



# Leopard's Tale

Volume VIII, Number V

May 2023

LAURENS CENTRAL SCHOOL NEWSLETTER—2023-24 Budget Edition

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## Letter from the Superintendent

Dear Residents of the Laurens Central School District:

The primary focus of this newsletter is to provide you with accurate information about the proposed budget for the upcoming school year and the other items upon which we will soon be voting.

The Board of Education and I are cognizant of the impacts that inflation, interest rates and other economic indicators have had on our residents and local economy and, as we did last year, have taken that into account when preparing the 2023-2024 budget. While federal COVID relief funding has alleviated some potential issues over the past two years, that funding expires shortly and the future of New York State education funding over the next three to five years is still uncertain. As a result we feel that we are proactively taking appropriate steps to weather difficult times while still providing the highest quality educational experience possible for our students.

### DATE AND TIME OF VOTE

The annual budget vote and school board election has been scheduled for May 16, 2023 between the hours of 12:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. at Laurens Central School, Room 101.

### REQUIRED PUBLIC HEARING

The required public hearing on this year's proposed budget will be held on May 2, 2023 at 7:00pm in the Multipurpose Room.

### ABSENTEE BALLOTS

Absentee ballots for qualified voters may be requested by contacting the District Clerk by email at [pweir@laurenscls.org](mailto:pweir@laurenscls.org) or by calling the District Clerk at 607-432-2050. Absentee ballots can be requested up to seven (7) days before the vote if they are to be returned by mail or by 5:00 on the day preceding the vote if they are going to be returned in person. To be counted, all properly completed absentee ballots must be properly filled out and received in the Office of the District Clerk by 5:00 p.m. on May 16, 2023. The names of all individuals requesting an absentee ballot will be posted on the District web site for voter review.

### MILITARY BALLOTS

Military voters who are qualified voters of the School District may apply for a military ballot by requesting an application from the District Clerk at (607) 432-2050, or [pweir@laurenscls.org](mailto:pweir@laurenscls.org). For a military voter to be issued a military ballot, the District Clerk must have received a valid ballot application no later than 5:00 pm on April 21, 2023. In a request for a military ballot application or ballot, the military voter may indicate their preference for receiving the application or ballot by mail, facsimile transmission or electronic mail.

### QUALIFIED VOTER

A qualified voter is a person who is a citizen of the United States, at least eighteen years of age, a resident of the District for at least 30 days prior to the date of the election, and who is not otherwise ineligible to vote under the provisions of section 5-106 of the Election Law (e.g. a person who has been adjudged to be mentally incompetent by a court).

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the American  
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*continued on page 2*

## Budget Development Process

As a school district that relies heavily on state aid, planning a budget that meets the educational needs of our students while at the same time being sensitive to the needs of our taxpayers and residents can be a challenge.

The Board of Education and I have looked at every aspect of the budget with a commitment to reducing or containing costs in as many areas as possible. We are confident that the budget being presented will accomplish three important goals: 1) Provide sound educational programs for our students; 2) be affordable to the community; and 3) continue to plan for the long term financial stability of the District.

We are proposing a budget that will require a tax levy increase of 2.00%. At this time we anticipate using \$251,621 of fund balance and are anticipating the use of \$70,000 of reserve funding to balance the budget. While the use of fund balance and reserve funds could change based on new information that we receive about state aid and the new state budget, the proposed tax levy increase will remain at 2.00%.

We feel that you will be voting on a budget that reflects the needs of our students, our staff and the community and that you will be supporting a school that has a history of providing an excellent education for our students. Thank you for your continued commitment to the children of our District.

— William F. Dorritie

## 2022-2023 School Budget and Propositions

- In person voting will take place at Laurens Central School, Room 101, on May 16, 2023 between the hours of 12:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.
- Absentee Ballots must be received by the District Clerk by 5:00pm on May 16, 2023.
- Residents will have the opportunity to vote on three propositions, those being:

### PROPOSITION #1 — BASIC BUDGET

At the time this newsletter is being written we are asking that the Board be authorized to expend the sum of **\$10,974,525** for the 2023-2024 school year budget.

**This will require a tax levy increase of 2.00%.**

The total budget number could change based on additional information that comes out about the recently passed State budget.

### PROPOSITION #2 — BOARD OF EDUCATION ELECTION CANDIDATES FOR THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

To elect one member of the Board for a five year term commencing July 1, 2023 and expiring on June 30, 2028, Incumbent Thomas Francisco.

### PROPOSITION #3 — SCHOOL BUS PURCHASE

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Laurens Central School District undertake the acquisition of one (1) 65 passenger school bus. The bus will be used for the transportation of students to both regular and special education programs, field trips and extracurricular activities. **The bus will be paid for in full by funds from the Bus Reserve; there will be no impact on the tax levy from this purchase.**

## Bus Purchase

**We are asking for voter approval to purchase one 65 passenger bus. The bus will be paid for through the Bus Reserve. There will be no impact on the Tax Levy or budget.**

The new bus will replace bus 82. Bus 82 has over 64,200 miles on it. The purchase of the new bus will help us maintain a 7-8 year replacement cycle for our bus fleet. As buses age the DOT required body work will cost more to repair the bus than to purchase the bus new. As with all vehicles, as the bus ages it will have increased maintenance costs.

The new bus will be used to transport regular and special education students. It will also be used for field trips, athletic and other extracurricular activities. We anticipate receiving \$2,500 for the trade-in of Bus 82.

### FINANCES FOR THE BUS PURCHASE

Cost	\$168,914
Total Trade-in	\$2,500
Total Cost of Bus	\$166,414
Less State Aid (86.1%)	\$137,791
Cost to District	\$28,623

**The bus will be paid for entirely out of the bus reserve.**

**There will be no tax impact as a result of this purchase.**

## The Contingency Budget

As in years past the State provides a formula that Districts must use to calculate their Contingency Budget. Districts must report a Contingency Budget in the event that the proposed budget is defeated twice. Should we need to adopt a contingency budget our tax levy must remain the same as the previous year.

## Closing Thoughts

I want to take the opportunity to thank each and every resident for their continued support of our students and our school, even as school districts and families experience difficult financial circumstances. It demonstrates that our residents value education and I am proud to call our District home!

### YOU ARE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE IF YOU ARE:

- A citizen of the United States
- 18 years of age or older
- A resident within the school district for a period of 30 days or more preceding the meeting at which he/she offers to vote
- Voted in a general election in the past two years or be on the polling list at the school district

# Open Seat on the Board of Education

## THERE IS ONE OPEN SEAT ON THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

*\*One Five Year Term:*

*This seat is presently held by Board Vice President, Mr. Thomas Francisco.*

### MR. FRANCISCO WILL BE RUNNING FOR THE SEAT AGAIN.

I initially became involved with the Laurens School Board back in the early 1990's while attending community school budget meetings that were compiled to better educate the community in the tasks involved in creating our schools financial plan. Having previous experience in writing annual budgets and corporate P & L's, I felt that I could contribute to our community through helping with this fiscal project. I have to add that this experience was quite an interesting process with its special set of rules, regulations and mandates that are unique to schools and New York State. Since that time I have been actively involved in our school as a parent, a community member and on the school board and now wish to continue that endeavor by asking for your vote for re-election to the Laurens School Board.

I am a self-employed businessman that owns Putnam Pest Control in West Laurens and currently employ 10 individuals. My wife and I have had this business for the last 34 years and look forward to many more successful years. We have four children of which all graduated from Laurens and have successfully continued on through college. Our three daughters have completed post graduate studies and our daughter Erin is currently striving for her PhD in English at the University of Rochester.

I attended SUNY Cobleskill, SUNY Oneonta and Ohio State University where I earned an Associate in Applied Science and a Bachelors degree in Environmental Biology with a minor in Organic Chemistry. My special interest has always been in Entomology and for those of you that have met me, you already know this.

I have been involved with the Laurens Boy Scouts of America and Cub Scouts for the past 25 years. I have previously led the Laurens Little League for several years, served 13 years on the Laurens Planning Board, past chairman of the 4-H Action Issue committee for the Environment, and have been a West Laurens Fireman for over 30 years and have served as a Fire Commissioner. I am a member of the Laurens Masonic Lodge and have enjoyed the challenges and especially the rewards of working with individuals and the community.

I look forward to having the opportunity to continue working with the school board and hope that with your vote, I am afforded that task.

## LAURENS CENTRAL SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION

*Cynthia Struckle, President*

*Thomas Francisco, Vice President*

*Gerard Murello, Member*

*Margaret Wikoff, Member*

*Peggy Bush, Member*

## Budget Components

### ADMINISTRATIVE • PROGRAM • CAPITAL

The laws relating to the budget vote require the budget to be presented to the residents for their review divided into three sections: Administrative, Program and Capital components.

Although presented in three components for informational purposes, the vote cast will be on the total budget. Listed below are the individual items included under each of the budget components.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE

##### Expenses for the following:

- Board of Education
- District Clerk
- District Meeting
- School Administrative Costs
- Auditing
- Treasurer
- Tax Collector
- Purchasing
- Fiscal Agent
- Legal Services
- Personnel Services
- Public Information Services
- Curriculum Development and Supervision
- Research, Planning and Evaluation
- Supervision—Regular School
- Central Data Processing
- Central Printing and Mailing
- Employee Benefits
- BOCES Administrative Costs

#### PROGRAM

##### Expenses for the following:

- Inservice Training—Instruction
- Teaching—Regular School
- Programs for Students with Disabilities
- Occupational Education
- Teaching—Special Schools
- School Library and Audio Visual
- Educational Television
- Computer Assisted Instruction
- Attendance
- Guidance
- Health Services
- Psychological Services
- Social Work Services
- Pupil Personnel Services
- Co-Curricular Activities
- Interscholastic Athletics
- District Transportation
- Recreation, Youth Programs
- Local Services
- Employee Benefits

#### CAPITAL

##### Expenses for the following:

- Operation of Plant
- Maintenance of Plant
- Debt Service
- Transfers to Capital and Debt Service Fund
- Employee Benefits

## Administrative Component Details

NAME OF ACCOUNT	2022-23	2023-24
<b>BOARD OF EDUCATION</b>		
Board of Education	\$16,700	\$17,000
District Meeting	\$2,150	\$2,150
District Clerk	\$3,096	\$3,200
School Association Dues	\$5,700	\$5,700
<b>Total Board of Education</b>	<b>\$27,646</b>	<b>\$28,050</b>
<b>CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION</b>		
School Administrative Costs	\$169,005	\$184,812
BOCES Administrative Costs	\$134,500	\$151,000
<b>Total Central Administration</b>	<b>\$303,505</b>	<b>\$335,812</b>
<b>FINANCE</b>		
Treasurers Office	\$102,722	\$104,000
Auditing	\$16,560	\$23,600
Tax Collector	\$3,826	\$4,300
Fiscal Agent Fees	\$3,500	\$3,500
Purchasing	\$3,000	\$3,000
Tax Refund	\$3,000	\$3,000
<b>Total Finance</b>	<b>\$132,608</b>	<b>\$141,800</b>
<b>STAFF</b>		
Appraisal	\$11,500	\$11,500
Personnel	\$39,500	\$32,900
Public Information and Service	\$1,300	\$1,300
Records Management	\$1,261	\$1,290
<b>Total Staff</b>	<b>\$53,561</b>	<b>\$46,990</b>
<b>CENTRAL SERVICES</b>		
Central Printing and Mailing	\$18,400	\$17,850
Central Data Processing	\$93,000	\$100,000
Insurance	\$2,700	\$2,700
<b>Total Central Services</b>	<b>\$114,100</b>	<b>\$120,550</b>
<b>ADMINISTRATION AND IMPROVEMENT</b>		
Curriculum Development & Supervision	\$179,117	\$188,800
In-Service Training	\$500	\$500
Research, Planning & Evaluation	\$36,070	\$42,325
<b>Total Administration &amp; Improvements</b>	<b>\$215,687</b>	<b>\$231,625</b>
<b>EMPLOYEE BENEFITS</b>		
<b>Total Employee Benefits</b>	<b>\$152,560</b>	<b>\$139,879</b>
<b>TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET</b>	<b>\$999,667</b>	<b>\$1,044,706</b>

## Program Component Details

NAME OF ACCOUNT	2022-23	2023-24
<b>INSTRUCTION</b>		
Teaching—Regular School	\$1,959,767	\$2,046,300
Programs for Students with Disabilities	\$1,388,876	\$1,491,550
Occupational Education	\$200,000	\$200,000
Teaching—Special Schools	\$60,307	\$78,800
<b>Total Instruction</b>	<b>\$3,608,950</b>	<b>\$3,816,650</b>
<b>INSTRUCTIONAL MEDIA</b>		
School Library & Audio Visual	\$134,069	\$137,478
Computer Assisted Instruction	\$102,642	\$129,642
<b>Total Instructional Media</b>	<b>\$236,711</b>	<b>\$267,120</b>
<b>PUPIL SERVICES</b>		
Attendance	\$12,600	\$13,200
Guidance	\$106,247	\$135,361
Health Services	\$52,223	\$55,100
Social Work	\$0	\$0
Psychological Services	\$62,036	\$63,000
Co-Curricular Activities	\$39,350	\$40,150
Interscholastic Athletics	\$149,805	\$149,465
Pupil Personnel	\$0	\$0
<b>Total Pupil Service</b>	<b>\$422,261</b>	<b>\$456,276</b>
<b>PUPIL TRANSPORTATION</b>		
District Transportation Services	\$613,922	\$627,339
<b>Total Pupil Transportation</b>	<b>\$613,922</b>	<b>\$627,339</b>
<b>CIVIC ACTIVITIES</b>		
Civic	\$6,156	\$6,156
Census Taker	\$0	\$0
<b>Total Civic</b>	<b>\$6,156</b>	<b>\$6,156</b>
<b>EMPLOYEE BENEFITS</b>		
<b>Total Employee Benefits</b>	<b>\$1,601,877</b>	<b>\$1,721,478</b>
<b>TOTAL PROGRAM BUDGET</b>	<b>\$6,489,877</b>	<b>\$6,895,019</b>

## Capital Component Details

NAME OF ACCOUNT	2021-22	2022-23
<b>CENTRAL SERVICES</b>		
Operation of Plant	\$840,299	\$887,864
Maintenance of Plant	\$68,701	\$72,136
Equipment	\$0	\$0
<b>Total Central Services</b>	<b>\$909,000</b>	<b>\$960,000</b>
<b>EMPLOYEE BENEFITS</b>		
<b>Total Employee Benefits</b>	<b>\$203,413</b>	<b>\$162,843</b>
<b>DEBT SERVICES</b>		
<b>Total Debt Services</b>	<b>\$1,686,970</b>	<b>\$1,911,957</b>
<b>TOTAL CAPITAL BUDGET</b>	<b>\$2,799,383</b>	<b>\$3,034,800</b>

## Total General Fund Budget

	2022-23	2023-24
Administrative Component	\$999,667	\$1,044,706
Program Component	\$6,489,877	\$6,895,019
Capital Component	\$2,799,383	\$3,034,800
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>\$10,288,927</b>	<b>\$10,974,525</b>

## Estimated General Fund Revenues

	2022-23	2023-24
State Aid	\$7,013,522	\$7,551,119
Real Property Taxes	\$2,899,926	\$2,950,785
Charges for Services	\$2,000	\$2,000
Use of Money and Property	\$2,000	\$2,000
Miscellaneous	\$140,000	\$151,000
Fund Balance/Reserves	\$231,479	\$317,621
<b>TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUES</b>	<b>\$10,288,927</b>	<b>\$10,974,525</b>

## Three-Part Expenditure Breakdown Percentage of Total Budget

	2022-23	2023-24
Administrative Component	9.72%	9.52%
Program Component	63.08%	62.83%
Capital Component	27.21%	27.65%
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Property Tax Report Card for Laurens Central School

	2022-23	2023-24	% CHANGE OVER PREVIOUS YEAR
<b>AMOUNT OF BUDGET</b>	\$10,288,927	\$10,974,525	6.66%
<b>ESTIMATED STATE AID</b>	\$7,013,522	\$7,551,119	7.67%
<b>ESTIMATED TAX LEVY</b>	\$3,892,926	\$2,950,785	2.00%
<b>PROJECTED GROWTH ENROLLMENT</b>	340	340	0.00%
<b>CONSUMER PRICE INDEX</b>	2.00%	8.00%	300.00%



# May 2023 School Counseling News

## IMPORTANT DATES

- TBD.....6th Grade Parents Night  
5/3 .....8th Grade Parent Night  
5/4 .....Registration deadline for the  
June 3rd SAT  
5/5 .....Registration deadline for the  
June 10 ACT  
5/6 .....SAT exam  
5/23 - 24 .....8th Grade Science Performance Test  
6/3 .....SAT exam  
6/10 .....ACT exam  
6/13 .....Last full day of classes for 7-12th  
6/14 - 22 .....Regents Exams

## 8TH GRADE PARENT NIGHT

This year, 8th Grade Parents' Night will be held May 3 at 7 p.m. Reminder notices will be sent home with all pertinent information. Topics to be addressed include NYS and LCS requirements for High School Students, diploma types, and student class scheduling information. Teachers will also be invited to share their course requirements and expectations. We hope to see you there!

## 6TH GRADE PARENT NIGHT

At the time of this writing, 6th grade Parents' Night has not been scheduled. Once a date and time is finalized we will put information out via Parent Square and on the school website.

## EXCELSIOR SCHOLARSHIP AND ENHANCED TUITION AWARD

Seniors may apply for the Excelsior Scholarship (for SUNY colleges) or the Enhanced Tuition Award (for private colleges in NYS) beginning sometime in early May. The applications will open shortly and the deadline to apply is mid to late July, 2023 for the 2023-2024 school year. Please visit [www.hesc.ny.gov/excelsior](http://www.hesc.ny.gov/excelsior) or [www.hesc.ny.gov](http://www.hesc.ny.gov) to find more information about these programs & for online applications.

## SUMMER CAMPS & PROGRAMS FOR KIDS AND TEENS 8-18 IN NEW YORK STATE

Have you heard about [www.summeroncampus.com](http://www.summeroncampus.com)? Over 100 colleges are indexed with more than 70 categories of sports, arts and academic summer camps for 8-18 year olds as well as summer workshops and clinics for college students and adults.

You will also find descriptions of winter and spring break programs as well as year-round programs for kids and teens.

Another great site is [www.newyorksummercamps.com](http://www.newyorksummercamps.com).

New York State has more summer programs than any other State in the nation! Check it out!

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## College Acceptances

**Justin La Pilusa** for Mechanical Engineering - accepted to and attending Syracuse University- 1870 Scholarship for full tuition & Renée Crown Honors Program

**Sierra Rondeau** for Psychology - accepted to: Hartwick College Honors Program

**James Gaglia** accepted to: SUNY Albany, SUNY Cortland, SUNY Oneonta

**Gabriela Andrades** for Nursing - accepted to: Hartwick College, Russell Sage College, SUNY Broome, Utica University, Ithaca College, SUNY Morrisville, Keuka College, Sienna College, Herkimer Community College, Elmira College, SUNY Cobleskill for the Paramedic Program and attending

**Makayla Bishop** for Vet Tech accepted to: Herkimer County Community College

**\*\*Kendra Dunham** for Elementary Education accepted to and attending Hartwick College

**\*\*Brooke White** accepted to: University of Fayetteville

**\*\*Aiden Armenti** for Radiology - accepted to: Mohawk Valley Community College and Fulton Montgomery Community College

**\*\*Diedra-Mae Ecker** for Business Administration – accepted to and attending SUNY Oneonta

**\*\*Brock Lewis** for Pre-Med - accepted to: SUNY Albany

**\*\*Anthony Rotolo** - accepted to: SUNY Albany

**\*\*Amberly Galbreth** for Nursing – accepted to and attending SUNY Delhi

**\*\* New as of 4/1/2023**

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## Awards Banquets

Monday, June 5, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. for Grades 7-9th

Wednesday, June 7, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. for Grades 10-12th

**All parents are invited to attend.**

More information will be provided via ParentSquare and the school website.

## The LCS Music Department presents the Final Concerts:

- Elementary—Tuesday, May 16 at 6:00 p.m.  
PreK-6 music classes, Elementary Chorus, Junior Band
- Secondary—Tuesday, May 23 at 7:00 p.m.  
Concert Band, Concert Choir, Jazz Band, Chamber Singers



## 5th Grade Fiesta

In March, the fifth grade class taught by Ms. Smith held a fiesta to wrap up their quarter study of the book, *Esperanza Rising* by Pam Munoz Ryan.

The story follows a Mexican family who falls on hard times, so that they must immigrate to California to find work on a corporate crops farm. The plot follows the steady rise of their fortunes through many a setback and much perseverance. Esperanza Ortega's very name, "hope," is significant throughout. In addition to reading the story that was inspired by the author's grandmother's life, the class had some lessons on daily life in 1930s America during the Great Depression, the plight of the migrant Mexican workers, the equally desperate situation of the Okies who fled the dustbowl of the Midwest to seek livelihood in California, the "black blizzards" that stripped the Midwest topsoil and dumped it all over the United States, and the Repatriation policy that deported Mexicans and Mexican-American U.S. citizens, alike.

To prepare for the fiesta, the students learned about how to set a table and made Mexican flag placemats that were laminated as keepsakes. They set up a banquet table with their desks and had a leisurely lunchtime meal. There were very few leftovers!

Taking inspiration from the book, the fiesta featured main dishes generously and skillfully prepared by Mrs. Lyons' high school Cultural Foods class. These included enchiladas and papas con chorizo, potatoes and Mexican pork sausage with jalapeno. A delicious flan de almendras, almond flan, was our dessert. There was also an array of fresh fruits and vegetables to sample, all from the chapter titles of the book.

For a surprise finale, the class had one more fun feature from the book: a traditional colorful pinata stuffed with caramels!

Hopefully they will all remember this meaningful book and the celebration that was held, as a highlight of their school days.



# MAY 2023

## Laurens Central School

THE FIRST WEEK OF MAY WAS STUDENT CHOICE FOR LUNCH

Breakfast K-3 \$1.95  
 Breakfast 4-12 \$2.10  
 Lunch K-3 \$2.20  
 Lunch 4-12 \$2.45

### Monday

**1**  
 Breakfast Biscuit Sandwich  
 Chicken Bacon Ranch Bake  
 Over Pasta  
 Broccoli  
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

**8**  
 Breakfast Pizza  
 Chicken Patty  
 Brussel Sprouts  
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

**15**  
 French Toast Sticks  
 Chicken Tenders  
 Tater Tots  
 Green Beans  
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

**22**  
 Breakfast Sandwich  
 Chicken Quesadillas  
 Corn  
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

**29**  
**NO SCHOOL**  
**MEMORIAL DAY!**

### Tuesday

**2**  
 Assorted Cereal  
 WW Bagel  
 Brunch for Lunch  
 Pancakes, Sausage & Eggs  
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

**9**  
 Oatmeal w/Brown Sugar  
 Soft or Hard Shelled Tacos  
 Refried beans  
 Corn  
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

**16**  
 Sausage Gravy & Biscuit  
 Chicken Broccoli Alfredo Bake  
 Garlic Bread  
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

**23**  
 Pancakes w/Bacon  
 Chili  
 Corn Muffin  
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

**30**  
**POTENTIAL FOR**  
**NO SCHOOL**  
**UNUSED SNOWDAY!**

### Wednesday

**3**  
 Breakfast Burrito  
 Macaroni & Cheese  
 Green Beans  
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

**10**  
 Egg Hash Brown Bake  
 Hamburger/Cheeseburger  
 French Fries  
 Cauliflower  
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

**17**  
 Scrambled Eggs w/Cheese  
 WW Bagel  
 Fish Sticks  
 Sweet Potato Fries  
**WRAP DAY**  
 Assorted Wraps  
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

**24**  
 French Toast Bake w/Strawberries  
 Oven Baked Chicken  
 Mashed Potatoes  
 Peas  
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

**31**  
 French Toast Sticks  
 Goulash  
 Garlic Bread  
 Green Beans  
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

### Thursday

**4**  
 Scrambled Eggs w/ Home Fries  
 Ultimate Chicken Bowl  
 WW Roll  
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

**11**  
 Breakfast on a Stick  
 Grilled Cheese  
 Tomato Soup  
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

**18**  
 Chocolate Chip Pancakes  
 BBQ Rib Patty  
 French Fries  
 Carrots  
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

**25**  
 Breakfast Burrito  
 Pulled Pork  
 French Fries  
 Cauliflower  
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

### Friday

**5**  
 Waffles w/Strawberries  
 Pasta Bar w/Marinara & Alfredo Sauce  
 Carrots  
 Garlic Bread  
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

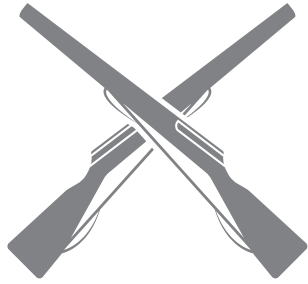
**12**  
**POTENTIAL FOR**  
**NO SCHOOL**  
**UNUSED SNOWDAY!**

**19**  
 Assorted Muffins & Yogurt  
 Assorted Pizza  
 Spinach and Romaine Salad  
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

**26**  
**POTENTIAL FOR**  
**NO SCHOOL**  
**UNUSED SNOWDAY!**



Breakfast and Lunch must include 3 items and one MUST be a fruit and/or vegetable. USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer



## Laurens Jaguars Colorguard

On April 1, the junior and varsity colorguards went to East Syracuse Minoa for the Mid-York Colorguard Circuit Championships. The junior guard performed their show, "Girls Just Want to Have Fun." After competing against five other guards, the girls completed their undefeated season with a first-place victory. The varsity guard performed their show, "Diggin." They finished an amazing season with a second-place victory. Congratulations to all of the girls! They worked hard all season, and have a lot to be proud of.



## Laurens Central School Hygiene Backpack

LCS is happy to announce that our LCS Hygiene Backpack Program will continue. This will be the third year that we are able to assist with hygiene products for your family. If you are interested in participating, please complete the form below and have your child return it to his/her teacher. This program is 100% confidential and you may sign up at any time. If you have more than one child in the school, please only list one child's name on the student name line below. We will ensure that there are enough supplies for the entire family.

The hygiene backpack will contain:

Shampoo, toothpaste, soap, deodorant, and at times other toiletries. The backpack will be send home with your child once a month, usually the first Monday of the month. We ask that your child return the backpack to one of the backpack boxes located in the main office or the entrance by Ms. Shean's desk.

### **HYGIENE BACKPACK**

Student's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of people in family: \_\_\_\_\_



## MOTHER'S DAY BREAKFAST

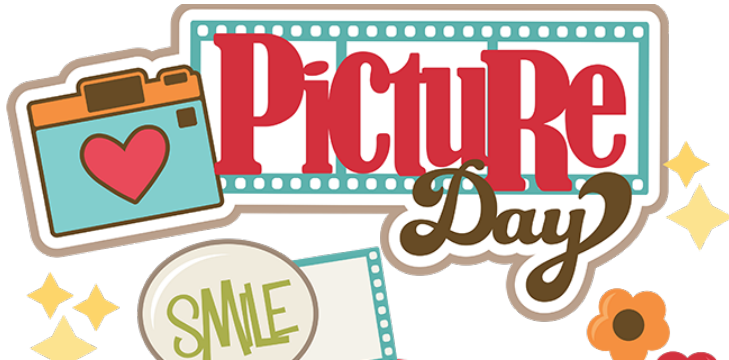
Hosted by the LCS Class of 2024

Celebrate Mom! Enjoy lots of good food, basket raffles, and more! Hope to see you there!

**WHEN: SUNDAY, MAY 14, 8:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.**

**WHERE: LCS CAFETERIA**

**COST: BY DONATION**



**Class Picture Day  
for PreK – 6th grades  
will be  
Wednesday, May 10**



## Brooks BBQ Chicken Dinner

**LAURENS TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION  
SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER**

Brooks chicken dinner—\$16.00

(includes ½ chicken, baked potato, macaroni salad, & dinner roll)

Prepaid orders only, due by **Tuesday, May 2—cash only.**

Pick up on Budget Vote Day, **Tuesday, May 16 between 4:00-6:00 p.m.**  
in the Family & Consumer Science room (room 115, Mrs. Lyons).

If you would like to order, please complete the form and return it with cash  
to LCS by May 2.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of dinners \_\_\_\_\_ X \$16.00 = \_\_\_\_\_



## Essay Contest

On March 3, students in grades 7 through 12 had the opportunity to watch the film *Till*. The movie tells the story of the horrific lynching of 14 year old, Emmett Till, in Money, Mississippi during the Summer of 1955 and the subsequent trial of the two men accused of this crime. The brutal murder of Emmett Till was the spark that ignited the modern Civil Rights movement. The students were quite moved by this story and several expressed their appreciation of learning more about this historic time.

The LCS Social Studies and English departments held an essay contest in which students were asked to reflect on the film *Till* and the Civil Rights movement as a whole. Students were asked to tell Emmett’s story, explain the importance of this event on the Civil Rights movement, and reflect on what Emmett’s story can teach us today. The contest was split into two categories; grades 7 – 9 and grades 10 – 12. The submissions that were received impressed the panel of Mr. Casey, Mr. Powers, Mr. Leombrone, Ms. Bello, and Mr. Gaglia tremendously. It was not an easy task to decide winners!

### The winners are as follows:

#### Grades 7 – 9

First Place – *Lucie Benada*

Second Place – *Lexie Sherwood*

Third Place - *Hailey Ashley-Baker*

#### Grades 10 – 11

First Place – *Jaidon Brodie*

Second Place – *Tara Bookhout*

Third Place – *Ryeley Gravelding*

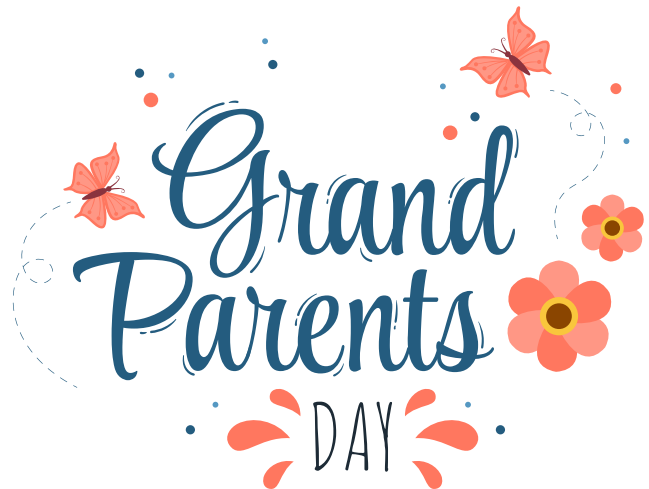
## Student Voted Lunches

Student Council recently held a poll to determine a week’s worth of student chosen lunches. For one week in May the cafeteria lunch menu will consist of the students’ favorites.

The top vote getters were:

- **Ultimate Chicken Bowl**
- **Mr. Dorritie’s Surprise**—Mr. Dorritie will be presenting his Chicken Bacon Ranch Bake!
- **Brunch for Lunch**
- **Macaroni and Cheese**
- **Pasta Bar**

Thank you to all the students who participated and thank you to our awesome cafeteria staff for accommodating us!



On Friday, May 5, 2023 we will be hosting the 34th Annual Grandparent’s Day for grades K-6. Each child may invite his or her grandparent(s) or a grandparent substitute (an older member of the family or a friend) to come to school on that day. Visitors should park in the main parking lot and use the side handicap entrance.

Upon arrival, grandparents will go directly to the multi-purpose room for a musical program involving grades K-6. The program will begin at 1:00. Following the musical program, which should end at approximately 1:45, grandparents will be invited to visit their grandchildren in the cafeteria, atrium and/or classroom from 1:45-2:15. Refreshments will be served.

All grandparents are asked to leave the building by 2:30 to avoid traffic problems with the buses. If any children will be leaving with grandparents, parents are required to send a note in with your child that morning requesting this arrangement.

# Share and Shine News

## ATTENTION K-6 PARENTS AND GUARDIANS!

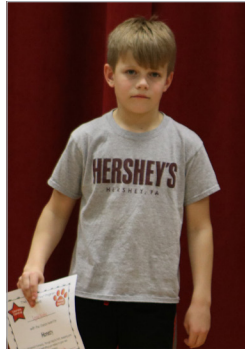
Change of date & time (due to the potential for a returned emergency day on May 26):

**Thursday, May 25 at 1:45 p.m. in the MPR**

We will be holding the grand prize drawing for the Literary Leopards during the assembly.



## March Award Winners for Honesty



## May Calendar of Events

- 1..... Colorguard Advocates, Rm 129A, 6:00 p.m.  
VSB vs. Richfield Springs @ Milford  
VBB vs. Richfield Springs @ Milford
- 2..... Envirothon @ Gilbert Lake  
MBB/MSB @ Sharon Springs  
Zumba, Café, 6:00 p.m.  
Village Meeting, Rm 129A, 6:30 p.m.  
Budget Hearing, MPR, 7:00 p.m.
- 3..... VSB vs. Morris/Edmeston @ Morris  
Track Tri-Valley Relays @ GMU  
8th Grade Parent Night, 7:00 p.m.
- 4..... MSB @ Richfield Springs  
VBB vs. WAJ @ Milford
- 5..... Grandparent's Day, MPR, 1:00 p.m.  
MBB/MSB @ Richfield Springs
- 6..... VSB Tournament @ Charlotte Valley  
VBB vs. Walton @ Charlotte Valley 12 p.m.  
Track @ Cooperstown Invitational 2 p.m.  
Zumba, MPR, 9:00 am
- 7..... Community Basketball, Gym, 7:00 p.m.
- 8..... VBB Playoff #1
- 9..... VSB Playoff #1  
MBB/MSB @ Edmeston  
Zumba, MPR, 6:00 p.m.
- 10..... PreK-6 Class Pictures  
VBB Playoff #2  
Track Harbaugh Invitational  
POMP Mtg. via Zoom, 7:00 p.m.
- 11..... VSB Playoff #2  
MSB vs. Schenevus  
MBB vs. Schenevus @ Milford
- 12..... **Possibly NO School—Unused Emergency Day**  
Track Oneonta Invitational  
Tri-Valley Championships  
NYSSMA Festival
- 13..... NYSSMA Festival  
Tri-Valley BB/SB Championships
- 14..... Happy Mother's Day  
Mother's Day Brunch, Café, 8:00 a.m.  
Community Basketball, Gym, 7:00 p.m.
- 15..... Tri-Valley Steeplechase  
MSB @ Worcester  
MBB vs. Richfield Springs @ Milford  
Booster Club Meeting, Rm 129A, 7:00 p.m.
- 16..... BUDGET VOTE DAY – Rm 101 12:00 - 8:00 p.m.  
Final Elementary Concert, MPR, 6:00 p.m.
- 17..... MBB vs. Worcester @ Milford  
BOE Meeting Rm 115 7:30 p.m.
- 18..... Track League Championships  
Zumba, MPR, 6:00 p.m.
- 19..... MSB vs. Edmeston  
MBB @ Morris
- 21..... Community Basketball, Gym, 7:00 p.m.
- 22..... MSB @ Morris  
MBB @ Morris
- 23..... NYS 8th Performance Science Test  
Final Secondary Concert, MPR, 7:00 p.m.
- 24..... Track Sectional Championships
- 25..... Share and Shine, MPR, 1:45 p.m.  
Zumba, MPR, 6:00 p.m.
- 26..... Possibly NO School – Unused Emergency Day
- 27..... Zumba, MPR, 9:00 am  
Prom 7:00 – 11:00 p.m.
- 28..... Community Basketball, Gym, 7:00 p.m.
- 29..... **NO SCHOOL—MEMORIAL DAY**  
Memorial Day Parade 10:00 a.m.
- 30..... Possibly NO School – Unused Emergency Day  
Zumba, MPR, 6:00 p.m.



### Pre-Kindergarten

If you have a child that will be turning four years old on or before December 1, 2023, please contact Lindsey Gifford at 607-432-2050 ext. 2100 so that we may place your child on the Pre-Kindergarten list for the 2023-2024 school year. Registration packets are available. If you did need a packet, please call the school.

### Kindergarten

If you have a child that will be turning five years old on or before December 1, 2023, please contact Lindsey Gifford at 607-432-2050 ext. 2100 so that we may place your child on the Kindergarten list for the 2023-2024 school year. Please call to receive a registration packet.

## News from the Nurse . . .TICK TIME!

This time of year kids spend a lot of time outside and ticks are everywhere! It's a good idea to check your child's skin daily, from head to toe. Below is some helpful information.

### TICK REMOVAL: A STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE

First, don't panic. It's true that Lyme disease is the most common tick-borne disease in the United States, but your child's risk of developing Lyme disease after being bitten by a tick is very low. To be safe, though, you'll want to remove the tick as soon as possible because risk of infection increases between 24 to 48 hours after the tick attaches to the skin.

### WHAT TO DO

**Step 1:** Use tweezers to grasp the tick firmly at its head or mouth, next to the skin.

**Step 2:** Pull firmly and steadily until the tick lets go of the skin. Do not twist the tick or rock it from side to side. If part of the tick stays in the skin, don't worry. It will eventually come out on its own.

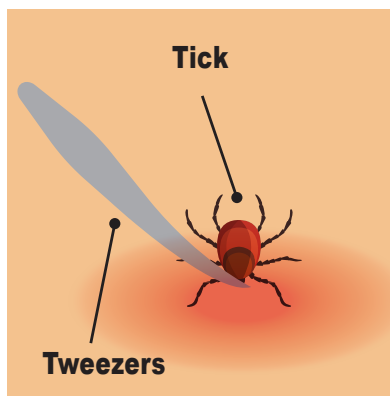
**Step 3:** Release the tick into a jar or zip-locked bag in case you want to have it identified later on.

**Step 4:** Wash your hands and the site of the bite with soap and water.

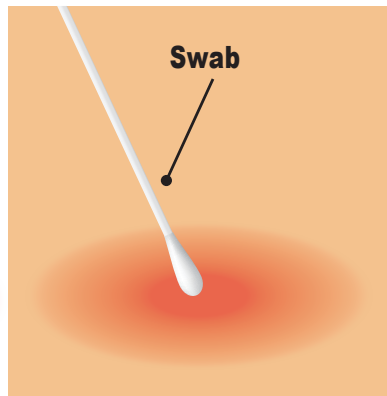
**Step 5:** Swab the bite site with alcohol.

Never use petroleum jelly or a hot match to kill and remove a tick. These methods don't get the tick off the skin, and can cause the insect to burrow deeper and release more saliva (which increases the chances of disease transmission).

### REMOVING A TICK



**Grasp and pull.**



**Swab and check the area.**



**Save the tick.**

### NEXT STEPS

Call your doctor after the tick has been removed to find out if your child should be evaluated. In certain cases, a doctor will prescribe antibiotics if a child is at high risk of developing Lyme disease.

Call the doctor right away if your child develops a red-ringed rash or if the skin becomes red and irritated. Also call if your child has flu-like symptoms, joint pain or a swollen joint, or facial paralysis. Although other conditions can cause similar symptoms, you'll want to have your child evaluated early on so that if it is Lyme disease, treatment can begin as soon as possible.

**LAURENS CENTRAL SCHOOL**  
**Laurens, New York 13796**

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## **Budget Hearing**

**MAY 2, 2023**  
**7:00 PM**

**LCS MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM**

## **Budget Vote**

**MAY 16, 2023**  
**12:00-8:00 P.M.**

**LAURENS CS ROOM 101**



*On Memorial Day 2023, Laurens Central School would like to honor all of those brave Americans who have made the ultimate sacrifice at home and abroad in the defense of freedom.*

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### **Parade**

The Memorial Day parade will start at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, May 29th. If there is inclement weather, the ceremonies will be held in the LCS gym.