

## 8th Graders Present the Harlem Renaissance

The 8th graders at the Jr/Sr High School culminated their Harlem Renaissance module in ELA by putting on a Museum Exhibit Walk Through. Students were required to choose a theme pertaining to the unit of study, choose literature and art from the time period of the Harlem Renaissance to showcase as well as choose or make a modern day piece that portrayed the same theme. For example, Amanda Johnson selected the theme "A group of voices is stronger than one", and connected it to the current day movement of Every Child Matters. All of the students created a website or Canva poster to display their museum exhibit with a curator's statement and labels for their pieces. They practiced their presentations, received feedback and then had to present for a grade in front of their classmates. Finally, they split up into four different themed rooms, decorated the doors and their work area and shared their knowledge of the Harlem Renaissance with the community members who visited the walk through. It was a great turn out and it was wonderful to see my 8th graders supported and even better to see how excited they were. If anyone is interested in seeing their websites and an AMAZING video put together by Sue Bang, our Library Media Specialist, scan the QR Code and enjoy!



SCAN ME

## Legend of Learning

Congratulations to Ms. Lori Hughes, Cook at LaFayette High School, who was selected as the December 2022 Legend of Learning!

A staff member who nominated Lori shared the following: "Lori loves her job serving students! Lori knows most of the students by name and if she doesn't she will learn. It doesn't matter who they are, every student receives the same great customer service. You'll find Lori out in the cafeteria talking with students asking how an older sibling is doing in college or how they're doing in a sport or activity. Lori has been battling a serious illness. Despite this challenge, she always has a smile on her face. Lori loves serving the students!"

Lori: 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.

## Show Some Love to the Class of 2023 Seniors or Show Some Community Love to the Graduating Class

The Class of 2023 is selling senior signs. All profits will benefit their end of year celebration. Each sign is 18x24 and comes with a wire stake and are double sided.

If interested, please contact Lisa at the Lafayette Athletic Booster Club via email [lafayetteabc1@gmail.com](mailto:lafayetteabc1@gmail.com) or Facebook.

You can Venmo LaFayette Athletic-Booster Club, cash or check. Please advise if you want senior sign or support when ordering. **All orders must be received by January 16.** Pickup will be on or about February 1, 2023.

Thank you for your continued support.



## ◆ LaFayette District News ◆

### Message from the SUPERINTENDENT

*Jeremy Belfield,  
Superintendent of Schools*

[jbelfield@lafayetteschools.org](mailto:jbelfield@lafayetteschools.org)  
315-529-9550 (cell)



Dear LaFayette Central School District:

Welcome to 2023! I hope this new year finds you, your family, and friends healthy and well. 2022 was a great year to be a Lancer. Here are some highlights from the past year:

- ◆ Our students and staff kept a consistent focus on academics. This focus resulted in growth on both state and local assessments. We implemented new ELA learning materials and completed an audit of our math curriculum. Having students actively engaged in learning throughout the pandemic resulted in students showing improvement in both ELA and Math.
- ◆ We have continued to address the social, emotional, and mental health needs of our students. We added student support service staff to help assist students and families. We welcomed a new social worker, and LaFayette alumni, Renee Pierce at Grimshaw Elementary. The district implemented social and emotional learning programs for students at the elementary and middle school levels.
- ◆ Our district used the infusion of federal and state funds to address a variety of academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs of our students. We also used federal funds to replace furniture in most of our classrooms and purchase replacement filters for classroom air filtration units.
- ◆ We began construction on the capital project approved by voters in December 2020. We are excited to open the new library at Grimshaw Elementary in 2023, the Hall of Excellence in the Auditorium Lobby at the High School and renovate the Technology classrooms at the High School this summer.

Here are some ways that 2023 promises to be another great year for our students, families, and staff members:

- ◆ We will continue to refine instructional practices to ensure that learning is a priority. Our educators are dedicated and committed to the success of all students. Our students have so many great opportunities waiting for them after graduation. We are working with area employers to highlight careers of interest, provide internship opportunities, and partner with Onondaga Community College to offer college credit courses in high school to help save our students thousands of dollars on college expenses.
- ◆ We are committed to being fiscally responsible and presenting budgets that accurately reflect the cost of preparing our students for a bright future. Thank you to our new business official, Laurie Holtsbery, for her leadership with our new business office team. Thank you to Kim Reppi, our only returning member of the business office team, for assisting the district even in retirement, as a part-time payroll clerk.
- ◆ Our district will continue to focus on addressing the social, emotional, and mental health needs of our students. We continue to build partnerships with county agencies to support students and families so that they have additional support in facing all of life's challenges. If you or someone you know is struggling, don't hesitate to reach out to our building principals or me so that we can connect students and families with help.
- ◆ Our district is finalizing our building condition survey for submission to the New York State Office of Facilities Planning. We will use this information to help inform future capital projects to make sure that our facilities are safe, modern, and address the learning needs of our students.
- ◆ We will continue to advocate for adequate funding to address the capital needs at the Onondaga Nation School, which is a state-owned building. We are grateful to our elected officials who are finally dedicating the necessary resources to address the facility needs at ONS. Thank you to our community members who have written letters or called elected officials to advocate for adequate capital funding for the Onondaga Nation School.

I look forward to our work together throughout the coming year to make 2023 another great year to be a Lancer!

## ◆ Junior/Senior High School News ◆

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

December was a busy month in the Jr./Sr. High School that saw several academic and athletic achievements!!!

On Tuesday, December 13th we had our first band and chorus concert (pictured, above) of the 22-23 school year. It was exciting to be able to welcome families into the high school. Our students did an outstanding job with their performance.

On November 28th, our 8th grade students invited our community to visit their Harlem Renaissance Museum. The event was well attended and our students did an amazing job presenting to the community members in attendance. This was a great celebration of student achievement.

As the World Cup approached and started, the student body at the Jr./Sr. High School was able to watch the USA game on the big screen in the Auditorium.

Lastly, the student council held a holiday spirit week leading up to vacation. Students dressed in various holiday themed attire and enjoyed a festive and fun filled week that helped everyone get into the holiday spirit.



## ◆ Athletic News ◆

### Congratulations Athletes



Several of our student athletes received recognition for their athleticism during the fall season.

Layla Isaacs (pictured, left) was selected as Class D Volleyball Player of the Year and named to the Small School All CNY Volleyball Team. Teammate Ellie McElhannon was selected as Class D Libero of the Year. Layla, Ellie and teammates Isabella Shenandoah Kurtz and Chylure Bucktooth were awarded First Team All-League with Amie Shute receiving Second Team honors.

Ben Ryan was named to the First Team All-League for boys soccer and his teammate Carter Chapman received Second Team honors as well.

The boys and girls basketball teams took the opportunity over the last few weeks to collect and deliver holiday gifts to Golisano Children's Hospital.

Modified girls volleyball and modified boys basketball finished up their seasons just before the holiday break! Modified wrestling and modified girls basketball will start up on January 4th!

# ◆ Onondaga Nation School News ◆

*From the Desk of the*  
**PRINCIPAL**  
Simone Gonyea

## Skä:ñoñh swagwe:gih!

WOW! How time has flown by! We have had many reasons to celebrate!  
Much appreciation of our visiting Therapy Dogs and handlers.



ONS planned to observe the New Yea on December 23rd. Instead students and staff enjoyed a snow day and the celebration was rescheduled to after the holiday break. The celebration will continue the tradition within the walls of ONS which began in the 90's celebrating the New Year with the entire student body. Students and staff plan to enjoy the movement and treats- Welcoming in the New Year!

On Wednesday December 21st all students had an opportunity to pick out 5 books to take home from a generous donation. WE LOVE BOOKS!



## ◆ The BIG PICTURE News ◆



On Monday and Tuesday before Thanksgiving we were able to participate in our overnight camping trip. We have missed several years due to COVID and had pushed it back from mid-September. I am so thankful for the dedication of the staff to make this happen. It felt amazing to be back spending time with our students this way. Camp Hoover in Tully had also done some fantastic renovations while we were away. The students had such positive attitudes, gave things a try, moved in and outdoors for activities as requested. The Culinary students planned, prepped and served four delicious meals for all of us. It was a great time. Our hope is to rebuild our "camping culture" and get everyone involved next year. I really liked going in November. While it was cold, windy and a bit of snow on the ground, it was beautiful. We appreciated the fire even more! The 401 advisory demonstrated fantastic leadership and modeled the behaviors we value in our community.

There was a great deal of action on internship days and interest based projects. Coleby was running his Power Sports Internship. Ryan was leading welding and used the opportunity to weld his wind turbine. Roy has been working with Jessica to design a small brick water feature for the Peace Garden. He had planned it out and even dry-stacked the bricks. Roy was a natural. He picked up the techniques needed to lay brick quickly and worked steadily throughout the day. Kanien Tahawi worked with her mentor Chad this week and made her full size bat on the lathe! The 201s had a fantastic round of exhibitions to start the school year. Roy built his water fountain, helped put in a stone pathway, and finished his ping pong table. Lucas A researched and designed a hydrogen fuel source and intends to build a hydrogen motor next trimester. Raelyn researched women's rights throughout history. Ryan has made substantial progress on refinishing his truck and repairing any necessary body work. Maddy has learned about homes and designed a model home she is working to construct next trimester. She also hosted a fundraiser for the Salvation Army that raised \$133! Mykala researched cosmetology focusing on doing hair and the value of hair in different cultures. In addition to making the bats, Kanien Tahawi researched baseball history, the math behind how bats are made, and woodburning. Lucian made his own oil paints and worked on oil painting as well as researching the life of Frida Kahlo. Cusin completed his personalized Who Am I project. Lyra conducted a study on how to make the best patch and stencil as well as designing a crown for the Nutcracker Twist by CirqOvation. Jadyn researched art therapy and did activities with students at her internship and Big Picture.

Those familiar with Big Picture know that exhibition week can be a stressful time for students and staff. Knowing this, we tried to create a different mindset well in advance of exhibitions. The 401s were tasked with making their presentations exciting and engaging. This intention was designed to ensure that exhibitions informed the panel, demonstrated learning and celebrated the student's growth. I firmly believe we succeeded in this collectively as an advisory. The presentations all centered around the presenters' interests and in some way linked to their STP. Faith took us through the research and production of some skin care products she is working on. She even demonstrated how to give a facial. Bug taught us about native pollinators, bee keeping and demonstrated how to make a scented beeswax candle. Jace brought us into his internship by sharing all the responsibilities he has and skills he has gained working at the Power Play Cafe' on the Nation. Lexi made traditional corn mush and shared the delicious and comforting dish with the panel. Olivia not only demonstrated how to make the PERFECT espresso, but had panelists come up and make their own (or hot chocolate). Ricky showed many of the tools that he uses at his internship, school maintenance and STP. He even demonstrated using the nail gun which got all of our attention. Phoenix made California Rolls and a modified Philadelphia Roll right before our eyes and shared with the panel as he talked through the process and skills needed. Elijah held his exhibition in the main room to accommodate a hide and seek type activity that he runs with elementary PE classes at his internship. Coleby was also in the main room so his tool cart and motocross bike could be displayed and utilized. He even had one of his students, Wes, demonstrate new skills on bike maintenance. Jacob had various cameras and lenses and he taught us the inner workings of ISO, F-stop and shutter speed. Not only were the presenters

prepared and engaging, but the peer panelists were excellent. They were respectful and participatory during the presentations and gave relevant feedback at the end.

## ◆ Grimshaw School News ◆



### Grimshaw Had a December to Remember and We're Looking Forward to 2023

We started the month with our Holiday Cheer calendar. Each day brought something fun!

Our sixth grade students participated in an Interactive Career Day on Monday, December 19, 2022. Students learned about careers in architecture, engineering, and construction from professionals working on our library renovation. In addition to learning about careers, our sixth grade students also got to tour the library.

We want to extend a big "Thank You!" to Ashley McGraw Architects and Turner Construction for sharing their time and expertise with our students.

Our 5th and 6th Grade Winter Concert was a success! Families enjoyed a wonderful evening of vocal and instrumental music performed by our 5th and 6th grade band and choir students under the direction of Mrs. Pethybridge and Ms. Close.

We're looking forward to bringing back and kicking off the Holiday Recess with our Holiday Sing. Students have been practicing their songs and choreography. They are excited to perform!

Our 5th and 6th grade students have been reading *Hoot* as part of our All School Read. They had opportunities to learn about owls from a local wildlife rehabilitator, Cynthia Page, and participated in a Q & A with a local fish and game biologist.

Students in Ms. Reppi's art class have been practicing their art skills and creativity this month. They created Neon Glow in the Dark by our 3rd graders, 6th grade Winter Gingerbread House Illustrations, 5th grade Value Scale Holiday Light, and 1st grade Implied Texture Polar Bear Paintings.



## ◆ LaFayette Community News ◆



### Cub Scout Pack Gives to Local Cause

Cub Scout Pack 100 collected new, twin bedding for Sleep in Heavenly Peace (SHP). Sleep in Heavenly Peace is a wonderful organization working to end child bedlessness in the greater Syracuse area. SHP provides a complete bed to children who do not have a bed of their own or are sleeping in conditions that prevent a good night's sleep. Thank you to all who donated to this cause!



## 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

#### Volleyball

Will begin in March 2023. Registration details will be announced.

#### Baseball/Softball

Will begin in April 2023. Registration details will be announced.

If you are interested and able to help with any youth program please contact LCC.

### Adult Programs

#### Men's Basketball (ages 18 and over)

Currently in session. Monday evenings through June 12, 2023 at Grimshaw Elementary, 7:00-9:00 PM. Registration forms available at each session. \$20 fee.

#### Co-Ed Adult Volleyball (ages 18 and over)

Currently in session at Grimshaw Elementary, from 7:30-9:30 and will end on June 16, 2023. Registration is open, please contact LCC to sign up. \$20 fee.

### Other Programs

#### Ski Program

LCC's Friday night skiing will begin in January 2023.

### Updates

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). When possible, additional information for the above programs will also be provided through the LaFayette School District messaging system.



### LCC Contact Information

Call 315-677-7272 - leave a message/ask a question and a board member will return your call. (Messages are retrieved at least three times a week)

E-mail: [lcc@townoflafayette.com](mailto:lcc@townoflafayette.com)

Facebook page: LaFayette Community Council

# LaFayette CENTRAL SCHOOLS

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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.

## January IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

- 2 **Holiday Recess - No School**
- 16 **MLK Day - No School**
- 18 **BOE Meeting 530pm**
- 24-27 **Regents Exams**
- 27 **End of Marking Period 3  
Half Day**

Don't forget  
to like us on  
Facebook.

