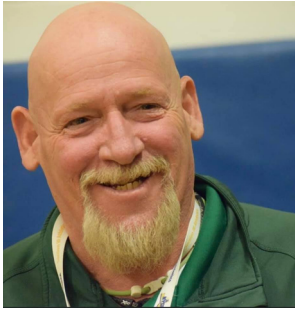


## Legend of Learning

February 2021 – Coach Jerry Kelly



Congratulations to Coach Jerry Kelly, Athletic Coordinator for LaFayette Central School District for being selected as the February 2021 Legend of Learning!

The individual who nominated Coach Kelly shared the following: "Coach Kelly is dedicated to our student athletes both on and off the court. Jerry has been there for

our athletes and coaches during the big wins and the tough loses. Coach Kelly is a dedicated member of our school community who teaches our student athletes that the heart of a champion goes beyond winning. Coach Kelly has dedicated countless hours to fundraising for Coaches vs. Cancer, the Upstate Golisano Children's Hospital, Upstate Cancer Center, and Hope Lodge. Coach has formed lasting relationships with players, coaches, and officials throughout our region. Once you're one of his players, you are always one of his players."

Next time that you are at a local Tully's restaurant, raise a chicken tender in honor of Coach Kelly, Legend of Learning for February 2021. Thank you for your continued commitment to excellence!

You can help recognize LaFayette staff members who:

- ◆ Help to advance the mission and vision of the district
- ◆ Go above and beyond
- ◆ Demonstrate that they put our students first
- ◆ Support student learning
- ◆ Treat students and others with dignity, respect, and compassion
- ◆ Embrace creativity and innovation

Nominate a staff member today through an online survey which is available on our website.



**Rocket Launch:** A picture from Mrs. Angello's High School physics class, which recently saw students design and launch rockets!

## 100 Days at Grimshaw Elem



Congratulations to all our students and staff as we celebrated the 100th day of school on February 24, 2021. Included in this article are pictures of different ways some of the students and classrooms celebrated the big event during this trying time.

As we do annually, we celebrated Dr. Seuss Week at Grimshaw. This is a time to celebrate the joys of reading and to highlight the importance of reading in education. We celebrated the week by wearing our crazy socks, crazy hair day, wackiest outfit, mismatched shoes, wearing fun animal prints, and college or favorite place t-shirts. During the week we had several guest readers share their favorite books with our students, including Superintendent Belfield who stopped by to read to our kindergarten class. We love to support Reading Across America.

At this time and always, Grimshaw wants to thank each and everyone of you for your continued support.



## District News ♦ District News ♦ District News

Message from the  
**SUPERINTENDENT**



**Jeremy Belfield**  
**Superintendent of Schools**  
jbelfield@lafayetteschools.org  
315-529-9550 (cell)

**Dear LaFayette School Community:**

On February 24th, Grimshaw Elementary celebrated its 100th day of school. This is a big milestone even in a typical school year, but this year, especially, we recognize what an achievement it is. Students were greeted with decorated classrooms and music over the announcements to celebrate our 100th day together. We are so proud of the perseverance of our students and staff members as they navigated this challenging year. We continue to explore new ways to connect with all of our learners whether they are in our school buildings or learning from home. One of the most enjoyable aspects of this year is watching our students brave the winter elements to enjoy outdoor winter activities, such as Snow Snake, snowshoeing, and sledding during the school day.

The month of February also welcomed the return of winter athletics. Our student athletes and coaches have adapted to all of the additional safety protocols. We are grateful for the continued partnership with Onondaga County to provide testing resources for our student athletes and the COVID testing clinics hosted in our schools. Surveillance testing helps us to identify both asymptomatic and pre-symptomatic COVID cases so we can prevent the spread of disease. We are also grateful that the COVID vaccine was made available to school staff. At the drafting of this letter, 95 staff members have been fully vaccinated and an additional 41 staff members either have received their first dose or have made an appointment to do so. We can see the direct benefits of the vaccine as hospitalizations and case numbers have begun to decline in our surrounding community.

For our digital learners, the Central New York Regional Information Center has completed a new Wide Area Network bid that will increase back-up internet options and keep our schools connected to our at-home learners. Throughout this pandemic, we have tested the limits of bandwidth and connectivity with so many individuals either working or learning from home. We are grateful that we have the technology, tools, and ability to connect. Also, the district has partnered with T-Mobile, through the Project 10 Million, to provide updated hotspots to at home learners who need access to the internet. Thank you to School Business Manager Cindy Daley, Network Administrator Pat Sandusky, Technology Coordinator Sean Zehner, and our administrators for connecting at home learners with these new hotspots.

As we head into the home stretch of this school year, we are looking to identify and close any academic gaps that may have occurred. Our Jr/Sr High School team will be identifying students who may need to recover course credits and connecting them with credit recovery options. We learned that state and federal assessments will still be given this year and we want to make sure that our students are well prepared so they can showcase their learning. When we receive additional information about the assessments, we will be sure to keep our families informed.

More importantly, we have spent time focusing on what matters most, the overall well-being of our students. We continue to offer school meals, at no cost, to all of our students, whether they are in school or learning from home. Be sure to contact Mr. Rob Kennedy, rkennedy@lafayetteschools.org or 315-956-0371, if students would like school meals delivered. Kudos to our food service staff for providing this service during school breaks. Our counseling staff members have been using new screening tools to identify students who are in need of social, emotional, or mental health supports. These are stressful and challenging times in so many ways, not just for adults, but for our kids as well. If you notice that your child is expressing stress, anxiety, or concern, please do not hesitate to reach out to your child's school counselors. We are here to offer support and we know that we can get through this tough time together.

Finally, the months of March, April, and May are when we finalize our budget for the coming school year. The pandemic has had a negative impact on the economy and school funding proposals for the coming school year. The Rockefeller Foundation recently released a report noting that the full reopening of schools "should be the hallmark of the American return to social and economic health" - <https://www.rockefellerfoundation.org/covid-19-response/reopening-k-12-schools/>. In order to accomplish this work, schools need adequate funding. Be sure to check out our School Budget webpage, which includes a sample letter that you can send to our elected officials to help advocate for adequate funding. Our board of education meetings during the coming months will feature regular updates on our proposed budget leading up to our annual vote held in May. Please be sure to stay tuned and do not hesitate to reach out to me with any questions regarding next year's spending plan. Thank you for cheering on our students and staff as we head into the remaining months of this school year.

◆ **Junior/Senior High School News** ◆

*From the Desk of the*  
**PRINCIPAL**  
 Jason Ryan

We have had some excellent learning opportunities for our students over the past few weeks! Additional extracurricular activities, including sports and the play are happening as well. We are happy we are able to offer these opportunities and excited to see our students involved.

**HS Joins the Unplastify Challenge**

On Thursday, February 25th students from Biology and Earth Science classes participated in a Virtual Kick Off event with Unplastify, an environmental group based in Argentina. This collaboration is possible through Mr. Amidon’s selection for the National Geographic Educator-Explorer Exchange. He was paired with Agustina Besada, a scientist who has sailed the seas to determine the extent of plastic pollution in the most remote spots in the open ocean. She co-founded Unplastify to help people rethink their relationship with plastic, specifically by strategizing ways to eliminate single-use items. These are used for a minute, but last forever.

Ms. Besada shared the story of her adventures as a National Geographic Explorer and the extent of the plastic problem. Her partner, Rocío González, led the students through a workshop to analyze their own use of plastics. Students listed items they use that are disposable and speculated about ways to reduce or eliminate the use of the specific items. Mr. Amidon and Mrs. Harris will guide their classes through the Unplastify Challenge, in which student groups will not only identify a single-use plastic that they use regularly, but also design and present a program that could help the school or community potentially eliminate this plastic from our waste stream.

**Sledding Party**



This year’s senior class enjoyed a sledding party as a kick-off to winter break! The Big Picture School’s “On The Dot Coffee Shop” provided hot chocolate and coffee for students.

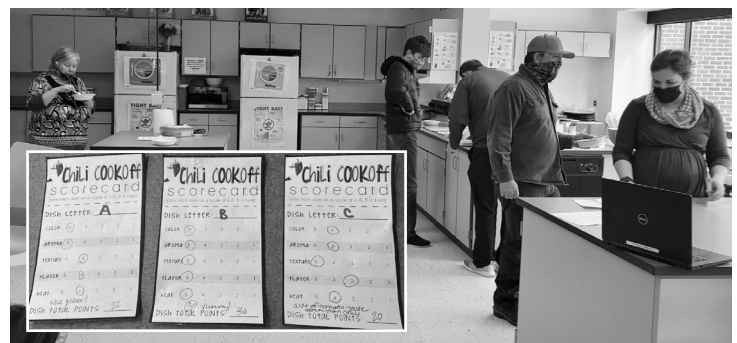


**Among Us**



Recently, Mrs. Robinson’s seventh grade art class played their own version of the popular game “Among Us,” tasking students with identifying the “imposter” in the group who was using a different art technique. In a collaborative effort, the eighth grade art students helped design the game!

**Chili Cook-off**



Recently, Mrs. Charpentier's culinary class held a chili cook-off that was enjoyed by many staff and students. Choosing a winning entry was no easy task!

## High Honor Roll

### Grade 7

Benjamin, Darren  
Borchert, Hudson  
Cooper, Amber  
Evans, Amelia  
Fischer, Katherine  
Gray, Mya  
Greco, Gisele  
Haas, Leah  
Haskins, Kylee  
Hazeltime, Logan  
Humphrey, Iley  
Kendall, Landon  
Olrich, Sophie  
Sawkins, Paityn  
Somerset, Caitlin  
Somerset, Thomas  
Stanton, Sye  
Talbot, Mya

### Grade 8

Borte, Jason  
Casler, Rayna  
Christiana, Asha  
Clemens, Carlee  
Davidson, Caroline  
Dix, Spencer  
Dockstader, Kalina  
Jennings, Alexis  
Kremers, Isabella  
Reed, Kiera  
Tillinghast, Kayla  
Walker, Harlie  
Wells, Paul  
Zehner, Claire

### Grade 9

Baker, Madison  
Collingbourne, Digby  
Dix, Emmett  
Kremers, Payton  
Loughlin, Mackenzie  
McElhannon, Ellie  
Newkirk, Aiden  
Olrich, Kayleigh  
Porter, Daniel  
Ryan, Benjamin  
Shute, Amalie  
Simmons, Madison  
Stivers, Eva

### Grade 10

Farewell, Evan  
McClary, Emily

### Grade 11

Caughey, Grace  
Cooke, Vernon  
Danyew, Gabrielle  
Dix, Jonathan  
Fabend, Tyler  
Griffin, Aidan  
Hart, Jessica  
Haskins, Benjamin  
Herron, Julie  
Magyar, Karina  
Poplawski, John  
Redmore, Carolyn  
Reese, Jenna  
Rudd, Tala  
Thrall, Brianna  
Wells, Sarah  
Zehner, Julia

### Grade 12

Carroll, Lindsay  
Farewell, Kyle  
Farrar, Harlee  
Martorella, Hunter  
Polinsky, Maria  
Ryan, Evelyn  
Shute, Mason  
Wanlass, Luke

## Honor Roll

### Grade 7

Colburn, Ian  
Fisher, Audrey  
Papworth, Hampton  
Summerville, Cayden

### Grade 8

Amidon, Lily  
Casler, Rylee  
Clarke, Kenneth  
Fabend, Kaitlyn  
Homer, Cash  
Ortlieb, Ryan  
Quick, Madison  
Simmons, Owen  
Slishevsky, Gavin

### Grade 9

Breed, Jesse  
Denue, Samuel  
Mott, Aidan  
Ortiz, Layla  
Peios, Luke  
Seemann, Benjamin  
Vossler, Jake  
Warren, Reed  
Willson, Dean

### Grade 10

Benjamin, Chelsea  
Borte, Justine  
Bucktooth, Jameson  
Clarke, Ariel  
Cromley, Erik  
FitzPatrick, Evan  
Ganoë, Rachel  
Jones, Charlotte  
Kostiv, Andrew  
McConnell, Adison  
Papworth, Isabella

### Grade 11

Bergamo, Christopher  
Coon, Paul  
Evans, Amanda  
Heath, Scott  
Papineau, Cianna  
Pollack, Jada  
Porter, Andrew  
Powless, Augustus  
Tummino, Toby

### Grade 12

Benjamin, Brandon  
Dow, Grace  
Rogers, Molly  
Shaffer, Jorja  
Shenandoah, Amelia

# CONGRATULATIONS STUDENTS!

# SOUTHERN HILLS STORM YOUTH FOOTBALL & CHEER

FABIUS-POMPEY \* LAFAYETTE \* TULLY

REGISTER ONLINE NOW AT: [www.storm1stand10.com](http://www.storm1stand10.com)

\*Season begins in August\*



## CHEER FEES:

Grade	Team	Before June 1	June 1 – Nov. 1
K-2 (must turn 5 before 12/1/2021)	Flag Football Cheer	*\$60	*\$75
3-4	C Cheer	*\$60	*\$75
5-7 (cannot turn 13 before 12/1/2021)	B Cheer	*\$60	*\$75



## FOOTBALL FEES:

Grade	Team	Before June 1	June 1 – Nov. 1
K-2 (must turn 5 before 12/1/2021)	Flag Football	*\$30	*\$40
3-4	C Football (Tackle)	*\$90	*\$110
5-6	B Football (Tackle)	*\$90	*\$110

\*Due to circumstances over the past year and their direct relation to strains on fundraising, there will be a \$40 fee added to the registration costs. Registrants are given an opportunity to earn that \$40 back by selling the two raffle tickets given to you (\$20 each). You may sell the tickets and return the stubs or simply fill out the stubs yourself to be entered into the drawing. To all registration fees listed above, there will be a \$40 charge added to it **(the \$40 fee is NOT included in prices shown above)**

- Grades for registration are as of FALL 2021
- Partial payments option available
- For scholarships and all other questions, please call: 315-575-0728

**SOUTHERN HILLS**  
**STORM**



Sponsored by STORM 1<sup>st</sup> and 10 Club

## LaFAYETTE COMMUNITY COUNCIL NEWS

• Web Site: [www.townoflafayette.com](http://www.townoflafayette.com) • Mailing Address: PO Box 98 Lafayette, NY 13078 • 315-677-7272 •

### Youth Programs

#### BASEBALL AND LACROSSE

Registration for the baseball and lacrosse programs will be held Thursdays March 11, 18, and 25, 6-8 p.m., at the LaFayette Community Center.

**Baseball** – includes softball and tee-ball, for children in Pre-K through grade 6 (currently enrolled for the 2020-2021 school year).

**Lacrosse** – for children in Pre-K through grade 6 (currently enrolled for the 2020-2021 school year)

Details, including registration forms, for each respective sport, are available by clicking on the Community Council tab of the Town's website's homepage.

#### COACHES NEEDED

If you are interested and able to help with the basketball, volleyball, wrestling, baseball, or lacrosse programs – AND WE DO NEED YOUR HELP - please contact LCC at 677-7272. We cannot offer these programs without volunteers who are willing to share their expertise as coaches. Thank you.

#### WINTER SPORTS

Last June, the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) published "Interim Guidance for Sports and Recreation During the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency, in which, basketball, wrestling, and volleyball are classified as "higher risk" activities. This guidance was updated in January 2021 and the NYSDOH announced that "higher risk" sports could begin practice and competition. The updated document, in part, states, "Effective February 1, 2021, participants in higher risk sports and recreation activities may partake in individual or distanced group training and organized no/low-contact group training and, further, may partake in other types of play, including competitions and tournaments, only as permitted by the respective local health authorities (i.e., county health departments.)"

At this time, it is likely these "higher risk" sports will be postponed until late spring and summer. LCC continues to evaluate how we can safely conduct these "higher risk" sports, and we need your help to do so. As mentioned previously, we need to repopulate the board and membership. If you are interested and invested in assuring quality programs are available for LaFayette residents, please contact LCC.

### Announcements

#### COMMUNITY COUNCIL BOARD

All LCC Board positions are currently vacant, as of January 1, 2021. Please consider taking on one of these Board positions: President, Vice-president, Treasurer, or Secretary. The recreation clerk will assure the continuity of programs and will be available to new Board members for guidance. If you have any questions about any of these positions, e.g., responsibilities, please call 315-677-7272 and leave a message. In addition to the Board positions, new members are needed to help us to continue current programs and provide ideas and input so that we can expand the array of programs we offer.

### Adult Programs

**Walking** – The recreation path at Stafford Park is maintained throughout the winter and is available, every day, dawn to dusk.

**Senior exercise, yoga and men's basketball remain on hold for the time being.**

#### LCC Contact Information

Information about Community Council programs can be obtained through the following sources:

24/7 on the Town's web site:  
[www.townoflafayette.com](http://www.townoflafayette.com)  
under the "Depts." (Departments) tab

Facebook: LaFayette Community Council

By calling 677-7272 -  
leave a message/ask a question  
and a board member will return your call.  
(Messages are retrieved  
at least twice a week.)

Note: the E-mail and  
Mailing Address are shown at the top  
of this page

## LaFayette Public Library News

2577 US-II, Lafayette, NY 13084 • (315) 677-3782

Please go to our website – [www.lafayettelibrary.org](http://www.lafayettelibrary.org) or our Facebook page for up to date information about any events, closings, etc.

**Not to jump the gun on optimism, but it looks like we may be at turning the corner with this pandemic. With that in mind, we are continuing to keep our doors open (vs. going back to curbside pickup only). However, for the time being, we will continue asking people to make appointments for browsing, pickup and computer use as delineated below:**

**Returning items:** Whether or not you plan on coming in the building, please continue to place all returns in the outside book drop. As things come into the library, they will be quarantined. For now, we will continue with 7 days before they are checked in. As of this writing, we are in discussion with the system to reduce that quarantine time. Whatever the amount of time, the procedure is the same, where when the quarantine period ends, the item check in date will be set back to the day it was actually returned. So you may still see an item out on your record for some time before it is checked in.

**Picking up items:** We continue to have visits at 15 minutes intervals for patrons to come to get items, except instead of curbside pickup, you will schedule a time to come into the library to pick up items and browse. This also includes other services like making copies, faxing, etc. For now, we'll do 3 patrons per 15 minutes to better insure social distancing.

\*Please note: to maintain health protocols during the pandemic, no one will be allowed in the building without face covering. We also ask that you sanitize your hands upon entering the library, with sanitizer we will provide. Thank you for your cooperation in keeping us safe and healthy.

### Pick up and browse schedule (15 intervals)

Monday & Tuesday	10 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday	10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Thursday	12 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
Friday	10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Saturday	10 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Computer Use	in house and wireless

You can schedule a time to use a computer at 1 hour intervals. We have six slots/hour for in house computers and 5 slots/hour (places to sit) for inside laptop use (wireless is still available outside the building 24/7). If no one is waiting for either a computer or laptop spot, your time can be extended.

### One hour intervals:

Monday & Tuesday	10:15 – 5:15	(last slot 5:15-6:15)
Wednesday	10:15 – 3:15	(last slot 3:15-4:15)
Thursday	12:15 – 5:15	(last slot 5:15-6:15)
Friday	10:15 – 3:15	(last slot 3:15-4:15)
Saturday	10:00 – 12:45	(last slot 12:45 -1:45)

**NEW ITEM:** We have recently purchased “Wonderbooks” for the children’s area. They are combination of print and audiobook in one. The audio component is built right into the physical book. You read it like a normal print book with illustrations with your child, or have the book narrated while you follow along. They are shelved with the Easy Readers.

**Don’t have access to the internet at home?** We circulate Chromebooks with a Verizon hotspot. They go out for 3 weeks. You can place holds, but no renewals. You do that by placing a hold on “OCPL tech pack” They must be returned to the lending library and need to be checked in at the circulation desk. It must be verified that all parts are returned before the kit can be returned.

We have renewed our **Empire passes** which allow access to any of the NYS parks, and passes to the Onondaga county parks. For the county passes, please call the facility you plan to visit beforehand to make sure they are accepting the passes at this time (for example, right now the zoo is not accepting the passes for financial reasons). The Empire passes and the Onondaga County park passes can be checked out for a three day loan period, one per family, and no holds or renewals.

We would like to thank you for your ongoing support when using Amazon Smile <https://smile.amazon.com/>, login as you normally would, and choose LaFayette Public Library for your charity of choice. For every \$1000 spent Amazon donates \$5.00 back to the library!

We are putting together craft projects that can be picked up and done at home. Please call the library for more info.

# LaFayette CENTRAL SCHOOLS

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LaFayette, NY 13084

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LaFayette, NY 13084

NYS Income Tax Code: 325

Jeremy Belfield, Title IX Compliance Officer, LaFayette Central School, 5955 Route 20, West, LaFayette, New York 13084  
The LaFayette Central School District does not discriminate on the basis of age, color, creed, national origin, race, sex, or handicapping conditions in its employment practices or educational programs.



Don't forget  
to like us on  
Facebook.



## All Students Eat Free

Why worry about packing a lunch or struggling to feed your student breakfast in the morning? Let LaFayette Food Service take care of it for free!

For the duration of the school year all students, in-person and remote, are able to receive breakfast and lunch at no cost, regardless of household income.

More information can be found on the food service page located on the District website, click the plate setting icon in the top right corner.

This opportunity provides much needed federal dollars to the Food Service program. We only receive those federal dollars if students are coming down to eat!

We also deliver, at no cost of course!

