



# Leopard's Tale

Volume IX, Number V

May 2024

LAURENS CENTRAL SCHOOL NEWSLETTER • 2024-25 Budget Edition

## What's Inside . . .

Superintendent's Letter .....	1
Budget Development .....	2
Budget & Propositions .....	2
Contingency Budget .....	2
Closing Thoughts .....	2
Board Vacancy .....	3
Budget Components .....	3
Administrative Budget .....	4
Program Budget .....	5
Capital Budget .....	5
General Fund .....	6
Property Tax Report Card .....	6
School Counseling News .....	7
College Acceptances .....	7
Awards Banquet .....	7
Music Dept. News .....	7
Kindergarten & Pre-K Registration .....	7
Safety Patrol Trip .....	8
Skills USA—Victoria Stevens .....	8
Junior Prom .....	8
Special Education .....	9
Exploring Science .....	9
Laurens Jaguars Colorguard .....	10
Hygiene Backback .....	10
Class Pictures .....	10
May Lunch Menu .....	11
Grandparents Day .....	12
Poetry Slam .....	12
Mother's Day Breakfast .....	12
Share & Shine .....	13
Calendar of Events .....	14
News from the Nurse .....	15
Budget Dates .....	16
Memorial Day .....	16

## 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 2024-2025 budget. As many of you are aware, Governor Hochul's proposed cuts to state education aid have had a major effect on our budget development. Although the Governor and the State Legislature have not agreed on a final budget as of the preparation of this newsletter, we have prepared a budget based on the Governor's original proposal.

### DATE AND TIME OF VOTE

The annual budget vote and school board election has been scheduled for May 21, 2024 between the hours of 12:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. at Laurens Central School, Room 115.

### REQUIRED PUBLIC HEARING

The required public hearing on this year's proposed budget will be held on May 7, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room.

### ABSENTEE BALLOTS

Applications for absentee ballots may be requested by contacting the District Clerk by email at [pweir@laurens.org](mailto:pweir@laurens.org) or by calling 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 completed absentee ballots must be properly filled out and received in the Office of the District Clerk by 5:00 p.m. on May 21, 2024.

### EARLY MAIL BALLOTS

Applications for early mail ballots may be requested by contacting the District Clerk by email at [pweir@laurens.org](mailto:pweir@laurens.org)

or by calling 607-432-2050. Completed applications must be received by the District Clerk at least (7) days before the election if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or the day before the election if the ballot is to be picked up personally by the voter at the District Office. Early mail ballots must be received by the District Clerk not later than 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 21, 2024. The names of all individuals requesting early mail or absentee ballots that are issued will be available for public inspection in the office of the District Clerk and said list will be posted at the polling place at the election.

### 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@laurens.org](mailto:pweir@laurens.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 25, 2024. 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.



# 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 2.95%. At this time we anticipate using \$601,384 of fund balance and are anticipating the use of \$45,000 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 2.95%.

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

## 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 83. Bus 83 has over 65,600 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 \$5,500 for the trade-in of Bus 82.

### FINANCES FOR THE BUS PURCHASE

Cost	\$176,325
Total Trade-in	\$5,500
Total Cost of Bus	\$170,825
Less State Aid (86.1%)	\$147,593
Cost to District	\$23,232

**The bus will be paid for entirely out of the bus reserve. There will be no tax impact as a result of this purchase.**

# 2024-2025 School Budget and Propositions

- In person voting will take place at Laurens Central School, Room 115, on May 21, 2024 between the hours of 12:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.
- Absentee and early mail Ballots must be received by the District Clerk by 5:00pm on May 21, 2024.
- 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 **\$11,628,646** for the 2024-2025 school year budget.

**This will require a tax levy increase of 2.95%.**

The total budget number could change based on additional information that comes out about the pending 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, 2024 and expiring on June 30, 2029, Incumbent Gerard Murello.

## 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.**

## 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!

# 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 Member, Mr. Gerard Murello.*

**MR. MURELLO WILL BE RUNNING FOR THE SEAT AGAIN.**

Hello to all my friends and neighbors of the Town of Laurens. My name is Jerry Murello and I will be running for the upcoming seat on the Laurens Central School, Board of Education. I would like to take a moment to introduce myself.

My wife and I raised our four children, all of whom have attended and graduated Laurens Central School. I have been an active member of the school's board of education for the last 15 years. My other involvements with our school district have included being an active member of the school's Parent - Student Health Advisory Committee, the Laurens Central School Booster Club, and the school's Shared Decision Making Committee. Outside of the school I served as Unit Commissioner for the Laurens Pack 10 Cub Scouts and Troop 10 Boy Scouts. I also currently serve as a sitting committee member for the Laurens Youth League Sports program which helps to provide sports opportunities for PreK thru 6th grade boys and girls of our community.

I believe the responsibility to ensure that our children are provided a safe and healthy learning environment and to aid in ensuring fiscal prudence as it pertains to the financial operation of our school district belongs to the citizens of the community, and with that thought, I feel duty bound to contribute my part in that responsibility.

I thank you for your time and hope that you will come out to vote on May 21.

Sincerely,  
Jerry Murello

## 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
- 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).

## LAURENS CENTRAL SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION

*Cynthia Struckle, President*  
*Thomas Francisco, Vice President*  
*Gerard Murello, Member*  
*Margaret Wikoff, Member*  
*Peggy Bush-Allen, 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	2023-24	2024-25
<b>BOARD OF EDUCATION</b>		
Board of Education	\$17,000	\$20,300
District Meeting	\$2,150	\$2,150
District Clerk	\$3,200	\$3,298
School Association Dues	\$5,700	\$5,700
<b>Total Board of Education</b>	<b>\$28,050</b>	<b>\$31,448</b>
<b>CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION</b>		
School Administrative Costs	\$184,812	\$183,001
BOCES Administrative Costs	\$151,000	\$151,000
<b>Total Central Administration</b>	<b>\$335,812</b>	<b>\$334,001</b>
<b>FINANCE</b>		
Treasurers Office	\$104,000	\$115,800
Auditing	\$23,600	\$23,400
Tax Collector	\$4,300	\$4,300
Fiscal Agent Fees	\$3,500	\$7,000
Purchasing	\$3,000	\$2,800
Tax Refund	\$3,000	\$3,000
<b>Total Finance</b>	<b>\$141,800</b>	<b>\$156,300</b>
<b>STAFF</b>		
Appraisal	\$11,500	\$11,000
Personnel	\$32,900	\$35,330
Public Information and Service	\$1,300	\$1,300
Records Management	\$1,290	\$1,182
<b>Total Staff</b>	<b>\$46,990</b>	<b>\$48,812</b>
<b>CENTRAL SERVICES</b>		
Central Printing and Mailing	\$17,850	\$12,860
Central Data Processing	\$100,000	\$95,000
Insurance	\$2,700	\$2,000
<b>Total Central Services</b>	<b>\$120,550</b>	<b>\$109,860</b>
<b>ADMINISTRATION AND IMPROVEMENT</b>		
Curriculum Development & Supervision	\$188,800	\$211,800
In-Service Training	\$500	\$500
Research, Planning & Evaluation	\$42,325	\$37,885
<b>Total Administration &amp; Improvements</b>	<b>\$231,625</b>	<b>\$250,185</b>
<b>EMPLOYEE BENEFITS</b>		
<b>Total Employee Benefits</b>	<b>\$139,879</b>	<b>\$147,783</b>
<b>TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET</b>	<b>\$1,044,706</b>	<b>\$1,078,389</b>

## Program Component Details

NAME OF ACCOUNT	2023-24	2024-25
<b>INSTRUCTION</b>		
Teaching—Regular School	\$2,046,300	\$2,091,281
Programs for Students with Disabilities	\$1,491,550	\$1,729,482
Occupational Education	\$200,000	\$248,200
Teaching—Special Schools	\$78,800	\$59,100
<b>Total Instruction</b>	<b>\$3,816,650</b>	<b>\$4,128,063</b>
<b>INSTRUCTIONAL MEDIA</b>		
School Library & Audio Visual	\$137,478	\$145,296
Computer Assisted Instruction	\$129,642	\$143,800
<b>Total Instructional Media</b>	<b>\$267,120</b>	<b>\$289,096</b>
<b>PUPIL SERVICES</b>		
Attendance	\$13,200	\$13,800
Guidance	\$135,361	\$139,778
Health Services	\$55,100	\$56,400
Social Work	\$0	\$0
Psychological Services	\$63,000	\$100,000
Co-Curricular Activities	\$40,150	\$43,536
Interscholastic Athletics	\$149,465	\$147,465
Pupil Personnel	\$0	\$0
<b>Total Pupil Service</b>	<b>\$456,276</b>	<b>\$500,979</b>
<b>PUPIL TRANSPORTATION</b>		
District Transportation Services	\$627,339	\$562,000
<b>Total Pupil Transportation</b>	<b>\$627,339</b>	<b>\$562,000</b>
<b>CIVIC ACTIVITIES</b>		
Civic	\$6,156	\$6,316
Census Taker	\$0	\$0
<b>Total Civic</b>	<b>\$6,156</b>	<b>\$6,316</b>
<b>EMPLOYEE BENEFITS</b>		
<b>Total Employee Benefits</b>	<b>\$1,721,478</b>	<b>\$1,822,663</b>
<b>TOTAL PROGRAM BUDGET</b>	<b>\$6,895,019</b>	<b>\$7,309,117</b>

## Capital Component Details

NAME OF ACCOUNT	2023-24	2024-25
<b>CENTRAL SERVICES</b>		
Operation of Plant	\$887,864	\$1,098,000
Maintenance of Plant	\$72,136	\$60,000
Equipment	\$0	\$0
<b>Total Central Services</b>	<b>\$960,000</b>	<b>\$1,158,000</b>
<b>EMPLOYEE BENEFITS</b>		
<b>Total Employee Benefits</b>	<b>\$162,843</b>	<b>\$172,414</b>
<b>DEBT SERVICES</b>		
<b>Total Debt Services</b>	<b>\$1,911,957</b>	<b>\$1,910,726</b>
<b>TOTAL CAPITAL BUDGET</b>	<b>\$3,034,800</b>	<b>\$3,241,140</b>

## Total General Fund Budget

	2023-24	2024-25
Administrative Component	\$1,044,706	\$1,078,389
Program Component	\$6,895,019	\$7,309,117
Capital Component	\$3,034,800	\$3,241,140
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>\$10,974,525</b>	<b>\$11,628,646</b>

## Estimated General Fund Revenues

	2023-24	2024-25
State Aid	\$7,551,119	\$7,571,479
Real Property Taxes	\$2,950,785	\$3,037,833
Charges for Services	\$2,000	\$2,000
Use of Money and Property	\$2,000	\$2,000
Miscellaneous	\$151,000	\$413,500
Fund Balance/Reserves	\$317,621	\$601,834
<b>TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUES</b>	<b>\$10,974,525</b>	<b>\$11,628,646</b>

## Three-Part Expenditure Breakdown Percentage of Total Budget

	2023-24	2024-25
Administrative Component	9.52%	9.27%
Program Component	62.83%	62.85%
Capital Component	27.65%	27.87%
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Property Tax Report Card for Laurens Central School

	2023-24	2024-25	% CHANGE OVER PREVIOUS YEAR
<b>AMOUNT OF BUDGET</b>	\$10,974,525	\$11,628,646	5.96%
<b>ESTIMATED STATE AID</b>	\$7,551,119	\$7,571,479	.27%
<b>ESTIMATED TAX LEVY</b>	\$2,950,785	\$3,037,833	2.95%
<b>PROJECTED GROWTH ENROLLMENT</b>	340	340	0.00%
<b>CONSUMER PRICE INDEX</b>	8.00%	4.12%	-48.50%



## Class of 2024 College Acceptances

**Trinity Beasley** for Business—SUNY Cobleskill, SUNY Delhi  
**Tara Bookhout** for Prelaw/Political Science—Hartwick, SUNY Oneonta, SUNY University of Albany, University at Buffalo, SUNY Stony Brook, University of Hartford

**Jaidon Brodie** for Engineering—SUNY Morrisville, Niagara University, SUNY Polytechnic Institute, Hartwick, SUNY UAlbany, Nazareth University, Clarkson University

**Eowyn Chickereil** for Health Sciences—Hartwick, St. Bonaventure, SUNY Oneonta, SUNY UAlbany

**Angelina Conley** for Animal Science/Vet Tech—SUNY Cobleskill, SUNY Delhi, SUNY Morrisville, SUNY Broome

**Alexandria Geissinger** for Business—Hartwick, SUNY Oneonta

**Ryeley Gravelding** for Undecided—Hartwick, SUNY Oneonta, SUNY Cortland, SUNY Stonybrook, SUNY UAlbany

**Logan Green** for Graphics—SUNY Cobleskill, Tompkins Cortland CC, Alfred State

**Jacob Griswold** for Studio Art—Herkimer CCC

**Hunter Huffman** for Criminal Justice—Hartwick, SUNY Delhi

**Alysa Hunt** for Business—SUNY Broome, Herkimer CCC, SUNY Delhi, SUNY Cobleskill

**Alesa John** for Nursing—Hartwick, Morgan State University, Binghamton University, Elmira College, SUNY Delhi, Keiser University, University of South Florida

**Kadance LeBeau** for Criminal Justice—Hartwick, Herkimer CCC, SUNY Broome, SUNY Cobleskill, SUNY Delhi, Elmira College, SUNY Oswego, SUNY Potsdam, St. John Fisher, SUNY Brockport, SUNY Oneonta, Utica University, SUNY Canton, *\*\*Framingham State University*

**Ethan Martindale** for Mechatronics—SUNY Delhi, Alfred State

**Jade Moxley** for Childhood Education—Hartwick, SUNY Oneonta

**Nevaeh Norton** for Nursing—SUNY Delhi, ONC BOCES Practical Nursing Program

**Spencer Platt** for Undecided—Herkimer CCC

**Bailey Rondeau** for Criminal Justice—Hartwick, SUNY Broome, Alfred State, SUNY Brockport, SUNY Delhi, SUNY Morrisville, Herkimer CCC, SUNY Oneonta, SUNY Cobleskill

**Logan Rondeau** for Vet Tech—SUNY Cobleskill, SUNY Delhi, SUNY Canton

**Victoria Stevens** for Environmental Engineering—SUNY Buffalo Honors Program, Clarkson University, *\*\*SUNY ESF, RIT, Syracuse University*

**Starlene Stilson** for Childhood Education—SUNY Cobleskill, SUNY Delhi, Onondaga CCC, Jamestown CCC, Dutchess CCC, SUNY Plattsburgh, Orange CCC

*\*\*New additions*

## May 2024 School Counseling News

### IMPORTANT DATES

6/3 .....8th Grade Parent Night

### 8TH GRADE PARENT NIGHT

This year, 8th Grade Parents' Night will be held June 3rd at 6 p.m. Reminders will be sent via Parent Square with all pertinent information. Topics to be addressed include NYS and LCS graduation 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!

### Awards Banquets

Tuesday, June 4, 2024 at 1:30 p.m.

for Grades 7-8th in the MPR

Tuesday, June 4, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

for Grades 9-12th in the Gym

**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 14 at 6:00 p.m.  
PreK-6 music classes, Elementary Chorus, Junior Band
- Secondary—Tuesday, May 21 at 7:00 p.m.  
Concert Band, Concert Choir, Jazz Band, Chamber Singers



### Pre-Kindergarten

If you have a child that will be turning four years old on or before December 1, 2024, please contact Lindsey Gifford at 607-432-2050 ext. 2100 so that we may place your child on the Pre-Kindergarten list for the 2024-2025 school year.

### Kindergarten

If you have a child that will be turning five years old on or before December 1, 2024, please contact Lindsey Gifford at 607-432-2050 ext. 2100 so that we may place your child on the Pre-Kindergarten list for the 2024-2025 school year.



## Safety Patrol Trip

The L.C.S. 6th Grade Safety Patrol will be going on a field trip to Gettysburg, PA and Hershey Park as a culmination of their hard work and dedication during the school year. If you wish to donate money to help offset the cost of the trip you can send donations by May 13, 2024 to:

L.C.S. Safety Patrol  
 P.O Box 301  
 Laurens, NY 13796

If you have any questions please contact either Scott Bolton at [sbolton@laurencs.org](mailto:sbolton@laurencs.org) or Kayla Welsh at [kwelsh@laurencs.org](mailto:kwelsh@laurencs.org) or call the school at 607-432-2050.

Thank you for all of your support.  
 Advisors,  
 Scott Bolton and Kayla Welsh



## Global Studies

Before Spring Break, 9th grade students in Miss Furner's Global Studies classes had the chance to try on some different types of armor. They had just finished a unit on the Dark Ages and Feudal Europe.



*Senior Victoria Stevens took first place in the Skills USA competition for interviewing, now she's preparing for State competition. Skills USA is a BOCES skills and competition program. Congratulations Victoria!*





# Introducing our fantastic Special Education and Related Service Department

*Thank you for all that you do for our students!*



*Left to right: Mrs. Gartung, Mrs Safford, Mrs. Kane, Mrs. Mathieson, Mrs. Peck, Mrs. Roecklein, and Mrs. Gifford*



## Exploring Science

On Friday March 8 the eighth graders took a trip to SUNY Oneonta for a hands-on day exploring science. The students spent the first half of the trip in the AJ Read Science Discovery Center. At this location, the students were able to explore firsthand some phenomena from Chemistry, Physics, Biology, and Earth Science. Many students spent time building robots, playing a theremin, or exploring topography with sand. *Andrew Hausmann* was dedicated to getting his photo on the wall by completing the ramp challenge. After spending most of his time trying to get his marble to roll down and stop at the perfect height, he finally finished the challenge and got his photo on the wall. After an hour in the discovery center the students walked over to the planetarium for an introduction to astronomy. Students explored the parts of our solar system, other stars in the galaxy and the scale of our universe. After the planetarium, the students enjoyed a delicious lunch from our cafeteria staff in the atrium of the Physical Science building on SUNY Oneonta's campus, then returned to the school. It was a great trip, and the students represented our district very well. The science discovery center is free and open to the public. You can check out their hours online! It is a great way for anyone to experience science phenomena in a hands-on environment.

*—Mr. Brian Roecklein*





## Laurens Jaguars Colorguard

On April 6, the junior and varsity colorguards went to Shenendahowa, in Clifton Park, for the Mid-York Colorguard Circuit Championships. The junior guard performed their show, "Nevermore Academy." After competing against seven other guards, the girls completed their season with a 1st place victory. The varsity guard performed their show, "Take to the Open Road". They finished an amazing season with a 1st place victory. Congratulations to all of the girls! They worked hard all season, and have a lot to be proud of.



Laurens Central School would like to thank Laurens Together for their generous donation of items for our hygiene backpack program. This donation will assist us in serving our families with basic hygiene necessities. We greatly appreciate your assistance with our program.

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

## 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: \_\_\_\_\_

Breakfast Elementary \$2.00  
 Breakfast H.S. \$2.15  
 Lunch Elementary \$2.25  
 Lunch H.S. \$2.50

# MAY 2024

Laurens Central School

## Monday



**6**  
 Breakfast on a Stick  
 Chicken Patty  
 Tater Tots  
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

**13**  
 Waffles  
 Macaroni & Cheese  
 Broccoli  
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

**20**  
 Pancakes w/Sausage  
 Sloppy Joe  
 French Fries  
 Green Beans  
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

**NO SCHOOL**  
**MEMORIAL DAY**

## Tuesday



**7**  
 Oatmeal w/Brown Sugar & Raisins  
 Pasta w/ Alfredo or Marinara Sauce  
 Garlic Bread  
 Carrots  
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

**14**  
 French Toast Bake w/Strawberries  
 Chicken Stir Fry  
 Egg Roll  
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

**21**  
 Scrambled Eggs w/Hash Browns  
 Soft or Hard Shelled Tacos  
 Refried Beans  
 Corn  
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

**28**  
**Possible Returned**  
**EMERGENCY DAY**

## Wednesday

**1**  
 French Toast Sticks  
 Hamburger/Cheeseburger  
 French Fries  
 Carrots  
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

**8**  
 Scrambled Eggs w/Cheese & Home Fries  
 Chicken Quesadillas  
 Corn  
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

**15**  
 Breakfast Biscuit Sandwich  
 Fish Nuggets  
 Sweet Potato Fries  
 WRAP DAY  
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas

**22**  
 Breakfast Pizza  
 Ultimate Chicken Bowl  
 WW Roll  
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

**29**  
 Egg Hash Brown Bake  
 Chili  
 Corn Muffin  
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

## Thursday



**2**  
 Breakfast Pizza  
 Grilled Cheese  
 Tomato Soup  
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

**9**  
 Pancakes w/Bacon  
 Meatloaf  
 Mashed Potatoes w/Gravy  
 Peas  
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

**16**  
 Chocolate Chip Pancakes  
 Chicken Parm Wrap  
 Brussel Sprouts  
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

**23**  
**Possible Returned**  
**EMERGENCY DAY**

**30**  
 Breakfast Sandwich  
 Goulash  
 Cauliflower  
 Garlic Bread  
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

## Friday

**3**  
 Sausage Gravy & Biscuit  
 Assorted Stromboli's  
 Spinach and Romaine Salad  
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

**10**  
 Breakfast Sandwich  
 Assorted Pizza  
 Spinach and Romaine Salad  
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

**17**  
 Breakfast Burrito  
 Assorted Stromboli's  
 Spinach and Romaine Salad  
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

**24**  
**NO SCHOOL**

**31**  
 Scrambled Eggs w/ Home Fries  
 Assorted Pizza  
 Spinach and Romaine Salad  
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich



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

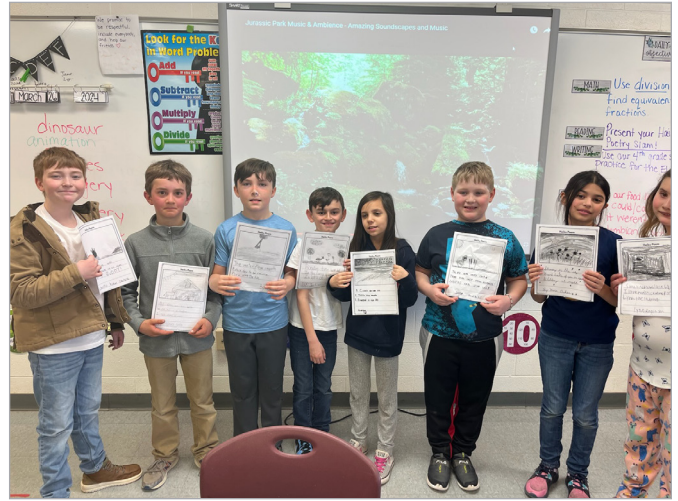
MY SCHOOL BUCKS  
 PAY FOR MEALS ONLINE  
 MySchoolBucks.com

# Grand Parents DAY

On Friday, May 3, 2024 we will be hosting the 35th Annual Grandparent's Day for grades PreK-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 PreK-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 their child that morning requesting this arrangement.



## Poetry Slam

Mrs. Trombley's 4th grade class worked hard on their poetry unit in the month of March. Students each wrote a Haiku about something in nature that is important to them. A Haiku is a style of poem that originated in Japan. Haikus are typically about nature and include three lines; the first line has five syllables, the second line has seven syllables, and the third line has five syllables. Students and teachers were so impressed by their Haikus that we knew we needed to share with an audience. Therefore, we held a Poetry Slam in our classroom and invited all of the elementary classes to come watch. We even had Mr. Mushtare come listen to our poetry! The 4th graders did a wonderful job and the Poetry Slam was enjoyed by all.

# Mother's Day Breakfast

Hosted by the LCS Class of 2024

When: Sunday, May 12, 8:00 am-12:00 pm

Where: LCS Cafeteria

Cost: By Donation

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



## Share and Shine News

### ATTENTION K-6 PARENTS AND GUARDIANS!

On Thursday, May 31st at 1:45 p.m. in the MPR we will hold our final assembly for the school year.

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

*\*\*If you plan to sign your child/children out after the assembly, PLEASE send in a note or call the main office by that morning. This greatly helps us with dismissal time.*

## March Award Winners for Honesty



*At our March Share & Shine Assembly, Mrs. Trombley's 4th grade class performed a skit of the Janet Stevens book "Tops and Bottoms." Great job 4th graders!*



## May Calendar of Events

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p>1..... NYS Math Testing grades 5 &amp; 8<br/>         VSB @ Franklin<br/>         MSB @ Unatego<br/>         Track Tri-Valley Relays @ Edmeston</p> <p>2..... MBB vs. Schenevus @ Milford<br/>         VBB @ Windham-Ashland-Jewett<br/>         Zumba, MPR, 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>3..... Grandparent’s Day, MPR, 1:00 p.m.<br/>         VSB/VBB @ Jefferson<br/>         JVSB @ Marathon</p> <p>4..... VSB vs. Worcester @ Davenport Tournament<br/>         Zumba, MPR, 9:00 a.m.<br/>         Track @ Cooperstown Invitational</p> <p>5..... Community Basketball, Gym, 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>6..... Baseball/Softball Round 1 Playoffs</p> <p>7..... NYS Math Testing grades 3, 4, 6, 7<br/>         MSB/MBB vs Edmeston<br/>         VBB @ Margaretville<br/>         Budget Hearing, MPR, 7:00 p.m.<br/>         Village Meeting, Rm 129A, 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>8..... NYS Math Testing grades 3, 4, 6, 7<br/>         Track - Harbaugh Invitational @ Delaware Academy<br/>         POMP Meeting via Teams, 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>9..... Baseball/Softball Round 2 Playoffs<br/>         Zumba, MPR, 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>10..... NYSSMA Solo Festival<br/>         PreK-6 Class Pictures<br/>         Track @ Oneonta Invitational<br/>         MBB @ Edmeston<br/>         MSB @ Afton<br/>         JVSB vs. Oneonta @ Milford</p> <p>11..... Zumba, MPR, 9:00 a.m.<br/>         NYSSMA Solo Festival @ Norwich<br/>         Milford Softball Tournament</p> <p>12..... Happy Mother’s Day<br/>         Mother’s Day Brunch, Café, 8 a.m. – 12 p.m.<br/>         Community Basketball, Gym, 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>13..... MBB vs. Sharon Springs @ Milford<br/>         JVSB @ Canajoharie<br/>         MSB vs. Cherry Valley-Springfield @ Milford<br/>         Track, Tri-Valley Steeplechase @ Oneonta</p> | <p>14..... NYS Science Testing grades 5 &amp; 8<br/>         Baseball/Softball Championships<br/>         Elementary Final Concert, 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>15..... NYS Science Testing grades 5 &amp; 8<br/>         MSB vs. Morris @ All Star Village<br/>         MBB @ Morris<br/>         JVSB vs. Unatego @ Laurens</p> <p>16..... Track, Tri-Valley Championships @ Sidney<br/>         Softball Sectionals</p> <p>17..... Baseball Sectionals<br/>         JVSB @ Unatego<br/>         MBB vs. Morris @ Milford</p> <p>18..... Zumba, MPR, 9:00 a.m.<br/>         POMP Spaghetti Dinner, Café, 4 – 7 p.m.</p> <p>19..... Community Basketball, Gym, 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>20..... Track Steeplechase Championships @ Marathon<br/>         MBB @ Richfield Springs<br/>         MSB @ Oneonta<br/>         Booster Club Meeting, Rm 129A, 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>21..... BUDGET VOTE DAY – Rm 115, 12:00 - 8:00 p.m.<br/>         Final Secondary Concert, MPR, 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>22..... Track Sectionals @ Marathon<br/>         BOE Meeting, Rm 115, 7:30 p.m.<br/>         MBB vs. Worcester @ Milford</p> <p><b>23..... Possibly NO School—Unused Emergency Day</b><br/>         Zumba, MPR 6:00 pm</p> <p><b>24..... NO SCHOOL—Memorial Day Weekend</b></p> <p>25..... Zumba, MPR, 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>26..... Community Basketball, Gym, 6:00 p.m.</p> <p><b>27..... NO SCHOOL – MEMORIAL DAY</b><br/>         Memorial Day Parade, 10:00 a.m.</p> <p><b>28..... Possibly NO School—Unused Emergency Day</b><br/>         Zumba, MPR, 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>30..... Zumba, MPR, 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>31..... Share and Shine, MPR, 1:45 p.m.<br/>         MSB vs. Afton @ Laurens</p> |
|---|---|

## Fitness Center Training with Shiloh

Shiloh Chickerell is offering fitness center training for students, school staff, and community members Monday through Wednesday for the month of May at the school. If you are interested, please contact Shiloh at [shickerell@laurencs.org](mailto:shickerell@laurencs.org) or 607-287-0465 for more information.

# 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.

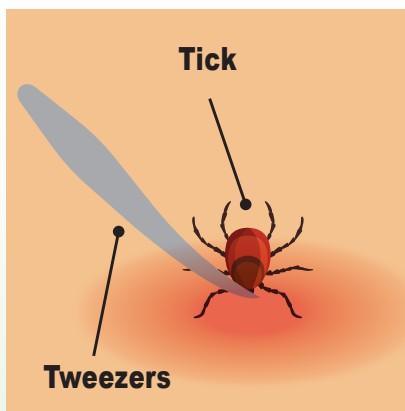
**Step 3:** Release the tick into a jar or zip-locked bag in case you want to have it identified later on.

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

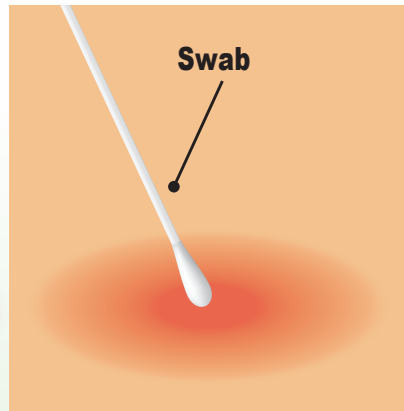
**Step 5:** Swab the bite site with alcohol.

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).

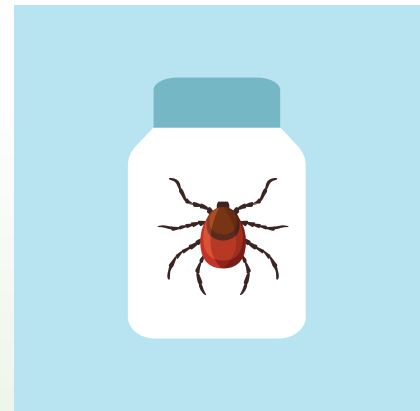
### REMOVING A TICK



**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**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Cynthia Struckle, President  
Thomas Francisco, Vice President  
Gerard Murello  
Margaret Wikoff  
Peggy Bush-Allen

**SUPERINTENDENT**

William F. Dorritie

**BUILDING PRINCIPAL**

John Mushtare

**EDITOR**

Pam Weir

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 18  
Norwich, NY  
13815

DCMO BOCES Printing Service

Current Resident or

POSTAL PATRON  
ECRWSS

---

## Budget Hearing

**MAY 7, 2024**  
**7:00 PM**

**LCS MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM**

## Budget Vote

**MAY 21, 2024**  
**12:00-8:00 P.M.**

**LAURENS CS ROOM 115**



*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.*

---

### Parade

The Memorial Day parade will start at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, May 27th. If there is inclement weather, the ceremonies will be held in the LCS gym.