

Leopard's Tale

Volume IX, Number IX

December 2024

LAURENS CENTRAL SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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The LCS Music Department is pleased to present its...

Winter Concerts

In the
in Laurens Central School, Multi-Purpose Room

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2024

6:00 P.M. ELEMENTARY CONCERT

featuring:

Music Classes PreK-6, Junior Band, & Elementary Choir

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2024

7:00 P.M. SECONDARY CONCERT

featuring:

Concert Band, Concert Choir, Jazz Ensemble, & Chamber Singers

** Any changes to the concerts will be communicated through our website and notification will be made to parents**



Thank you to
Laurens Fire
Department
Ladies Auxiliary
for sponsoring
this issue of the
Leopard's Tale.



U.N.I.C.E.F. BASKET

Thank You

The LCS Key Club would like to thank all those who supported our Trick-or-Treat for U.N.I.C.E.F. basket raffle. \$156 was raised. The winners were Brenda Long and Julian VanDeusen. Thank you again for your contributions.

From the Superintendent

Happy Holidays! I am happy to announce that Mr. Ken Olsen has begun his new position as the School Resource Officer for Laurens Central School. He will be a valuable member of our staff and school safety committees and has already been an attendee at multiple after school activities. We introduced Mr. Olsen to our students and staff via individual classroom visits for elementary grades and an assembly for grades 7-12. Since he has relatives at LCS and has already spent some time here as a teacher aide I have no doubt that his transition into his new role will be seamless.

We hope you have the opportunity to attend some upcoming basketball games. We will have our own boys' and girls modified and boys' JV teams; we are merged with Milford for boys' varsity, girls' varsity and girls JV basketball. Our Pat Grasso Girls' Holiday Tournament will be held on December 5, 6 and 7. The Boys' Grasso Tournament will be held on January 2, 3 and 4 with our annual Athletic Hall of Fame inductions on Friday, January 3. We are also hoping to provide a merged Laurens/Milford indoor track and field team for our student athletes this winter.

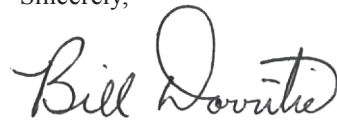
At this time we are still awaiting the report from the Rockefeller Institute of Government regarding state education aid. The recommendations in this report will be delivered to

Governor Hochul on December 1, prior to the release of her initial state budget proposal. These recommendations and the Governor's subsequent actions could have major implications for education funding for small rural districts like ours, so we are eagerly awaiting the release of the report as we start to plan the 2025-2026 budget.

The New York State Education Department has also released its preliminary timeline for the implementation of its new "Portrait of a Graduate" and its plan for reimagining education in New York State. According to the recently released timeline it is anticipated that this year's sophomore class will be the last class that will be required to pass Regents exams to meet graduation requirements. As we receive more specifics we will distribute them to our families and the public.

As always, thank you for your continued support of our students and programs. I wish you all a very happy holiday season and look forward to great things happening at LCS in 2025.

Sincerely,



William F. Dorritie, Superintendent



HOLIDAY DRESS-UP SPIRIT WEEK

During the week of December 16 through December 20, Student Council will be encouraging students, faculty, and staff to participate in our 4th Holiday Dress-up Spirit Week!

December 16 – Holiday Color Scheme - Red and green; Candy cane stripes; etc.

December 17 – Crazy sweater and other Holiday Apparel

December 18 – Holiday Character

December 19 – Winter Wonderland

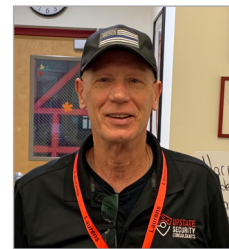
December 20 – Holiday PJs

Student Council will also be selling Candy Cane Grams all that week for \$1 each.

Candy Cane Grams will be delivered on Thursday, December 19.

Order forms will be sent home via Parent Square the week before.

Who's New at Laurens



My name is Ken Olsen and I am the new Laurens Central School, School Resource Officer (SRO). I come to Laurens with

over twenty years of law enforcement experience, working for the New York City Police Department and the Oneonta City Police Department, holding the rank of Sergeant. In addition, I have numerous years of experience in criminal justice, safety and security. I have a Bachelor's degree from SUNY Oneonta in Sociology and a minor in Educational Psychology. I reside in Otego, NY, and am excited to be part of the Laurens Central School District.

Welcome!

December 2024 School Counseling Office News

IMPORTANT DATES

SUNY Oneonta Fieldtrip—December 3

BOCES Roadshow—December 4

Financial Aid Night—December 4

SAT Test Date—December 7

ACT Test Date—December 14

COLLEGE APPLICATIONS

Seniors should complete all college applications by December vacation! Students who are planning to go to college should apply to at least 3-5 colleges to give them some choice when selecting a college to attend.

SCHOLARSHIPS

A folder of various scholarships is located in the guidance office for review. Also, visit the following websites to complete free scholarship searches: www.finaid.org, www.goodcall.com/scholarships, www.chegg.com. You should also visit the US Department of Education's website at: www.collegescorecard.ed.gov to view college data on affordability, graduation rates, etc. Plan on attending a SUNY college?

www.suny.edu/smarttrack/types-of-financial-aid/scholarships/ is the place to go to connect with all campus scholarship webpages.

CLARK SCHOLARSHIPS

Clark Scholarship information and instructions will be given to seniors this month in class. This scholarship is based primarily on academics (above an 86/87 GPA). Students may also qualify through their CTE program at BOCES. Even if you think your GPA is too low, all students should apply for Clark. The worst they will say is no! Final completed applications will be due mid-January.

COLLEGE APPLICATION WEEK

Seniors spent the week filling out their college applications! We spent three days in the computer lab with students, helping to ensure they had everything they needed to successfully file their applications away to the colleges of their dreams. Everyone did an amazing job, and we here at the guidance office are proud of how far our Seniors have come!



College Application Week

The week of October 18 was College Application Week at LCS. This week is set aside for our School Counselors to assist seniors with filling out college applications. We had eight seniors that applied to many colleges during this time.

Halloween was Fa-boo-lous at LCS!

LCS students and staff dressed up in their costumes on Halloween day and the Elementary classrooms did fun Halloween activities and had special treats. In the afternoon some of the Elementary classes paraded around the building in their costumes.



LCS Honors Community Veterans

On Friday, November 8, Laurens Central School held a Veterans Day breakfast to honor the men and women who have served our country. Breakfast included eggs, pancakes, sausage, juice, and coffee. We had a great turnout of over 40 people! Many thanks to the cafeteria staff for breakfast, the members of the Key Club and Student Council who served the veterans and acted as guides/greeters, to our students and staff for the warm welcome they gave the veterans and for the wonderful decorations in the cafeteria.

We at Laurens Central School would like to say thank you to all of the veterans of our community for their service.

We owe you a debt of gratitude that can never be repaid!



Fire Prevention at LCS

On October 18, members of our local fire departments visited LCS to talk to our Elementary students about what to do in case of a fire. The children rotated through stations where they were able to see a firefighter in full gear, try on the firefighter's gear themselves, and use a simulator to put out a fire with an extinguisher. They also met Sparky the fire dog. This is a yearly program that is provided to our PK through 6th graders. Thank you to the Laurens, West Laurens, and Mount Vision Fire Departments for providing this valuable program.



DECEMBER 2024

Laurens Central School

Breakfast Elementary \$2.05
Breakfast H.S. \$2.20
Lunch Elementary \$2.30
Lunch H.S. \$2.55

Monday

2
Pancakes w/Bacon
Macaroni & Cheese
Carrots
Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

9
Chocolate Chip Pancakes
Chicken Stuffing Casserole
Butternut Squash
Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

16
Pancakes w/Bacon
Spaghetti & Meatballs
Garlic Bread
Corn
Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

23

30
NO SCHOOL

Tuesday

3
Scrambled Eggs
w/Cheese & Home fries
Soft or Hard Shelled Tacos
Refried Beans
Corn
Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

10
Egg Hash Brown Bake
Meatloaf
Mashed Potatoes w/Gravy
Peas
Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

17
Breakfast Biscuit Sandwich
Hamburger/Cheeseburger
French Fries
Cauliflower
Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

24

31
NO SCHOOL
NEW YEARS EVE

Wednesday

4
Breakfast Burrito
Chicken Patty
Tater Tots
Green Beans
Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

11
Breakfast Pizza
Fish Nuggets
Sweet Potato Fries
WRAP DAY
Assorted Wraps
Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas

18
French Toast Sticks
Holiday Dinner
Baked Ham
Mashed Potatoes w/Gravy
Sweet Potatoes
Green Bean Casserole
Dessert

25

Thursday

5
Waffles
Chicken Stir Fry
Egg Roll
Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

12
Breakfast Sandwich
Chicken Broccoli Alfredo
Garlic Bread
Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

19
Sausage Gravy w/Biscuit
Chicken Quesadillas
Broccoli
Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

26

Friday

6
Oatmeal w/Brown Sugar
& Raisins
Assorted Pizza
Spinach and Romaine Salad
Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

13
Pancakes w/Sausage
Assorted Stromboli's
Spinach and Romaine Salad
Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

20
HALF DAY
Scrambled Eggs w/Cheese
& Home Fries
Assorted Pizza
Spinach and Romaine Salad
Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

27

HOLIDAY VACATION

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

Share and Shine

The focus of this month's character trait will be on Fairness. Fairness is treating all people equally, listening to the ideas others share, and playing by the rules. Throughout the month of December and the rest of the school year teachers in K-6 will be teaching students the importance of good character. On Thursday, December 19 at 2:00 p.m. in the MPR, we will be holding a Share and Shine assembly. You will receive a notice if your child will be receiving an award.

OCTOBER'S SHARE AND SHINE AWARD WINNERS FOR SELF-CONTROL



Pat Grasso Boys' 2025 Holiday Basketball Tournament

THURSDAY, JANUARY 2ND

- 1:00 Laurens JV vs. SK JV
(Laurens will be the home team)
- 3:00 GMU Varsity vs. Roxbury Varsity (GMU will be the home team)
- 5:00 GMU JV vs. Roxbury JV (GMU will be the home team)
- 6:30 - 6:45 ... Laurens Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony
- 7:00 Laurens/Milford Varsity vs. SK Varsity (Laurens/Milford will be the home team)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 3RD

- 1:00 JV Consolation Game
- 2:45 JV Championship Game
- 4:30 Varsity Consolation Game
- 6:15 Varsity Championship Game

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4TH

- 1:00 JV Consolation Game
- 2:45 JV Championship Game
- 4:30 Varsity Consolation Game
- 6:15 Varsity Championship Game

Spectator Tickets will be available on GoFan.co



Congratulations LCS Soccer All Stars!

BOYS VARSITY— LAURENS/MILFORD

First Team

Rhys Calleja

Aidan Mertz

Second Team

Cole Williams

Honorable Mention—*Wyatt March*

GIRLS VARSITY

First Team—*Libby Cox*

Honorable Mention—*Brooke Mann*

December 2024 Calendar of Events

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>3..... BVBB @ Hunter-Tannersville
BJVBB vs. Binghamton
GJVBB vs. Afton
Zumba, MPR, 6:00 p.m.
Laurens Village Meeting,
Rm 129A, 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>4..... Financial Aid Night, Rm 129A, 6:30 .pm.</p> <p>5..... Pat Grasso Tournament (Girls- JV Only)
Zumba, Café, 6:00 p.m</p> <p>6..... Pat Grasso Tournament (Girls- Varsity Only)
BVBB @ Anton Remy Tournament</p> <p>7..... Zumba, MPR, 9:00 a.m.
Boys Basketball @ Anton Remy Tournament
Pat Grasso Tournament (Girls JV/Varsity)</p> <p>9..... BVBB @ Stamford Tournament</p> <p>10..... GJVBB/BJVBB vs. Roxbury
BVBB @ Stamford Tournament
Zumba, MPR, 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>11..... GVBB vs. CVS @ Milford
Elementary Winter Concert, MPR, 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>12..... Zumba, Café, 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>13..... BJVBB @ Cherry Valley-Springfield
BVBB vs. GMU @ Milford</p> | <p>14..... Craft Fair, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.</p> <p>16..... Booster Club Meeting, Rm 129A, 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>17..... Secondary Winter Concert, MPR, 7:00 p.m.
GBB vs. Schenevus @ Milford</p> <p>18..... BVBB @ Sharon Springs
BMBB vs. Edmeston
BJVBB @ Schenevus
BOE Meeting, Rm 115, 7:30 p.m.</p> <p>19..... Share & Shine, MPR, 2:00 p.m.
GBB @ South Kortright
BJVBB vs. Milford
Zumba, Café, 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>20..... Half Day – 12:15 dismissal</p> <p>21..... Indoor Track Section Meet
@ SUNY Cortland
Zumba, MPR, 9:00 a.m.</p> <p>23-Jan. 3.. NO SCHOOL- HOLIDAY BREAK</p> <p>24..... Zumba, MPR, 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>27..... GBB @ Stamford Tournament</p> <p>28..... Zumba, MPR, 9:00 a.m.
GBB @ Stamford Tournament</p> <p>31..... Zumba, MPR ,6:00 p.m.</p> |
|---|--|

**Dates and times are subject to change. Please check the calendar on the school's website for up to date information.*

WORRIED ABOUT FLU OR CORONAVIRUS?

HELP FIGHT THE SPREAD OF ILLNESS



WASH HANDS OFTEN

WITH WARM WATER AND SOAP FOR AT LEAST 20 SECONDS.
HAND SANITIZER IS GOOD IN A PINCH.

KEEP HANDS AWAY

FROM MOUTH, NOSE OR EYES TO AVOID
TRANSFERRING GERMS.

CLEAN AND DISINFECT

FREQUENTLY USED SURFACES LIKE COUNTERS, LIGHT SWITCHES,
DOORKNOBS, AND REMOTES.

COVER COUGHS & SNEEZES

WITH A TISSUE, THEN THROW TISSUE AWAY
AND WASH YOUR HANDS.

IF YOU FEEL SICK, STAY HOME

FROM WORK, SCHOOL, OR OTHER ACTIVITIES AND
AVOID CLOSE CONTACT WITH OTHERS.

Dress for Winter Recess!

BE SMART— DRESS RIGHT FROM THE START!

- * Wear long sleeves, OR
- * Bring a sweater or sweatshirt
- * Keep your legs covered;
socks, long pants or tights

BE READY TO PLAY EVERYDAY!

- * Warm coat
- * Hat
- * Mittens or gloves
- * Snow pants
- * Boots for outside
- * Shoes or sneakers for inside

BETTER YET, IN CASE YOU GET WET....

- * Extra pants
- * Extra socks
- * Extra underwear



Laurens Central School Hygiene Backpack

LCS is happy to announce that our LCS Hygiene Backpack Program will continue. This will be the fourth 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 sent 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: _____

LAURENS CENTRAL SCHOOL
Laurens, New York 13796

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Blood Drive

Members of the LCS Key Club would like to thank all who donated to the November American Red Cross Blood Drive. 20 units were collected. Our next blood drive will be held in the school cafeteria on Friday, February 28 from 3 until 7 p.m. Appointments may be made online at redcrossblood.org or on the Red Cross Donor App. Thank you again for your continued support.