

LaFayette Big Picture TGIF

2020

NOVEMBER 20

We are PRESENT, POSITIVE and PASSIONATE!



TGIF from Lenny

Since our last TGIF much of our focus has been to complete various projects, units and initiatives ahead of exhibitions and Thanksgiving break. We had varying levels of success in the shop and in science workshops. However, most obstacles were beyond our control and the student initiatives have been strong. Here's a closer look.

A couple weeks ago we had great weather on a Tuesday so we employed students from all advisories to wrap up some projects out doors. Phoenix and Bug organized the small shed, helped clean out the greenhouse then joined Austin and I to do the last garlic planting. Meanwhile, Lizzy, Jacob and Elijah worked on securing the loose greenhouse panels. Elijah had to fabricate an aluminum bracket to fix the door and consequently learned a bit about metalworking.

In the shop, Jacoby continued his exploration of welding while Ronnie and Lucas finished up their wood working projects. Daryl also worked in the shop to take a significant step in his STP. Daryl plans to build and donate beds to a local

charity this year. His first objective was to complete one bed so he could determine the material cost and time required. With an image of the bedframe he wanted to build, Daryl constructed a frame in just a few hours. His analysis of the process will guide his efforts to scale up this project. Great job Daryl.

In Living Environment we completed all six parts of the Relationships and Biodiversity Lab and have only the analysis left. In ER 1 we continued our group projects on aspects of celestial bodies and in ER 3 we completed the construction of our bridges. We used our virtual instruction day to explore the density of different materials to inform future design plans. Next week we will put the bridges to the test to evaluate the performance and efficiency of our designs.

There are many exciting projects on the horizon and students are the driving force behind them, as it should be. I am thankful that we can continue to teach, facilitate and learn in person. Each day is a gift. I hope that you find many things to be thankful for. Happy Thanksgiving.

NATIVE AMERICAN ART SHOW

Submit work to either:

Big Picture

ONS & Jr/Sr High Art Teacher

Shawna Booth

Complete the submission form at:

<https://forms.gle/p5S3fHdGQ3WeXZks7>

Submissions must be in by February 23rd

looking for Native American Artist's

All Ages

All Medium

TGIF from Walt

This was a very, very busy week and I am definitely looking forward to the upcoming break. We had exhibitions, and I was very impressed with what the 101s presented. As far as 101 exhibitions go, this was definitely my best round to date. Each student had completed projects to show, the majority went through multiple drafts and many practiced the exhibition before presenting. I am very happy with the work our 101s completed, and I am looking forward to starting next learning plans next week.

Exhibition Highlights:

A number of my 101 students presented projects that Lenny had helped them create in the workshop. Ronnie created a wooden bokken training sword, Lucas created a functional model of a ballista, and Bruce created a wooden RC car. All of these projects came out very nicely, and each student talked about all the new shop skills Lenny taught them in the shop.

Jacoby interned with Evan from the 301 advisory this trimester to learn more about welding. Evan had interned with a welder last year, and is currently taking the welding course at BOCES. Because of the virus, it has been difficult to find internship locations. Thankfully Evan took on this role and was able to teach Jacoby the basics. He not only helped Jacoby create products to show at his exhibition, but

Evan also went over Jacoby's slideshow and gave him edits to do. This allowed Jacoby to have a really good exhibition.



Dayton, Stone and Emily's exhibitions were centered around art. Dayton learned about oil painting, and for his exhibition he gave a live demonstration to show all the techniques he learned. I was very impressed with this display, and he did a great job presenting. Emily was interested in anime/manga art, and at her exhibition she showed off some original artwork she made to demonstrate what she learned about proportions and scales in art. Stone pursued music, creative writing, drawing and painting this trimester, because he wanted to explore multiple creative outlets. At his exhibition he showed off all of the products he made.

Charlie has been interning at the On The Dot coffee shop this trimester, and her learning plan was based around creating products that we are allowed to sell to students in the highschool. We are planning to begin in December, and that's to her efforts, we are in a position where that will become a reality. At her exhibition she also treated everyone to a sampling of the drinks she created, and it went over very well.



TGIF from Jessica

Senior Thesis Projects (STPs) are underway. During exhibition week all 401s reported on their STP progress and the steps they have taken towards their graduation requirements. In Health, the students have completed 3 online units and a presentation on a dangerous drug. As we move into the next trimester, the 401s will be creating public service announcement (PSA) videos and one more presentation on a health topic of choice. This trimester they learned about public policies and wrote their public policy paper with Walt. They have also been attending school board meetings to work towards completing their participation in government credit. Next trimester they will be learning and writing about the foundations of democracy. This is all great progress for our seniors as they head towards graduation!

When it comes to STPs, they have all started taking steps to complete their year long projects. Elias collected several stuffed animal donations and has made 6 costumes so far! As Elias continues to make the costumes, he will also be writing stories to go with each animal before they are donated to children in foster care. Devin has one computer donated for Computers with Causes. Tete has created sketches of animal cremation jewelry and created a proposed budget sheet along with conducting research on grieving. Liz has been working with Lenny to get the greenhouse cleaned and repaired. She also researched different gardening techniques and proposed an adaptable building design to accommodate each gardening technique that she will be building as she moves towards her next steps. Darryl worked with Lenny to build his first twin bed for Sleep in Heavenly Peace! He will be donating it and then begin building more beds. Kylee has started advertising to collect Native American art for her art show. She has also reached out to the district art teachers and Native American liason to collaborate in collecting artwork. Rioux has looked into the cost of photo books and conducted a survey of locations to photograph in his



book. After creating the books, Rioux plans to give them to elders in appreciation of them. Randy has been operating his IT help desk independently with several requests for assistance this week as we ventured into a hybrid audience for exhibitions. Randy is starting to service both teachers and staff at Big Picture, along

with reaching out to a few students to intern at his help desk. Sam has selected 5 classic holiday songs that he has been rehearsing and called several local nursing homes to generate interest in a holiday singing event. He is preparing to perform virtually or in person at local nursing homes in the next month. Brandon has researched the top local businesses relating to all aspects of dog care and he created a survey to identify the areas that people are confident and uncertain about regarding the care for their dog. He will be sending out this survey and then using it to design a dog care awareness event in the spring. After completing an outdoor run of a sensory motor pathway, Dawsun has planned the design and theme of the indoor pathway. She is working on deciding which material to purchase before heading into creating the pieces of the indoor pathway.

Quantitative Reasoning students have been busy at work. They completed the banking and income/employment lessons on Everfi. After completing the banking lessons they were assigned bank accounts such as CDs, money markets, mortgages, loans, and 529 savings to research and present in groups. They needed to select a bank to use, understand the account description, features, and requirements, and reasons why the account would be good or bad to use. Before we moved on to the next

lesson, Aerik Radley and Catlin Strand

from SECNY Credit Union shared their expertise and banking experience with the QR students. They taught the students the difference between credit unions and banks. They also talked about the different bank accounts, however they had several interruptions from the students who were asking countless relevant, in depth questions. We had great discussions in both QR classes and the students enjoyed learning Aerik's and Catlin's professional perspectives.

TGIF from April

This week the 201s presented their first exhibition of the year. It was a hybrid form of presentation, as parents and other panel members were virtual, with school staff and students in person. Technology was cooperative until Friday, however, the crazy delay of the internet had us laughing at the meeting 'time-warp' we entered. Friday was also a beautiful day weather wise, so we took a bit of time to go outside and play an old favorite game of theirs from the days at Grimshaw elementary school:

INFECTED. The 201s loved the trip down memory lane and they even convinced me to join in the fun. There was plenty of running and laughter- both MUCH needed after the stress of public speaking and days of sitting for exhibitions.

During that time on Friday, I took a photo, unfortunately not all of our advisory is in the photo- but I absolutely love the image!

Monday we began exhibitions with Julien. He presented his continued effort toward leaving a positive impact on our earth. He focused on creating a wild flower garden this fall and tree planting. He also continues to do tremendous work with his mentor Carol DiSalvo.

Leighann focused her exhibition on writing an adolescent novel. She is interested in the horror genre and was modeling her work after Stephen King.

Bug (Max) learned more about her Potawatomi heritage, sharing fascinating information including artifacts from 1912 that her family in Kansas shared with her. Bug also developed their artistic skills in digital form.

Olivia created her very own art piece using a technique called Fumage. It was amazing! She taught us all about the process, how it was developed and even demonstrated some techniques.

Jacob's art was clay sculpting, but not in the traditional form. He used a program called Blender and learned to sculpt realistic human clay forms. It was amazing! He also created a timeline of pottery throughout the ages on Blender. The work he does is so technically generated on the computer, yet it is beautiful.

Elijah worked with his mentor Megan S. on kinesthetics and building sport specific muscle groups. He learned to work in a data collecting

program. He demonstrated physics and the data detailing his progress.

Jordyn taught us that chickens indeed can respond to human language and other fascinating information regarding chickens. She also detailed her work with her virtual mentor in the medical field and her healthy eating plan for an athlete.

Faith discussed the Department of Social Services and how many children area in the system due to signs of neglect or abuse. Faith has been mentoring with elementary students and absolutely loves it.

Ricky broke down the components of a computer and explained how the parts work together. His health projects were on the negative effects of tobacco and cancer.

Phoenix presented historical information about medieval weapons/swords. His dry sense of humor kept the panel engaged. He also presented engaging health projects.

Elaina was able to learn on her own about screen printing, practice it, and then go to the Print Hub and use a commercial screen printer to print a screen of her own choosing- Hello Kitty. It was a phenomenal learning experience for her.

Colby Fisher continues planning and preparing for the goat farm he had hoped to get started last year prior to COVID hitting. He is interested in stick welding so I am seeking a mentor for him in that area.

Elliana worked on learning the components of reading a pattern and sewing both by hand and machine. She created various articles of clothing that turned out very well for a beginner seamstress.

Coleby Felber learned about the history of bass fishing, created his own bass fishing lure and spent countless hours fishing, trying to prove his hypothesis.

Lexi presented Nature vs

Nurture and information on child care procedures and costs. Her (fake) brochure offering childcare services was really well done. Her work with her mentor Carol was also quite interesting, as most of her photos were candid of our advisory lol.

All in all it was a very busy and informative week of exhibitions. We are still seeking internship opportunities for our students and I am looking forward to the next semester of new learning!



TGIF from David

I am writing this on Sunday morning of November 22nd. It is the 57th anniversary of John F. Kennedy's assassination in Dallas, TX. Lyndon Johnson took over as president on Air Force One later that day. Johnson is a president I have been particularly interested in since college. I took a senior thesis class about the assassination of JFK, but my senior thesis paper largely focused on Johnson and his role in the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Johnson is a complicated figure in American history. His desire to end poverty in America has made me view his presidency outside his role in the Vietnam War. I am currently reading his book *The Vantage Point* about his time as president. I needed something to read that would interest me, but also refresh my brain at night. I reference all of this because I spent the past week watching students talk about their projects based on their interests. I figure if I am going to preach to students the power of following your interests, it is important that I follow that advice.

Monday started off with Charlie and Cody giving their exhibitions. Charlie showed us all the work she did regarding the On the Dot Coffee Shop. She is helping turn it into a smoothly run business. She is helping create many pathways for the coffee shop to find success. Maybe one day it will be a franchise? Cody presented his work on learning about being a Veterinarian. He put all of his information onto a Google site, which was a fresh approach.

Tuesday gave us Dayton's exhibition. Dayton led the entire class in an oil painting demonstration. If you see blue paint marks around our school it is most likely a result of the paint he collected on his hands. Wednesday gave us Lucas's exhibition. Lucas showed us the skills he is developing in the workshop. He spent a lot of time crafting two models of an Ancient Roman ballista. On Thursday, Stone did his best to conceal all of the work he has done. He does not like sharing most of his work, but we tried forcing out as much as we could. He already started working on next trimester's projects. He is currently writing a novella he plans to finish in December.

Friday had our most exhibitions. Ronnie delighted us with the practice katana he made in the workshop. It is a wooden sword that he will be able to use for his real martial arts practice. Jacoby talked about all the welding learning he has done on his own and with the guidance of our 301 student, Evan. Jacoby made products to showcase the different kinds of welds he learned. Emily surprised us all by showing original Manga artwork she created. She spent a lot of time researching art and Japanese style comics and cartoons. Bruce ended the day with his electronic work in the form of the RC Car he built. Now, this was not just a kit, but he gathered all the different parts and did all the wiring himself.

This was a great week for exhibitions as our students showed their practice of developing and refining projects. The next trimester will push them to dig deeper and to think bigger. I look forward to helping them craft elements of their projects focused on their interests.

I recommend you focus on an interest you have. Spend some time learning more about it. Think about how it makes you feel. Do you feel joy? Does it make you want to learn more? Now, is the time to start.

TGIF from Greg

Exhibition week was something to behold! The 301s demonstrated progress once again. Each and every student showed a better exhibition than they ever have before. We are so very proud of all of them! Austin started us off with the origins of animation, creating his own flipbook to share with the class. Gabe designed his own skateboard. He showed the history of skateboard making and presented his design as well. Evan continued his stellar work in welding. He showed off all of his welds, explained his BOCES class in detail, and is now actually teaching a 101 some basic welds as a mentor in our internship program! Claire presented the robot she is building. The process of coding and assembly, as well as hydro dipping her final project was explained. She has been working hard in her OCC class, and taught our Advisory one of her pre-calc problems, (or, *tried* to!). Adam presented his exhibition in cinematography. He has been working with Autumn Nowey on how to create and edit a short film. He showed his film, which was based around our 301 class - we can't wait to see where this goes for him!

Devyn and Carson continued on with their culinary internships making a full menu and creating masterpieces. Morgan explained, in detail, her A&P class at OCC. We were extremely proud of her and loved that she described the difficulties she has had, as well as her successes. We are finally going to be able to showcase our Gateway next week, as well as take our STAR test. We're looking forward to seeing the students' improvements as they've been working hard in IXL Math to increase their mathematical skills.



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