

# THE BIG PICTURE SCHOOL IS HIGH SCHOOL

## DONE DIFFERENTLY.

Students at LaFayette's Big Picture School participate in interest-driven learning that connects curriculum with student passions and the real world.

We follow a *one student at a time* philosophy, which assumes that students learn best when actively participating in their own education and doing something they are passionate about. Big Picture students earn all their academic credits while at the same time tailoring their studies to what they're most interested in - whether that interest lies within mechanics, medicine or music.

This involves students spending two days a week immersed in hands-on learning, conducting informal interviews, attending shadow days and interning with mentors. Students gain valuable workplace experience, learn in professional situations and gain a realistic appreciation of what to expect if they pursue a career in a particular field.

Mentorships create genuine relationships, which instill work ethic and demonstrate what it means to be a contributing member of society.

WITH YOUR  
HELP, OUR  
STUDENTS  
WILL BE  
BETTER  
EQUIPPED  
TO ENTER  
YOUR WORLD.



**LaFayette**  
Central School  
District



LaFayette  
Big Picture  
High School

# MENTORSHIP MATTERS



**LaFayette**  
Central School  
District



LaFayette  
Big Picture  
High School

**LaFayette Big Picture Learning**

(315)504-1000

[www.lafayetteschools.org](http://www.lafayetteschools.org)

# EXPERTISE, OUT IN THE WORLD.

Our focus on real work in a professional setting gives student learning a context and depth.

Mentors are living examples of the careers our students are thinking of pursuing. They are experts in their fields and can give real, practical advice.

Put simply, some things just can't be taught inside a classroom. And that's where you come in.

Whether you have tips and tricks on your specific job, advice on educational paths that could lead to your industry or simply have insight on professional dress and speech in the workplace, an opportunity exists for you to work with Big Picture.

We currently welcome mentors in three areas: informational interviews, shadow days and internships.

## **Informational Interviews**

As students explore their interests, they invariably want to learn more about careers, professions, businesses and industries.

Our students will reach out to individuals and organizations they see as potential career contacts with informational interview requests.

These 30-minute interviews allow our students to ask about your business or organization and learn about your profession, training, and background as well as what you do on a day-to-day basis.



## **Shadow Days**

Often the best way to learn about a workplace is to spend a day on the job.

Shadow days bring students into your workplace for typically a one-time visit (approximately 2-5 hours) to experience a typical day with you and your colleagues.

This offers a great opportunity to get to know our students and determine whether you would be interested in becoming their mentor through an internship.

## **Internships**

Big Picture student interns are typically matched one-on-one with mentors and spend two days a week on-site conducting special projects and providing assistance to their mentors and staff as needed.

At the onset of an internship, you, your intern and their advisor will meet to discuss goals and objectives for the internship, schedules, expectations, and a greater internship project that the student will complete to earn credits for their experience.

You will have regular contact with your intern's advisor throughout the internship, particularly regarding their internship project. Most importantly, you will have an impact on your intern's life and will also help cultivate the next generation of professionals.

The number of days per week and hours are customized to you and your setting

## **Interested in learning more?**

LaFayette Big Picture High School

Principal: Susan Hart

3122 Rt.11 North

LaFayette, NY 13084

(315)504-1000

sehart@lafayetteschools.org