

# LaFayette Big Picture TGIF

2021

MARCH 19

## We are PRESENT, POSITIVE and PASSIONATE!



I absolutely love getting to work along side students rather than participating in meetings! While this week had it's fair share of meetings, I was able to spend time with students helping them apply for Early College classes at OCC. I enjoyed these meetings so much. We were able to talk about what the students were interested in pursuing at college, what questions they had about college classes, majors, prerequisites and commitment. Our students were excited and a bit nervous about taking this next step. For this, I am grateful. The next step can be made with the support of our Big Picture team surrounding them. I am excited.

Going back to Monday's Superintendent's Conference Day, the Big Picture staff spent the entire day working together. We continued to learn from Dr. Daryl Tonemah as he reinforced the need for adult selfcare, connections and relationships. Big Picture staff then examined how we can create a culture of healthy feedback with each other and how we can share our work with our students. We spent some time being vulnerable and sharing our feelings of anxiety, stress and fear during corona. We ended the day with examining our learning plans and a piece of student work. We used the student work to help us get a clearer picture of our evaluation process and how we help students plan. It was a very busy day, but we were able to get so much accomplished. Now we need to put everything into practice.



## TGIF from Walt

Most of my time this week was spent working with 101s on projects. This is the point of the year where time tends to fly by, so we are now in full project mode trying to make sure we can get everything done in time. Overall things were chaotic, and I was often helping 2-3 students with completely different projects at the same time. However, we got a lot of work done, and I am hoping that next week we can make some good progress before break. This week's highlights:

The advisory has been harvesting sap from the maple trees behind the school and boiling it down into syrup for the past couple weeks. We ended up tapping 5 trees and had harvested about 30 gallons of sap. This ended up yielding a little over a pint and a half of maple syrup. It has been a fun project, and the students learned much about the amount of work that goes into maple syrups production. I think it was very successful, and next year we may even expand the operation. Next week we are planning on making pancakes as an advisory in order to enjoy the fruit of our labors.



Part of Lucas' project is learning how to make traditional ramen. This is a very complicated dish which has many variations. For his project, I chose three specific types of ramen which he will create, each one being progressively more difficult. This week I showed him how to make a quick introductory version to introduce him to the concept of ramen. It relied on premade stock powders and premade noodles, but added additional fresh ingredients. Next week we'll be making the stock and noodles from scratch so that he can see the difference between fresh and processed.



On Fridays I have been teaching the seniors basic cooking skills, and this week we made French bread pizzas. I have been focusing on dishes that require few ingredients, limited equipment and only basic skills to complete. Overall the students had a great time, and the French bread pizza came out great.



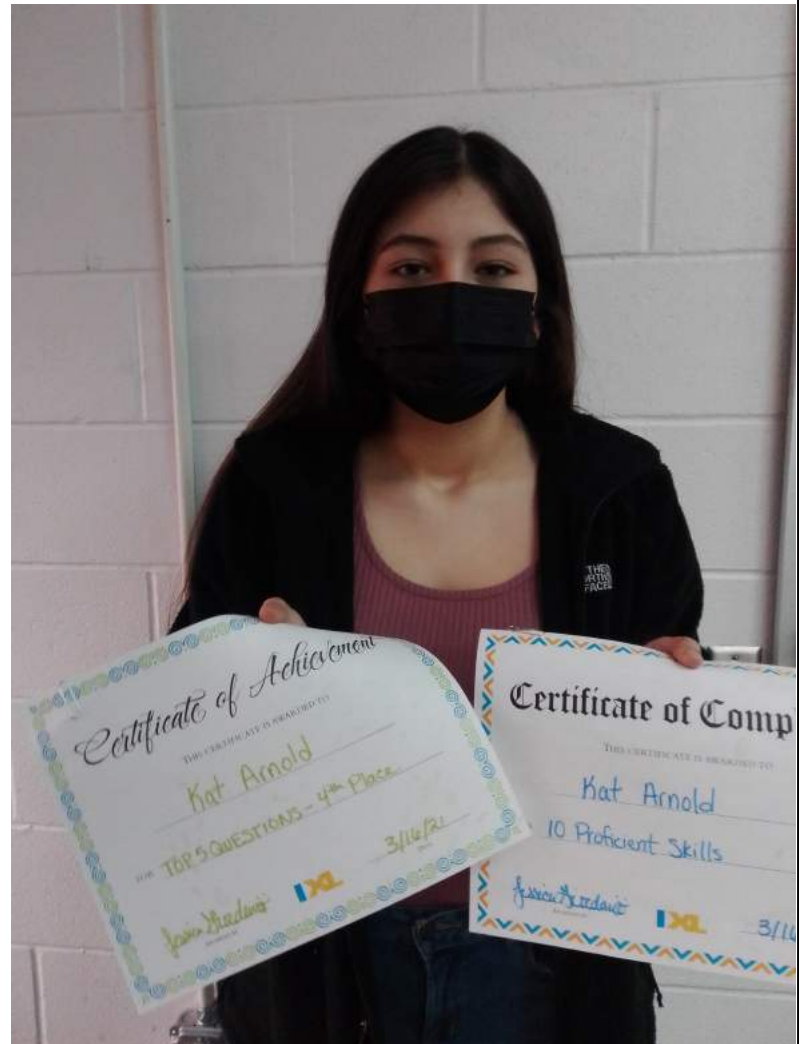
Bruce has been learning about the different parts of engines, and this week he completely disassembled one. We are now hoping to create a display for this and are planning on turning it into an educational model that I can use in the future to teach small engine repair.





## TGIF from Jessica

We celebrated IXL achievements this week! Students photoed are ones who have achieved and received a certificate this year so far. However, this week's students who have answered the most questions are Ronnie (1st place), Haivan (2nd place), Steven (3rd place), Kat (4th place), and Ricky (5th place). They have all put a substantial amount of time and effort into IXL over the past two weeks. There were five students this time around who achieved their first set of 10 proficient skills (score of 80 or better), they were Kat, Haivan, Steven, Julien, and Liz! Four students, Bruce, Lucas, Stone, and Emily, achieved their second set of 10 proficient skills for a total of 20 skills! Cody and Ronnie reached 30 proficient skills and Jacoby pressed onward to achieve 40 proficient skills! You will notice several 101s names on the list this week because, not only are they working on IXL in advisory, but they have been very successful the last two weeks in Algebra class and sometimes completing two lessons in one class period. Only two students exhibited exemplar effort in going for the gold of 100 (mastery) in 10 different skills over the past two weeks. Shout out to Liz and Cody who have worked hard to reach mastery in 10 skills! Keep up the great work BP!



## TGIF from April

This week was full of various activities, and next week will be just as full! Students continue improving their skills in IXL math. They began digging deep into their learning plan rigor and are reaching ever closer to Gateway as they work on their personal Gateway Narrative. My USH students continued to present their Supreme Court Case projects. I am really impressed with the creative products that students made to represent the cases. TLO v NJ had Kat creating the contents of TLO's purse out of clay. Jacoby made a cool wood burning 3 D-ish piece representing Texas V Johnson, Steven made a Kahoot for Roe V Wade, Griffin made a board game for his case US v Nixon, and Dayton made a black arm band representing Tinker V Des Moines. On Thursday evening I attended a virtual professional development seminar on Free Speech, Social Media and Tech policy. It was very intriguing and fit nicely with our USH unit.

Bug continues to work with her mentor Melanie on plant growth and soil analysis. This week they spent some time beginning the seed germination process. Melanie has also been working with Jordyn on her LTI project weekly. The academic

rigor Melanie is bringing to the 201 advisory is wonderful.

Coleby has had some wonderful shadow day experiences of late. A couple weeks ago he went to



Ingles Performance, a shop that specializes in snowmobile work. It was a great experience for him. This Thursday he was able to attend another shadow day at K & H Motorsports in Little York. What a fascinating company! We met with Jeff and then Shawn and Coleby really enjoyed his day there. I enjoyed learning about the history of the shop and the evolution of their sales and inventory. The building used to be an old creamery sitting right along the railroad tracks, and was transformed into an auto shop as Route 81 was being built. Jeff was an awesome host and was happy to have

hosted Coleby due to his personal experience with hands-on and real world learning. I am excited for the diversity of enrichment opportunities Coleby will have in his area of interest. Internships are such an integral part of Big Picture education, and COVID has hindered this very important component to our school. If Coleby is fortunate enough to be offered an internship at K & H, we will all be excited about it!

Leighan and Phoenix continue to do exceedingly well with their culinary internship program. Faith is doing a great job interning in Mrs. Mclary's kindergarten class. Jacob has helped Lizzy as she continued her STP work on the greenhouse. Colby F. is really enjoying his internship in welding under the tutelage of Walt and 301 student Evan. I also showed Colby how he could trace an image using a window for his AE piece. He was really impressed with how easy it was to do lol! Olivia is so busy we rarely see her in advisory these days- her work in the coffee





shop and her OCC college course are keeping her extremely busy. Ricky continues to work virtually with his mentor James, a professor from SUNY Morrisville, on computer technology. And as always we cherish Carol DiSalvo and her work with all our students, for our advisory that is Julien. Julien has been working with Josh on a display outside our BP doors that involves photography and mirrors. It is pretty cool! Although not quite internships- Elijah has been working closely with Alice, an intern from SU, and Lexi is working on her LTI project with her grandma and Step Mom Diana. I am super excited to see Lexi's finished products!



So, as you can see although our internships may not be 'traditional' we are still thrilled with the work the 201 students have been exposed to throughout the pandemic due to the gracious time, efforts and experience of others. So please don't hesitate to give BP a call if you have any time or talents to offer. We would love to have you, and our students will appreciate learning from you so very much!

## TGIF from Greg

This week the 301s had multiple experiences. Kyler and Aiden did a leaving to learn at Ambitions Shoes. They were taught how to start a company in an area where you can be successful. Austin is learning job application and interview strategies. He has been speaking with Crystal, our Social Worker, to explore the different career paths and college courses needed. He will present his findings at his exhibition. Caitlyn is using photography to explain various folklore and storytelling. Carson is using his culinary internship to show the use of healthy foods and the effects different foods can have on the body. Claire is working hard on the robotics competition. Devyn is moving away from the culinary field for this exhibition and looking into the mechanic vocationn. He is researching engine types and will be interviewing an auto mechanic to see what the career entails. Gabe, Kyler and Aiden have laid the foundation for their half pipe and are getting ready to prepare the side walls. Griffin is

going to use his entrepreneurial skill to open the coffee shop to the juniors in the high school, in addition to the senior class they are already serving. He met with Mr. Ryan for approval and plans to have this part up and running shortly. Secorrah had been flourishing in her new internship with Carol DiSalvo Photography. She has been learning to use Lightroom to edit and adjust photos she's taken, and plans to demonstrate these new skills in her exhibition. Adam and Evan have begun working with the Central New York Food Bank to set up community wide donations through our advisory. They will begin making posters for the school next week and should be ready to take donations. Griffin, Secorrah, Josh, Caitlyn, Adam, Gabe, and Carson have been making plans to attend OCC during the fall semester and have been busy looking at curriculums, career paths and classes they may be interested in in the future. Next week the 301s will make a big push to complete writing their learning plans before spring break.

# *YOU ARE VIRTUALLY IRREPLACEABLE*

## **MENTOR A STUDENT**

### **VIRTUAL MENTORING**

In normal times, students at LaFayette Big Picture are out of school at internship sites for two days each week.

Because of COVID-19 restrictions, our students have less of an opportunity to be in the community learning from professionals.

### **HOW CAN YOU HELP?**

#### **1. MENTOR PRESENTATIONS**

A mentor presents their work and career, the skills and dispositions that help them in their job, their journey, and advice to the students who share similar interest.

#### **2. INFORMATIONAL INTERVIEW**

Professionals meet with a student or students seeking information on their career, the industry, and the corporate culture of a potential future workplace.

#### **3. DISTANCE INTERNSHIP**

Mentors meet with students on set dates and times to complete work and develop a project that is beneficial to the site.

#### **4. MENTOR SUPPORTED PROJECT**

Mentor provides industry expertise and guidance for students to develop a project with real work learning connection.



**USE YOUR POWER.....BE A MENTOR**  
**CALL THE LAFAYETTE BIG PICTURE SCHOOL: 315-504-1000**