



LEGEND OF LEARNING, Sarah Munnell

Congratulations to Ms. Sarah Munnell, Accounts Payable at LaFayette Central Schools, who was selected as the February 2022 Legend of Learning!

The staff member who nominated Ms. Munnell shared the following: "Sarah has dedicated her entire career to the students and staff of LaFayette Central School District. In addition to working in all the buildings, she has also spent countless hours volunteering her time. Sarah has always

gone above and beyond, she is the ultimate team player, and very reliable. Her commitment to the district is evident by her coming out of retirement to fill a need at the Grimshaw Elementary School and then eventually at the District Office. Sarah intends to retire at the end of the school year and will be tremendously missed by the school community. We wish her the best of luck going forward."

Sarah - You are truly legendary! 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; and Embrace creativity and innovation. Nominate a staff member today through an online survey which is available on our website.

Register for Spring Sports

Congratulations to our winter athletes on a successful season. Our teams played hard, produced many athletic achievements, and just as importantly, saw success within the classroom. Our girls and boys varsity basketball teams each hosted and won a game in the sectional playoffs. Our three student athletes that represent LaFayette on the Syracuse Cougars hockey team had an outstanding season and came up just short of reaching the Sectional Finals.

If anyone is interested in participating in the sports that are listed on the athletic website you will need to sign up on FamilyID. You can locate the link for FamilyID at the bottom of our athletic website. JV and Varsity sports are scheduled to start on March 21 and modified sports will begin on April 18th.

High School Musical



On March 4th and 5th, the LaFayette Players presented *Freaky Friday: A New Musical*. Cast members began rehearsing in January, and thankfully the weather cooperated and there were not a lot of closings or cancellations of after school activities. Night after night, cast members stayed for rehearsals, even rehearsing over February break. In February, sets were built, and stage crew and pit orchestra joined the cast for musical rehearsals. After working tirelessly for months on songs and script reading, the Drama Club put on a successful performance of *Freaky Friday: A New Musical!!* Thank you to all of the supporters of our program! Congratulations to all involved and good luck to our seniors, Gabrielle Danyew, Tyler Fabend, Scott Heath, Jennifer Post, Carolyn Redmore and Sarah Wells. See more photos on page 5.



◆ LaFayette District News ◆



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

March is an exciting time as we celebrate Music in Our Schools month. The famous author Henry Wadsworth Longfellow once said, "Music is the universal language of mankind". We look forward to sharing the love of music during this month with our students and school community. I hope everyone enjoyed the Jr/Sr High School musical, "Freaky Friday". It was great to have a packed house to cheer on our student performers. Our music teachers, Ms. Snyder at Grimshaw and Ms. Cook at ONS, are playing name that tune with our students during the morning announcements.

On Wednesday March 2nd, the statewide mask mandate was lifted, and face masks are now optional for students and staff. We are in the process of updating our reopening plan based on recently released guidance. Currently, the only individuals that are required to wear a face mask are those who attend school during the "soft quarantine" period which occurs on days 6-10 after symptom onset or days 6-10 after the date of a positive test. I spoke with both masked and unmasked students and staff members on March 2nd. Many were pleased that masks are no longer required, others made the choice to continue to wear a mask. Reasons for continuing to wear a mask included the added protection for immunocompromised family members, the addition of a new baby in the family, or to provide an added layer of protection for themselves. Our unmasked students and staff expressed that they wanted to see faces again and that they felt that it was safe to take off the mask. We look forward to continuing an environment that is supportive of either choice. At the Onondaga Nation School, we will work with Onondaga Nation leaders to follow the safety protocols requested by Council. COVID has had a significant impact on our lives during the past two years and we welcome any step towards returning to normalcy in our schools.

During the month of March, we will continue to finalize our school district budget for 2022-2023. Our proposed spending plan will continue to support all our current programs and opportunities for students. We are also expanding school social worker services at Grimshaw Elementary as we plan to add a school social worker for the upcoming school year. Be sure to check out our school budget webpage on our website to stay up to date on our proposed spending plan.

Thank you again for your continued support of our students and staff members! We look forward to seeing you at our school events this spring.

Board of Education Elections

On May 17th, LaFayette Central School District voters will choose two district residents to serve on the Board of Education.

Candidates may be nominated only by petition and must collect at least 25 signatures from qualified school district voters to be placed on the ballot. Petitions, which are available now, must be filed by 4:00 p.m. April 18th with the District Clerk, LaFayette Central School District Office, 5955 US Route 20, LaFayette, NY 13084. Contact District Clerk Paula Hibbert at 315-677-9728 or by email phibbert@lafayetteschools.org for a nominating petition.

Comprised of seven school district residents elected by voters, the LaFayette Board of Education is the official policy-making body of the school district and is responsible for carrying out the laws and regulations pertaining to the education of children living within the district. The board adopts district policy, curriculum, programs of study, and approves the hiring of all personnel, as well as establishing the conditions of employment. The board is also responsible for maintaining district facilities, establishing an annual budget and setting a tax levy.

Two terms of office will expire on June 30, 2022. In May, two candidates will be elected for three-year terms (July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2025). Board members are not financially compensated.

Individuals who are interested in learning more about serving on the board are invited to schedule an appointment with LaFayette CSD Superintendent Jeremy Belfield at jbelfield@lafayetteschools.org or 315-677-9728.

◆ LaFayette District News ◆

Mrs. Oliver Receives 2022 Unsung Hero Award



Mrs. Oliver, founder and director of the LaFayette After School Program (LASP), received one of Syracuse University's 2022 Unsung Hero Awards, which is given in honor of Martin Luther King's positive vision and hope for the world. LASP began as a small program in community centers and churches. Mrs. Oliver has provided childcare to the Onondaga County community

for over 35 years and currently operates a full wrap-around program that offers preschool, afterschool and summer programs at C. Grant Grimshaw Elementary. Early childcare is a uniquely vulnerable and valuable time in learning and development. The wrap-around program gives the children and families in LaFayette and the Onondaga Nation access to high quality childcare that lays the foundation for healthy development.

A passion for childcare came from her mother, who also worked with children. Prior to childcare Mrs. Oliver worked with computers and ran a small farm with her husband. She could not have guessed that childcare would be her destiny. She saw the need, spoke to neighbors, received the community's support and was housed in a church. There she started her journey providing childcare.

Over the past two years, during the pandemic, Mrs. Oliver dedicatedly continued to provide invaluable services to families and worked where needed to make sure all

programs were continuously available. She gives credit to the school for being supportive of her decision and helping her remain open. The school gave her the space, rules and resources she needs to be successful. During the pandemic she also organized a professional development opportunity for the District where participants enhance their skills in recognizing stress in young children and learn supportive strategies to address the increased mental health magnified by COVID 19.

Mrs. Oliver has also worked with the children under her care to make sure their voices are heard. In the spirit of listening to and learning from others, she organized a group of children to attend the After-School Advocacy Day in Albany, New York, charting a course of action. Oliver lifted the voices of the children, creating an opportunity for them to develop self-advocacy skills and express their needs in the state capital. As a result, the LaFayette Central School District received a grant to support five years of after school programming. Mrs. Oliver is involved in numerous community organizations. She has worked with Citizens United Revitalizing Neighborhoods and Light a Candle for Literacy in Syracuse. Children from both Syracuse and LaFayette came together to understand how we live together while valuing diverse living environments.

Mrs. Oliver plans on retiring after this year. Congratulations Mrs. Oliver on your retirement and receiving the 2022 Unsung Hero Award in the honor of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The district recognized Mrs. Oliver at the February's Board of Education meeting and received a wave of responses on LaFayette Facebook.

BIG

PICTURE
LEARNING

OPEN HOUSE

PARENTS AND STUDENTS
ARE INVITED

VISIT WITH LAFAYETTE
BIG PICTURE STAFF

LEARN ABOUT US

BIG PICTURE STAFF WILL
BE AVAILABLE TO ANSWER
ANY QUESTIONS YOU HAVE
AND SHARE ABOUT OUR
SCHOOL!

WEDNESDAY

MAY 25

6:00-7:30PM

YOU WILL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO TOUR THE SCHOOL,
ASK QUESTIONS ABOUT BIG PICTURE LEARNING,
LEARN ABOUT INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES,
LEARN ABOUT INDIVIDUAL PROJECT WORK,
AND UNDERSTAND HOW WE MEET GRADUATION
REQUIREMENTS.

TRANSPORTATION NEWS

Private Transportation Requests Due April 1

New York State Education Law Section 3635(2) requires that a written request be made to the Board of Education of a School District when transportation of a student to a non-public, private or parochial school is required. This written request must be made annually and be received by the school district no later than April 1st for transportation for the next school year. Most non-public schools have a form available to make this request and can be contacted for assistance. Please have these written requests sent to Attn: Paula Hibbert, LaFayette Central School District Office, 5955 US Route 20, LaFayette, New York 13084 no later than April 1, 2022.

◆ **LaFayette District News** ◆

THE CROSSROADS CUP Lancer Stix It to Cancer Event

Lacrosse Players from the Boys and Girls Lacrosse Team at LaFayette and Tully High School are teaming up to fight cancer. The two lacrosse teams will be competing for the Winning Trophy. As rivals they meet on the field raising money to battle cancer.

Saturday MAY 14 • GIRLS Play 11 am • BOYS Play 1 pm

All monies raised from their year's fund raiser will go to Upstate Golisano Children's Hospital/Upstate Cancer Center.

We are selling these PRE-SALE only, details below. Deadline April 8, 2022

	Youth Sizes			Adult Sizes					
	Small	Medium	Large	Small	Medium	Large	XL	2XL. *add \$3	3XL *add \$4
Sport Tek Moisture Wicking Long Sleeve - \$20.00									
Sport Tek Moisture Wicking Short Sleeve - \$15.00									
Port & Company Core Cotton Tee Long Sleeve - \$20.00									
Port & Company Core Cotton Tee Short Sleeve - \$15.00									

Total Number of Shirts Ordered:	
Total Amount Enclosed or Venmo: LaFayetteAthletic-BoosterClub	
Name /Phone Number:	



venmo

Make Checks Payable to LaFayette Athletic Booster Club: in memo Kickin Cancer
Please return the form via email LaFayetteABC1@gmail.com, text picture to 315-415-7932, Venmo order and money, or hand to any booster club member. You can also mail it to PO Box 294, LaFayette, NY 13084. As soon as shirts are available, we will be in contact, they will also be available for pick up the day of the event.



◆ LaFayette District News ◆

TOGETHER WE ARE STRONGER
THEIR FIGHT... IS OUR FIGHT



The LaFayette Athletic Booster Club
cordially invites you to the

CROSSROADS CUP

Please join us for our **Stix It to Cancer**
event at LaFayette High School on

SAT. MAY 14, 2022

We will be hosting a full day of
athletic events. There will be concessions,
50/50 raffles, music, food and fun!

We expect a big crowd, and we are always
in need of volunteers. If you would like
to lend a hand please reach out to one
of the officers as soon as possible. Any
questions call/text 315-415-7932 or email
LaFayetteABC1@gmail.com

GAME TIMES:

- Varsity Baseball Double Header
begins at 11am versus Mater Dei
- Varsity Girls Lacrosse 11am
versus Tully
- Varsity Boys Lacrosse 1pm
versus Tully

For more information regarding the day la-
crosse games and/or to pre-order T-shirts
visit our Facebook page or (← T-shirt
order form, previous page)

All monies raised from their year's fund
raiser will go to:

 **UPSTATE**
Golisano Children's Hospital
UPSTATE
CANCER CENTER

Freaky Friday: A New Musical

March 4-5, 2022



◆ *LaFayette Community News* ◆

2022 SOUTHERN HILLS STORM YOUTH FOOTBALL & CHEER

FABIUS-POMPEY • LAFAYETTE • TULLY

REGISTER ONLINE NOW AT: www.storm1stand10.com

Season begins in August

CHEER FEES:

Grade	Team	Before June 1	June 1 – Nov. 1
K-2 (must turn 5 before 12/1/2022)	Flag Football Cheer	*\$70	*\$85
3-4	C Cheer	*\$70	*\$85
5-6	B Cheer	*\$70	*\$85
7-8 (cannot turn 15 prior to 12/1/2022)	A Cheer	*\$70	*\$85

FOOTBALL FEES:

Grade	Team	Before June 1	June 1 – Nov. 1
K-2 (must turn 5 before 12/1/2022)	Flag Football	*\$30	*\$40
3-4	C Football (Tackle)	*\$90	*\$110
5-6 (cannot turn 13 before 12/1/2022)	B Football (Tackle)	*\$90	*\$110

*There will be a \$40 fee added to the registration costs listed above. 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 for entry in the drawing, or simply elect to enter yourself into the drawing.

The \$40 fee for your raffle tickets is NOT included in prices shown above.

- Grades for registration are as of **FALL 2022**
- Partial payments option available
- For scholarships and all other questions, please call: 315-575-0728



Sponsored by STORM 1st and 10 Club

◆ LaFayette Community News ◆

LaFAYETTE COMMUNITY COUNCIL NEWS

• Web Site: www.townoflafayette.com • Mailing Address: PO Box 98 Lafayette, NY 13078 • 315-677-7272 •

Youth Sports

Wrestling: The wrestling team will finish the season with a league championship tournament on March 5.

Volleyball: We have a large amount of participates for girls and boys volleyball. Grades 3/4 on Wednesdays and grades 5/6 on Fridays.

Basketball: Youth girls and boys basketball is in session with many players. Grades 2/3 are on Tuesdays. Grades 4-6 are on Thursdays.

Upcoming Youth Sports

Baseball and Lacrosse: Registration for baseball and lacrosse programs will be in March.

Registration information for the programs will be provided through the LaFayette School District messaging system, Facebook and the Town of LaFayette web site. We will be utilizing SportsEngine (www.sportsengine.com) for spring sports registrations.

Coaches are needed: As spring approaches, LCC is in the process of planning the baseball and lacrosse seasons. Coaches are needed at all levels. If you are interested and able to help with the youth sports programs, please contact LCC at 315-677-7272 or email lafayettecommunitycouncil@cnymail.com.

Community Council Board Meetings

Meetings are held monthly. All are welcome and encouraged to attend as we need your help and input. We cannot provide our programs without your help.

Updates on all LCC programs can be found on the Town's web site under the "Community Council" tab. Information is also posted on LCC's Facebook page and the Town's social media outlets (Twitter, Facebook).

LCC Contact Information

Contact: Call 315-677-7272 - leave a message/ask a question and a board member will return your call. (Messages are retrieved at least twice a week.)
E-mail: lafayettecommunitycouncil@cnymail.com
24/7 on the Town's web site: www.townoflafayette.com under the "Depts." (Departments) tab

LaFayette CENTRAL SCHOOLS

5955 Route 20
LaFayette, NY 13084

Non-Profit Organization
CAR-RT Presort
US Postage Paid
PERMIT NO. 3
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.

March

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

- 4-5 JSHS Musical 7:00pm
- 16 BOE Meeting 5:30pm
- 21 No School
Professional Development Day
- 30 BOE Meeting 5:30pm

Don't forget
to like us on
Facebook.



*Freaky Friday:
A New Musical*