something they are passionate about. In the Big Picture School, students are encouraged to explore interests and work on subjects that they are passionate about. One of the basic structures in a Big Picture School is that students will spend two days a week out of the building at an internship site. By Learning Through Internship (LTI), the students will learn math, science, reading, writing, and many more 21st Century skills that they need to be successful. At the LTI, students will learn the skills needed to go on to college and beyond.

Each student in a Big Picture school has an Individual Learning Plan. The Learning Team (the student, parent, mentor, and advisor) work together to create a challenging and exciting plan. These meetings will be held four times a year. Students will work towards the goals that they have set, and four times a year will exhibit his or her work. Each student will have an advisor that knows them well and helps them work toward their Individual Learning Plan goals. Families play an important, perhaps the most important, role in a student's education. From helping the students plan his or her Learning Plan to participating in events, we will rely on parents as an integral part of our community.

Things you should know:

- We have the capacity to have a total of 60 students enrolled.
- Students will graduate with a New York State Regents Diploma.
- We have many more exciting success stories to share with you at our Open House on April 1 and 14.
- You will also have the opportunity to ask questions of our advisors, staff, students, and parents.
- Even if you have a child who is not interested in enrolling, we encourage you to still attend and learn more about our school.
- The Big Picture School will be moving to our newly renovated space at the Junior-Senior High School for September 2015.

If you have additional questions, or cannot attend the Open House, please contact Susan Osborn at 504-1000 or email at sosborn@lafayetteschools.org

OPEN ENROLLMENT

Begins for the 2015-2016 School Year
for the

LaFayette Big Picture School

*Enrollment is open for
15 seats in the 9th Grade.
We may also have additional
open seats for
10th, 11th and 12th Grades.*

We will host an Open House
and Q&A Session on
Wednesday, April 1st, from 6-7:30pm
and
Tuesday, April 14th, from 6-7:30pm

Big Picture College Acceptances:

Dora Schloss-
Witkowski:

Cazenovia College
New Mexico State
University

Mitchel Dadey:

Columbia College
Chicago
University of Main
at Presque Isle
Onondaga
Community College

Mackenzie Cook:

Onondaga
Community College

Zeina Akl:

SUNY Oswego
Keuka College
Buffalo State College
Morrisville State
College
Onondaga
Community College
Nazareth

Congratulations!

◆ Grimshaw School News ◆

PRINCIPAL INPUT

Happy Spring from Grimshaw! As we are welcoming the sunshine back, we are keeping busy!

Grimshaw students celebrated Read Across America Day as special guests came and read their favorite Dr. Seuss books to Pre-K through 3rd Grade classrooms, and also celebrated Dr. Seuss's birthday with 'Cat in the Hat' hats, red shirts, and 'Thing 1 & Thing 2' crafts and snacks! Thank you to all our special readers for sharing the day with the students and celebrating the timelessness of Dr. Seuss and his wacky world of characters!

If you were lucky enough to travel down the yellow-brick road at the high school's Spring Musical, "The Wizard of Oz", you would have seen some 5th and 6th grade students who danced and sang on stage as munchkins, poppies and residents of the Emerald City of Oz! Thank you to Mrs. Flemming, and the High School cast and crew for welcoming Grimshaw into the land of Oz, and congratulations to all involved! It was a production to be proud of, and a lot of fun for everyone in the audience!



Student Artwork at Beaver Lake Nature Center: Initially, Mrs. Reppi was allowed to select more than 5 students to have their artwork shown at Beaver Lake Art show, however when more and more districts starting participating Beaver Lake told her she could only have 5 students. Mrs. Blossey congratulates many students on page 11 of her Principal Input. I need a correction to go on the website stating that ONLY the 5 students names listed on the cover of the newsletter will be at Beaver Lake. The other students who Mrs. Blossey mentioned will not be at Beaver Lake.

So the following students will not have their artwork shown at Beaver Lake: Claire Zehner, Owen Sacks, Carlee Clemens, Daniel Porter, Leon Converse, Jacob Anderton, Dean Wilson, Ben Seemann, McKenzie Loughlin, Amie Shute, Erik Cromley, Raven Dittmann, Charlotte Jones.

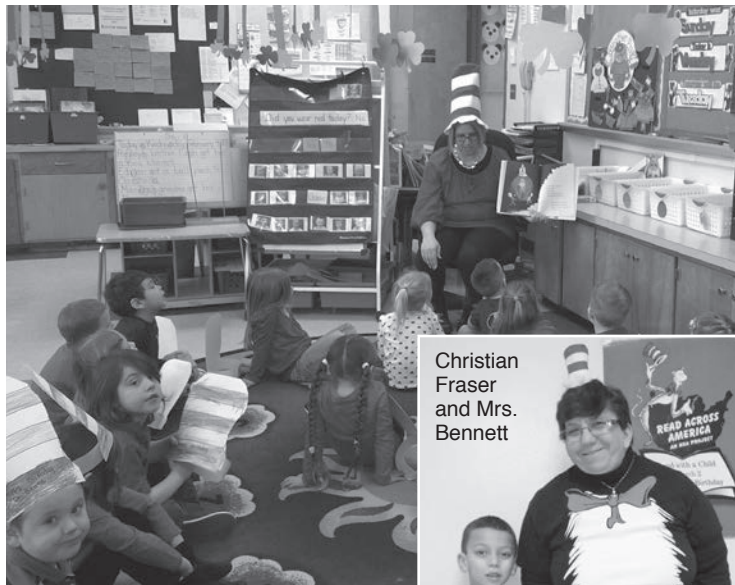
The students' artwork that is not displayed at Beaver Lake is now on display at the District Office. We are proud to have the pictures here. See more at: <http://lafayetteschools.org/teacherpage.cfm?teacher=1401#sthash.B32z-pQp8.dpuf>

As a reminder to all parents, state testing is coming up quickly! Test dates are April 14th-16th for ELA and April 22nd -24th for Math (Grades 3-8). Please make sure your students are well-rested, have a good breakfast, and arrive to school on time. We appreciate all your cooperation in making this a successful testing period!

Jennifer Blossey, Grimshaw Principal

Dr. Seuss Day at Grimshaw

A big thank you to the following guest readers who took the time out of their busy schedules to come and share a story with Grimshaw students: Jen Blossey, Laura Lavine, Kristen Reardon, Terri Fredenburg, Tiffany Turner, Shari Moynihan, Mark Johnson, Kasey McHale, Tiana Poplawski, Jennifer McDonald, Jane Racculia & Louise Stoner.



Mrs. Blossey Reading to Pre-K



Ms. Poplawski reading to Second Grade students

◆ Grimshaw School News ◆

Grimshaw Student Council Cooks Up Smiles



On February 28th, Grimshaw's 6th Grade Student Council members met at The Ronald McDonald House and cooked up some breakfast for families staying there as they visit loved ones in the hospital. Using food generously donated by our friends at Green Hills Farms, the Student Council members (and some family helpers!) served pancakes, bacon, eggs and juice. The smell of the cooking bacon even brought down some families to eat as we were there!

After the meal was cooked, the students got a tour of the facility and got to hang out in the lounge. Thank you to the volunteers for showing great Lancer Pride in the community!

Friendship

Mrs. Amidon's 3rd grade spent time discussing what it means to be a friend. One of the books about friendship was titled, *Enemy Pie*. The story is about a young boy who didn't take the opportunity to get to know another child before saying that he didn't like him. The boy found out that the other child was a great person and they became friends. We made some of our own enemy pie (apple pie) to share with our friends.

Another story was *The Tease Monster*. This story was about teasing, and how we all need to be careful when we are joking around to be sure that we are not hurting another person's feelings. This story led us to learning how to sew.

Our last story was titled, *My Mouth is a Volcano*. This focuses on manners. We learned strategies on how to hold our thoughts until it is our turn, and how it makes a person feel to be talked over. We made paper mache volcanoes, and then wrote about things we can do to be a good friend.



Health Office News

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Spring! I know we're all anxious to get some fresh air, sunshine and warm weather! Hopefully, the fresh air both inside and out will help everyone get healthy again.

In March we had URI's, strep throat, some stomach virus and a virus with a fever and body aches. Please continue to keep your child home when they would clearly be contagious to others (i.e., productive cough, discharge from the nose/eyes, vomiting, rash of unknown origin, fever). A child with a fever should stay home until their temperature returns to normal, without the aid of medication, for 24 hours. Children should also stay home 24 hours after vomiting or being diagnosed with a bacterial infection treated with antibiotics (i.e., strep throat/conjunctivitis). Please notify me directly when your child is absent for any reason (illness, injury, surgery, vacation, etc.). You may leave a voicemail, or send an e-mail if that is more convenient for you or school's not open.

Speaking of fresh air and sunshine, the bees and the pollen will also be here! If your child has asthma/allergies requiring an inhaler or Epipen/Benadryl, please be sure we have the medication at school to care for your child in an emergency. Remember, all medicines require a doctor's note and should be brought in by the parent for safety reasons.

All children in Grades PreK-6 have their vision and hearing checked every year and I will notify you if I have any concerns. If I sent home a vision referral, I would appreciate a follow up report from the doctor when your child is examined. If you have any questions or concerns regarding these screenings, please call me. I will also be screening 5th/6th Grade students for scoliosis (curvature of the spine) during April/May. If your child is being followed for this condition, please send in a copy of their annual check-up.

If your child is one of the few students still needing a required physical this year, please send that paperwork to me as soon as possible. Please keep in mind 6th Graders will need a physical entering 7th Grade. Also, 5th Grade parents please remember to schedule your child's required Tdap vaccine before September, if they've turned 11 by then.

As mentioned last month, Kindergarten Screening will be held May 18th through May 20th here at Grimshaw. Please call the main office to schedule an appointment for your child if you haven't already done so. We look forward to meeting all our new students! Please bring a copy of your child's immunizations to date, as well as any physical done after 1/1/15. If your child has any serious medical issues or will require medication at school, please call me or stop in to see me.

If anyone is doing Spring cleaning, we could use sweatpants at school. Please keep extra clothes for your little one in their lockers/cubbies at all times.

Keep updating any emergency information, and have a great Spring Break! As always, feel free to call me with any questions/concerns, and thanks for your cooperation on all of the above!

Sincerely, Paula Bush, Grimshaw Nurse
677-5501 • 677-3154 (fax) • pbush@lafayetteschools.org

◆ Grimshaw School News ◆

PARADE OF BASKETS

Presented by:

Grimshaw's Reading Department & Student Council
Proceeds will be used to fund materials & activities for Grimshaw Students

Where: **Grimshaw Elementary Cafeteria**

When: **Friday, May 8, 2015 • Time: 4:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.**

Basket drawings @ 7:10 • Need not be present to win!

Cost: **13 tickets for \$10.00 • 6 tickets for \$5.00 • 1 ticket for \$1.00**

We welcome basket donations from your family or business!
Please contact Eliza Bailey (ebailey@lafayetteschools.org)
or Colleen Woodworth (cwoodworth@lafayetteschools.org)
at Grimshaw or call 677-3152 if you can help.

Grimshaw Singers

In February, the Grimshaw Singers performed the National Anthem at the Syracuse Crunch Hockey Game.

The Grimshaw Singers are 5th and 6th Grade Mixed Chorus that meets twice a week after school, and is directed by Ms. Kelly Cook. The students worked hard to prepare and had a blast performing. They took the opportunity to show off their school pride by wearing LaFayette school colors. Great job singers!



◆ Onondaga Nation School News ◆

✽ From the Earth Festival ✽

The From the Earth Arts & Crafts Festival will be held on Saturday, April 18th, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Onondaga Nation School on Route 11A.

There will be over 40 Haudenosaunee Arts & Crafts vendors to include: soapstone carving, paintings, pottery, wood carving, beadwork, silver jewelry, and precious stone jewelry. These are a few of the talents to be shared at the Festival. There will also be lots of good food, traditional and otherwise, as well as entertainment, friends and fun.

“Pi Day” Celebration



The 7th and 8th Grade students at ONS celebrated Pi Day with a variety of fun, math-related activities. First, they learned about the history and uses of Pi. Then, students measured the diameter and circumference of different round foods such as pizza, bagels, pineapple upside-down cake, cookies, and of course, PIE!

Through their calculations, they discovered that the ratio of the circumference to the diameter of any circle is approximately 3.14, or π . Students also made a Pi Chain with a different colored links to represent each digit of Pi, and went on a Pi Scavenger Hunt to find their birthdays, phone numbers, etc., within the digits of Pi. It was a day filled with math fun and Pi!

Spring into Literacy!

In March we hosted a Spring Literacy Night, a series of seasonal family literacy nights organized by the school and town libraries. It was a great success thanks to all those who helped out, including H.S. Juniors Emerson Shenandoah and Hannah Blum. The ONS librarian Teresa Fisher, Grimshaw Librarian Jenn McDonald, United Way's Emily Winiecki, and more, all worked together to host this special event. We couldn't have done this without everyone's participation.



The evening started with dinner, there was story time with Mrs. Fisher, along with several family literacy activity tables for making bookmarks, character puppets and nature journals. Kyra, from the LaFayette Public Library, brought her mobile library to sign up families for library cards and actually sign out books! The United Way gave away free books for families to start their own personal library and Polly Havenridge from the Onondaga Nation Clinic came to share information on Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, which gives children a book a month until the age of 5.

Thank you to all the families that came! We hope you enjoyed your evening. Look for an announcement for the summer literacy activity in the coming months. If you have any questions or comments, feel free to contact your school or public librarian.

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT NEWS



Community News

Heartfelt Thanks!

The Booster Club would like to thank **Kim Agedal** for assisting with the Bottle Drive this year, which brought in a little over one thousand dollars to go toward our Varsity sports teams. We are looking forward to seeing everyone in the spring for our varsity sports dinner, (Date T.B.A.)

The LaFayette Lacrosse Association and the After Prom Party Committee would like to thank the Community for their donations during their Bottle Drives! We appreciate all of your support!

Congratulations to the following Lady Lancers basketball players who were selected to All League Teams:

| | |
|----------------------------|---------------------|
| Morgan Palmer | 1st Team All League |
| Kanahratens (Cierra) Oakes | 2nd Team |
| Ondraya Kunai | Honorable Mention |

Congratulations to the following boys who were selected to All League for Boys' Basketball:

| | |
|------------------|---------------------|
| Chase LaCava | 1st Team All League |
| Ryan Agedal | 2nd Team |
| Brynnner Holland | Honorable Mention |

Congratulations to Chase LaCava who was selected as the OHSL Patriot America Division "Player of the Year". Great job, Chase, we are very proud of you!

Congratulations to the Varsity Boys' Basketball Team and the players who qualified as Scholar Athletes:

Ryan Agedal
Chris MacMackin
Chase LaCava
Jared Palmer
Kevin Fontana
Carl Dickhut
Nick Geswaldo



Chase LaCava



Congratulations to **Chase LaCava, Nick Geswaldo, and Brynnner Holland**, pictured above, with coaches Jerry & Sean Kelly, who played in the Patriot League Exceptional Senior All Star Game.

COMMUNITY COUNCIL NEWS

Community Council Contact Information:

677-7272 • LCC, PO Box 98, LaFayette, NY, 13084

www.townoflafayette.com (departments-community council)

Indoor programs held at Grimshaw, HS or ONS gyms.

Outdoor programs held at any LaFayette town park or Toolon. Both travel to opposing team's towns as well.



Baseball and Lacrosse

Registration ended March 25 for Baseball, Kindergarten-6, and Lacrosse 3-6. Please call immediately to see if you can still get signed up. We need to adhere to the league deadlines, so call now.

Coaches!

Please complete the LCC packet and return by April 15. All coaches, head and assistant, need to fill out the necessary paperwork and obtain certifications.

CPR/AED

One more class is being offered on Saturday, April 25, 9am-1pm at LaFayette Fire House. Call 677-7272 to sign up by April 15. Free for coaches, small fee for community members, if there is room in class.

Cortland Crush Baseball/Softball Camp

Mark your calendars! June 29-July 1, 9am-12pm.

For Grades 3 through 8 --- yes, modified players, too!

This is a great opportunity for our ball players to learn from college team players and coaches. Flyers will go home from school and info will be on website by mid-April. Early bird deadline is June 1.

13th Annual Ultimate Goal Soccer Camp

Dates for this year's camp are July 27-July 31 and August 3-7, mornings at Optimist Park, Concession Fields.

Watch for flyers from school or info will be on website by May 1st.

Swim Lessons

American Red Cross swimming lessons, free of charge for residents, at Cazenovia College pool. Notices will go home from school and info will be on website soon. Strict deadline of May 29.

Lessons are July 6-24, 11:15-noon.

Tennis

Details for our kids' camp and adult lessons are in the works.

Ducks for Sale

The 4th annual Duck Race will be held at Community Day, May 30th. Buy your ducks now! One for \$10, three for \$25. Send in your check, with phone number, (by May 25) to: LCC, Box 98, LaFayette, 13084.

Adult Programs: Times are listed below -- call for pricing:

Yoga - Mon. and Thurs., 6:30-7:45 p.m., Grimshaw

Zumba - Wed., 6:30-7:30 p.m., Grimshaw cafeteria

Tabata based - Thurs., 6:30-7:30 p.m., Grimshaw cafeteria

Daytime/Senior Exercise - Tues./Wed./Thurs., 8:30-9:30 a.m., Community Center

Hall Walking: Is over See you in November!

LaFayette Memorial Day Parade

The LaFayette Memorial Day Parade will be held at 9:00 a.m., Monday, May 25th. Lineup at 8:30 a.m. at the Alliance Church.

Any groups wishing to march or enter a float, please send an email to sholtzma@twcny.rr.com or call the VFW Post @ 677-9282 to confirm.

TOOLON TIGERS Pop Warner Football & Cheer

TOOLON is a youth football & cheer program for children ages 5 to 12 (as of August 1). Our participants learn sportsmanship and other valuable skills in a safe and structured environment centered around team sports.

Registration Dates:

Saturday May 9, 9am-noon at Onondaga Central High School Cafeteria - Early registration discount available!

June 6 & July 11, 9am-noon at the TOOLON field, corner of Rt. 20 & Tully Farms Rd.

****First practice is Saturday, August 1 @ 10am.** First games are Labor Day weekend.

Early registration discounts! Early registration is \$85 per participant ON MAY 9th ONLY.

June 6 & July 11 registration is \$90/participant. After July 11, registration is \$100/ participant.

*We accept cash, check or credit card. You can also register online at www.toolontigers.com.

Bring-a-Buddy Program: Returning players who bring a new friend or family member to the program can earn money back: \$25 for bringing 1 buddy, \$40 for 2! (Money is paid following the first game.)

Fundraising: Registration fees cover half of TOOLON's annual costs, making fundraising an important part of our program. For 2015 we are doing a raffle fundraiser, 1st prize is \$500 cash. Each participant will receive raffle tickets to sell, with prizes for kids who sell the most. Tickets can be picked up at registration, or the first day of practice. The up-front cost is \$40, which you earn back selling the tickets. This is a required activity that benefits all 2015 cheer & football teams!

We are seeking business owners and employers for 2015 sponsorships!

Visit www.toolontigers.com for additional information and forms. Questions? Email toolontigers@gmail.com.

LaFayette Public Library News

Youth services librarian Kyra Nay has an "Imagination Lab" for students Grades K-6 on Wednesday afternoons, from 3:30-4:30. Registration is not required but appreciated, so we know how many to prepare for. This can be done via email to Kyra Nay: knay@onlib.org or via phone: 677-3782. ***This is what is coming up in April:***

April Imagination Lab Events

- 1: Salt Dough Pottery, Pt. 1
- 8: Salt Dough Pottery, Pt. 2
- 15: Slime
- 22: Lego Freeplay
- 29: Egg Drop Challenge

Come and join us!

We have a children's computer that has over 60 educational programs on it. It is very popular and we encourage everyone to come and use it.

Coming up in May is a Human Library event (date to be determined). This event is an opportunity to "check out" a human "book" -- to listen to someone's story. It will be two hours, with 20 minute "reading times". Keep an eye out for more information.

We have also been collaborating with the Big Picture School in running some programs by their students in the library. Coming up next:

Thursday, April 23, 3:30-5: Celebration of Earth Day with some computer activities, a robot display, and more. This is open to Grades 7-12 in the LaFayette School district.

We have an ongoing Teen Book Club that meets at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesdays. For further information, please call the library at 677-3782. Here are some examples of what's being read:

"Fahrenheit 451" - by Ray Bradbury

"Family Romanov" - by Candice Flemming

"Atlantia"- by Allie Condie

Computer training is available for our patrons. This is a one-on-one session by appointment only. Please call 677-3782 and ask for Scott to make arrangements.

**Story time hours: Wednesdays, 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.
Thursdays, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.**

LaFayette CENTRAL SCHOOLS

5955 Route 20, West
LaFayette, NY 13084

Non-Profit Organization
CAR-RT Presort
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LaFayette, NY 13084

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Laura Lavine, 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

Please check your LaFayette Central School District Directory/Calendar for the many activities going on in the month of April, 2015. Particular dates to note are:

Wednesday, April 1

Deadline for Private & Parochial Transportation Requests to District Office by 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday, April 1

Big Picture Open Enrollment Open House Night, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

**Friday, April 3
through**

NO SCHOOL – All Buildings, Spring Recess

Friday, April 10

Thursday, April 9

Board of Education Meeting, JSHS Library, 5:30 p.m.

Monday, April 13

Classes Resume in All Buildings

Monday, April 13

Deadline for the May Greensheet (Newsletter)

Tuesday, April 14

ELA Testing, Grades 3-8

Tuesday, April 14

Big Picture Open Enrollment Open House Night, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, April 15

ELA Testing, Grades 3-8

Thursday, April 16

ELA Testing, Grades 3-8

Friday, April 17

Spaghetti Dinner, LaFayette Fire Department, 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 18

From the Earth Arts & Crafts Festival, Onondaga Nation School
10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday, April 21

Junior High Honor Society Induction, 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, April 22

Math Testing, Grades 3-8

Thursday, April 23

Board of Education Meeting, JSHS Library, 5:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 23

Math Testing, Grades 3-8

Friday, April 24

Math Testing, Grades 3-8

Sunday, April 26

After Prom Party Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser,
Applebee's in DeWitt, 8:00 - 10:00 a.m.

NOTE:

View Grimshaw Students' Winning Artwork at the Beaver Lake Nature Center from April 2 through April 29