



Leopard's Tale

Volume VIII, Number III

March 2023

LAURENS CENTRAL SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

What's Inside...

- Superintendent's Letter 2
- From the Principal 2
- Coaches Vs. Cancer 2
- Best Wishes Chuckie 3
- Calendar of Events 3
- "Contrast of Colors"
- Colorguard Show 3
- Laurens Library
- Seeking Volunteers 3
- Guidance Office News 4
- Honor Roll 4
- College Acceptances 4
- CROP News 5
- Music Notes 5
- Brooks BBQ Chicken Dinner ... 5
- Athletic Hall of Fame
- Induction Ceremony 6-7
- Dress for Winter Recess 8
- Key Club Blood Drive 8
- Pancake Breakfast 8
- Futsal Tournament 8
- School Hygiene Backpack 8
- March 2023 Menu 9
- Attendance Policy 10
- Share & Shine 11
- Pre-K & Kindergarten 12
- Zumba Fitness 12
- Order Your Yearbook 12



LCS Alumni are Amazing!

On Tuesday, January 17, 2023 Misty (Fedirko) Webster once again brought an amazing gift to our school. She reached out on Facebook to LCS alumni, friends, family, coworkers, and community members to collect donations to pay outstanding school lunch bills at LCS. This is something that Misty also did back in 2020.

We are so grateful to Misty for doing this to help our students. The total collected was over \$2200.00, all of which will be used to help offset cafeteria bills; for students whose parents are working and making just enough to not qualify for free or reduced meals; those "Middle Class" parents who are doing okay financially, but who could use a little help now and then; and for students who may get their meals free or at a reduced rate, but whom can never get seconds or a snack because of the restrictions placed on school food programs.

THANK YOU FOR CARING ABOUT OUR SCHOOL.
THANK YOU FOR CARING ABOUT OUR STUDENTS.
THANK YOU FOR BEING AMAZING!



Congratulations!

On Friday, February 3, *Gabby Andrades* became the first female basketball player in Laurens Central School history to score 1,000 career points.

Gabby is pictured at right with the four coaches that she has played under in her varsity career: Steve West, Dan Ronson, Andy Carr, and Christine Cox.

Great job Gabby!

Thank you to
 Jaguar
 Advocates for
 sponsoring
 this issue of the
Leopard's Tale.

From the Superintendent

I hope this message finds you all well and that March goes “out like a lamb!”

We are getting closer to having our budget for the 2023-2024 ready to present to the public. The Board of Education will make a final decision on a tax levy increase when we are given more solid numbers by New York State, but is always cognizant of the desire to keep taxes as low as possible for our residents while still sustaining our staff and programs for students.

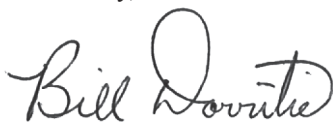
I want to stress the importance of students attending school regularly. The State Education Department has set the expected level of student attendance at 90% for the year. This means that a student can miss no more than 18 days of a full-year course and nine days of a half year course. If they miss more days than that they could possibly lose credit for the course. Not only does this obviously affect the students in question, it affects the District when we are compared to other schools across the state for accountability purposes.

While we were given latitude with regard to student attendance during the pandemic that is no longer the case. We are concerned that there are several students who are at risk of losing credit for courses or not being promoted because they are not attending regularly. Students should not expect to simply be “pushed on,” they need to be held accountable for their absences. While we certainly will take documented medical absences into consideration we cannot award credit to students who miss large numbers of days for reasons that are not allowable by New York State.

Students who are in danger of losing course credit or not meeting the mandated attendance policy have been receiving letters from the school nurse. I encourage you to contact Mr. Mushtare as soon as possible if you have received one of these letters so that you can develop a plan of action to improve your child’s attendance. It is my hope that instances where we need to deny credit because of attendance are fewer and farther between as we approach the end of the school year.

Congratulations to both our boys’ and girls’ varsity basketball teams on their successful seasons. I would like to wish our spring sports teams good luck as they begin practices and to our winter guard program as they conclude their show season! I look forward to seeing you at the choral cabaret at the end of the month.

Sincerely,



William F. Dorritie, Superintendent

From the Principal

NEW YORK STATE ASSESSMENTS

New York State exams for grades 3-8 will begin Wednesday April 19, 2023. The state exams in grades 3-8 do not determine the promotion or retention of students, nor are they used to determine final grades. The purpose of these assessments is “to help teachers identify individual strengths and weaknesses, and to use this information to better plan for and prepare instruction.” It is extremely important to know what learning students have mastered so that we can plan to close any learning gaps that students may have developed.

Parents can help their children prepare for the state exams in a variety of ways. Students perform better on exams when they have had a good night’s rest the night before the test. Children also perform at higher levels when they have a good breakfast on exam day. Parents should also encourage their children to do their best on each exam but avoid adding any unnecessary pressure before the test.

While we highly recommend that all students take the state assessments, parents have the right to “opt out” of the exams. Parents who wish to have their children opt out of these tests must submit a letter in writing to Mr. Mushtare stating that you intend to refuse the tests on behalf of your child, and indicate if you are opting out of the ELA, Math, Science (8th grade only), or all three of the exams. If possible, please submit any “opt out” letters to Mr. Mushtare by April 12, 2023.

Please feel free to reach out to Mr. Dorritie, Mr. Mushtare, or Mrs. Gifford with any questions at 432-2050.

—*Mr. John Mushtare*, Principal

EXAM SCHEDULE

Grades 3-8 ELA: April 19 - April 21

Grades 3-8 Math: May 2 - May 4

8th Grade Science Performance Test: May 23 - June 2

8th Grade Science Written Exam: June 5



Coaches vs. Cancer – Zumbathon

We want to send out a **HUGE THANK YOU** to the Zumba Instructors and participants for putting on the Zumbathon. Also, to anyone who donated items for raffles, spectators of the basketball games that gave donations at the door, and everyone that bought raffle tickets for helping us raise money for Coaches vs. Cancer/Hoops for Hope. We raised over \$3,800 to donate to the American Cancer Society. We could not have done this without your help.

March 2023 Calendar of Events

- 4 All-County Festival 2 @ Cherry Valley-Springfield
Colorguard @ Central Square
Zumba, Café, 9:00 a.m.
- 5 Community Basketball, Gym, 7:00 p.m.
- 6 Colorguard Adv., Rm 129A, 6:00 p.m.
- 7 Zumba, MPR, 6:00 p.m.
Village Mtg, rm 129A ,7:00 p.m.
- 8 POMP Meeting via Zoom, 7:00 p.m.
- 11 Colorguard Home Show, 5:00 p.m.
- 12 Community Basketball, Gym, 7:00 p.m.
- 13 Start of Spring Sports
Booster Club Mtg., Rm 129A, 7:00 p.m.
- 14 Zumba, MPR, 6:00 p.m.
- 15 Blood Drive, Café, 3:00 p.m.
BOE Meeting, MPR, 7:30 p.m.
- 17 Superintendent's Conference Day
- 18 Zumba, MPR, 9:00 a.m.
Colorguard @ Cicero, North Syracuse
Class of 2025 Indoor Soccer Tourn.,
8:00 a.m.
- 19 Class of 2025 Indoor Soccer Tourn.,
8:00 a.m.
Community Basketball, Gym, 7:00 p.m.
- 21 Zumba, MPR, 6:00 p.m.
- 24 Cabaret, 7:00 p.m.
- 25 Colorguard @ Liverpool
Softball Pancake Breakfast, Café,
8 a.m.-12 p.m.
Cabaret, 7:00 p.m.
- 26 Cabaret, 2:00 pm
Community Basketball, Gym, 7:00 p.m.
- 28 Zumba, MPR, 6:00 p.m.
- 31 Share and Shine, MPR, 2:00 p.m.



“Contrast of Colors” Colorguard Show

SATURDAY, MARCH 11, 2023
@ 5:00 IN THE SCHOOL GYM
DOORS OPEN @ 4:30



Admission: \$8 adults,
\$6 students/seniors,
Under 5 free



58” Smart TV Raffle ~ 50/50 Raffle
Lotto Board Raffle ~ Food



*The Laurens Town Library is seeking
additional volunteers to expand its hours.
Please email ecoryat@gmail.com
or call 607-433-1424*



Best Wishes Chuckie!

At the Share & Shine assembly in January, the Elementary classes wished Mr. Chuckie (Chuck Conklin) well on his retirement. He has worked in our Maintenance department for over 13 years and has always been a favorite person around the building. He will be missed.

Congratulations Chuckie and best wishes from all of us at LCS!

March 2023 School Counseling News

CLARK SCHOLARSHIPS

Clark Scholarships will be announced sometime in late March or early April. If your son or daughter is a recipient of a scholarship, a thank you note should be written as soon as possible to Mr. Gary Kuch, Director of the Clark Scholarship Office. The students will be invited for a brief interview in Cooperstown in April or May. If you have a college student who is currently receiving a Clark Scholarship, a copy of his/her first semester grades should be sent to the Scholarship Office. At the end of the second semester, grades should also be sent. In May or June, returning students should call for an appointment to discuss continuation of the scholarship for the fall 2023 semester at 607-547-9927 or 9928.

6TH AND 8TH GRADE PARENT NIGHTS

The 8th Grade Parent Night will be held in April or May to review graduation and testing requirements and 9th grade schedules. The 6th Grade Parent Night will also be held in April or May. During this meeting we will discuss testing, 7th grade course and junior high requirements and 7th grade schedules. School staff and faculty will also share curriculum, programming and services available for students. Memos will be sent home to parents giving the time, location and dates of these meetings. The dates will also be posted in future newsletters

NEW VISIONS AND CTE/BOCES

10th graders will be taking a field trip to BOCES on March 9 or 10. Soon after this trip, first year applications for CTE programs will become available. Applications will be due within a few weeks after being available. Some programs, such as welding and auto tech, are very popular and more of a “first come, first served” type process. For students interested in those programs, the sooner they turn in their applications the better. For juniors interested in applying for the New Visions programs, the NV Healthcare application is due by March 10 and the NV Engineering application is due by April 21. Students will need letters of recommendation for these programs, so they should give teachers enough notice and time to write them

Honor Roll Second Quarter

12TH GRADE

High Honor—*Gabriela Andrades, Kendra Dunham, Diedra-Mae Ecker, Justin La Pilusa, Landon Smith*

Honor—*Aiden Armenti, Makayla Bishop, James Gaglia, Amberly Galbreath, Brock Lewis, Sierra Rondeau, Anthony Rotolo, Brooke White, Kadin Winfield*

11TH GRADE

High Honor—*Tara Bookhout, Alexandria Geissinger, Ryeley Gravelding, Jade Moxley, Nevaeh Norton*

Honor—*Eowyn Chickerell, Angelina Conley, Logan Green, Hunter Huffman, Alysa Hunt, Alesa John, Ethan Martindale, Spencer Platt, Bailey Rondeau, Logan Rondeau, Victoria Stevens, Starlene Stilson*

10TH GRADE

High Honor—*Emersen Allen, Jaidon Brodie, Libby Cox, Brooke Mann, Jaidyn Simon*

Honor—*Libby Cox, Carlton Long, Ethan Smith*

9TH GRADE

High Honor—*Allison Johnson, Mackenzie Louden, Nicole Stanley, Alicia Stevens, Hannah Weiss, Ryleigh Williams, Logan Wright*

Honor—*Kyrah Andrades, Colin Capraro, Wyatt Christian, Steven Kilts, Alyssa Stevens*

8TH GRADE

High Honor—*Hailey Ashley-Baker, Lucas Dorritie, Nathaniel Kovacs, Kayla Lewis, Tyler Louden, Courtney McCarthy, Moses Tafel*

Honor—*Rylee Balbuena-Solovitch, Ethan Barnes, Kendall Capraro, Lakota Chickerell, Mark DeMeo, Ariana LeBeau, Gillian LeBeau, Jonathan Smith, Ashton Solovitch, Bailey Wilcox*

7TH GRADE

High Honor—*Lucie Benada, Arianna Bormann, Anella Croston, Isabella Failla, Kalee Stilson, Cole Williams*

Honor—*Stella Amerson, Isabella Brienza, Kelsey Cox, Andrew Hausmann, Kaitlyn Hughes, Kendra Lindsay, Nathaniel Neer, Olivia Rogers, Carter Rossman*

College Acceptances

Justin La Pilusa for Mechanical Engineering—Accepted to: SUNY New Paltz- \$3,000/year Orange & Blue Scholarship; SUNY Polytechnic- \$3,500/year Provost Scholarship; SUNY Geneseo- \$3,500/year Geneseo Community Scholarship; SUNY Oneonta - \$5,000/year President’s Scholarship; SUNY Cortland Honors Program - \$7,000/year President’s Scholarship; Miami University, Oxford, Ohio - \$19,000/year Red Hawk Excellence Scholarship; SUNY University at Buffalo Honors College - \$2500/year Pride of NY Scholarship; SUNY Albany-\$6,000/year UAAlbany Merit Scholarship

Sierra Rondeau—Accepted to: Hartwick College, Honors Program for Psychology

James Gaglia—Accepted to: SUNY Albany, SUNY Cortland, SUNY Oneonta

Brock Lewis for Pre-Med—accepted to: University at Albany and University at Buffalo

Anthony Rotolo—accepted to: University at Buffalo

CROP News

The Family Catch Me Cooking class has been having a great time learning about different foods from around the United States. There are four to five families doing the Catch Me Cooking classes. Catch Me Cooking is a program that is held by Cornell Cooperative Extension and is free.

Jessica DeBoer, CROP Site Coordinator



MUSIC NOTES

The LCS Music Department would like to congratulate six students who were accepted into the OCMEA All-County Music Festival I. After auditioning in November, these students were chosen to be part of a select group of music students from all over Otsego County. On February 3, they performed in a concert here at Laurens Central School.

Accepted students were:

JUNIOR CHORUS

Lucas Dorritie, Kaitlyn Hughes, Isabella Brienza, Arianna Bormann, and Hailey Ashley-Baker

SENIOR BAND

Victoria Stevens



Brooks BBQ Chicken Dinner



LAURENS TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER

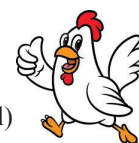
Brooks chicken dinner- \$16.00 (includes ½ chicken, baked potato, macaroni salad, & dinner roll)

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

Pick up on Budget Vote Day, **Tuesday, May 16th 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 = _____



Laurens Central School 13th Annual Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony

On Tuesday, December 27, 2022 the 13th Annual Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony was held at LCS with four individuals being inducted. It was a very special night for our inductees as this school holds many fond memories for each. The inductees have either participated as an athlete representing Laurens Central School, have coached athletic teams at LCS, have contributed to our athletic programs over many years or have contributed much to promote athleticism through their work and life choices. This year we were proud to induct two individual athletes, one contributor, and one coach/contributor to the LCS Athletic Hall of Fame.

1ST INDUCTEE:

Aaron Laing - Athlete

Aaron graduated from LCS in 2009 and played soccer, basketball and baseball. He was the LCS Athlete of the Year in 2006-2007 and 2008-2009 and the Outstanding Athlete in 2007-2008. He was a four year varsity starter in the goal for the soccer team that won Tri-Valley championships in 2006 and 2008 and won both Section IV and Regional Championships in 2006. He was a Tri-Valley First team soccer all-star for his sophomore, junior and senior years, a Daily Star second team all-star in his junior year, a Daily Star first team all-star in his senior year, and a first team All-State selection in 2008.

Aaron recorded 101 blocked shots in his senior year and holds the LCS record for career blocked shots. He was part of back-to-back Tri-Valley champion basketball teams in his junior and senior years and were Section IV runners-up in his senior year. He was a Tri-Valley all-star in basketball for his sophomore, junior and senior years. He was a Daily Star second team all-star in his junior year and a first team Daily Star all-star in his senior year. In his senior year Aaron was a second team All-State selection in basketball.

After graduation Aaron went on to play four years of basketball at Hartwick College and was a two-year starter.

2ND INDUCTEE

William Trask - Athlete

Will is a member of the Class of 1997 and participated in soccer, basketball and track and field during his time at LCS. He was well known for his acrobatic “flip throws” in soccer and was named a Tri-Valley first team soccer all-star in 1996. He was voted as the LCS Athlete of the Year and the Scholar Athlete of the Year for 1996-1997. He received Athletic Achievement Awards for three years in track and field and for his senior year in soccer.

At one point Will held school records in the following track and field events:

- * 4 x 100 Relay
- * 110m High Hurdles
- * 400m Intermediate Hurdles
- * Pentathlon (First LCS Athlete to compete in this event)
- * 1500m (as part of Pentathlon)

3RD INDUCTEE

Burton Becker – Contributor

Burt has been an important part of our athletic program for over two decades. In addition to his work for the Booster Club, where you would often find him helping Coach Grasso in the concession stand, Burt drove our buses for athletic trips for many years. He opened the gym for Sunday night basketball during that time and, even though his daughter has long since graduated, he continues to support our athletes by assisting us as a chaperone for basketball games.

CONGRATULATIONS

Laurens Central School 13th Annual Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony

4TH INDUCTEE

Romona Wenck – Coach/Contributor

You cannot talk about the past 40 years of Laurens Central School athletics without talking about how much Romona has meant to our programs. People often associate Romona with our incredibly successful colorguard program and rightfully so, but her coaching career is just as impressive. In her tenure as a P.E. teacher she coached a Tri-Valley championship volleyball team, boys' and girls' soccer, softball, and basketball. Romona coached several of the athletes that are enshrined in our Hall of Fame and she herself is already a member of the Tri-Valley Hall of Fame.

Romona has always been an extremely active member of the Athletic Booster Club and you would rarely ever go to one of our games and not see her there as a chaperone, working in the concession stand or just cheering on our teams.

As the superintendent Romona served as President and Past President of the Section IV Athletic Council. She consistently strived to provide our student athletes with as many opportunities to participate as possible. She also worked tirelessly to ensure that our students had the finest equipment and facilities available. She was our Youth Soccer Coordinator for 25 years and coached for 20 of those seasons. Romona has dedicated her career to not only supporting Laurens Central School athletics, but student athletes in our community and our entire region.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank those individuals who were instrumental in organizing this event.

- * I would like to extend a word of thanks to the "Athletic Hall of Fame" committee members.
- * I would like to thank the Athletic Booster Club for their support of this program.
- * A most appreciative "Thank you" is extended to Mrs. Beth West and Mrs. Jackie Tate for the wonderful dinner that was catered for the Hall of Fame Inductees and their families and guests.
- * A most appreciative "Thank you" is extended to our custodial and cleaning staff for all of their support and hard work involved in setting up this event.
- * The LCS Board of Education for their continued support of this program.

FINAL REMINDER:

Do you have an individual or team whom you believe is worthy of induction? If so, check out our website for a copy of the nomination packet, or contact the main office at school.



Thanks to all for making this event possible!
Bill Dorritie

Key Club Blood Drive



American Red Cross

Together, we can save a life

The American Red Cross blood mobile hosted by the Key Club will be at L.C.S. on Wednesday March 15, 2023 from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m. in the school cafeteria. The drive is open to the public, walk-ins welcome, appointments preferred. 16 year olds must have a signed Red Cross parental permission slip to donate. Appointments can be made by calling 1-800 RED CROSS or by visiting redcrossblood.org. Club members will also be taking appointments during lunch in the cafeteria beginning March 1.



Class of 2025 Futsal Tournament

March 18 beginning at 8:00 a.m. for grades 4-6
March 19 beginning at 8:00 a.m. for grades 7-12

For more information contact Christine Cox at ccox@laurenschools.org

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 * Snow pants
- * Hat
- * Mittens or gloves

- * Boots for outside
- * Shoes or sneakers for inside

Better yet, in case you get wet....

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



Pancake Breakfast



Come enjoy a delicious breakfast while you support the **Laurens Girls' Varsity Softball** program on **Saturday, March 25** in the LCS cafeteria.

Cost is by donation.

Breakfast (pancakes, sausage, eggs, coffee, and juice) will be served from **8 a.m. until noon.**

We hope to see you there!

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: _____

MARCH 2023

Laurens Central School

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

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday



6
 Waffles w/Bacon
 Chicken, Bacon, Ranch Pasta Bake
 Broccoli
 Garlic Bread
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

7
 Breakfast Pizza
 Soft or Hard Shelled Tacos
 Refried Beans
 Corn
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

1
 French Toast Sticks
 Meatloaf
 Mashed Potatoes
 Peas
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

2
 Scrambled Eggs w/Ham
 Grilled Cheese
 Tomato Soup
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

3
HALF DAY
 Pancakes w/Sausage
 Assorted Pizza
 Spinach and Romaine Salad
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

13
 Egg Hash Brown Bake
 Macaroni & Cheese
 Garlic Bread
 Green Beans
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

14
 Pancakes w/Bacon
 Hamburger/Cheeseburger
 French Fries
 Cauliflower
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

15
 Breakfast Sandwich
 Oven Baked Chicken
 Mashed Potatoes
 Corn
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

16
 Breakfast on a Stick
 Chicken Tenders
 Tater Tots
 Broccoli
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

17
NO SCHOOL
SUPERINTENDENT
CONFERENCE DAY

20
 French Toast Bake
 w/ Strawberries
 Spaghetti & Meatballs
 Garlic Bread
 Corn
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

21
 Waffles
 Chicken & Biscuits
 Peas
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas
 or Sandwich

22
 Breakfast Burrito
 Fish Sticks
 Sweet Potato Fries
WRAP DAY
 Assorted Wraps
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

23
 Scrambled Eggs w/ Home Fries
 Chicken Patty on a Bun
 French Fries
 Green Beans
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

24
 Sausage Gravy & Biscuit
 Assorted Pizza
 Spinach and Romaine Salad
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

27
 Breakfast on a Stick
 Ultimate Chicken Bowl
 WW Roll
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas
 or Sandwich

28
 Oatmeal w/Brown Sugar
 & Raisins
 Soft or Hard Shelled Tacos
 Refried Beans
 Corn
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

29
 Breakfast Sandwich
 Scalloped Potatoes & Ham
 Peas
 WW Roll
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

30
 Pancakes w/Sausage
 Chicken Parm Wrap
 Brussel Sprouts
 Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

31
 Assorted Muffins & Yogurt
 Assorted Stromboli's
 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

ATTENDANCE POLICY

The Laurens Board of Education recognizes that regular attendance is a prerequisite for satisfactory academic performance and that the school should be a setting where the student learns punctuality and reliable attendance. New York State Education Department uses attendance as a measure of school success.

Employers recognize that regular attendance and reliability by employees is a necessity when it comes to performing successfully in business and industry. Employers are looking for the person who has established a regular attendance pattern in school.

With the desire to instill in students the need for punctuality and regular attendance in order to perform successfully in the classroom and in society, the Laurens Board of Education has adopted an attendance requirement for grade promotion and course credit.

A MINIMUM OF 90% ATTENDANCE IS REQUIRED FOR ALL STUDENTS TO RECEIVE A GRADE LEVEL PROMOTION OR COURSE CREDIT.

Grades K – 6: Based on 180 days of school, the K-6 student may not be absent more than a total of 18 days during the school year, which includes all absences, excused and unexcused.

Grades 7 – 12: A 7-12 student may not be absent from a year-long course more than a total of 18 days (excused and unexcused), and from a quarter course more than five days (excused and unexcused) and from a semester course more than nine days (excused and unexcused). If a class meets three days per cycle, the total absences allowed will be nine. If a class meets two days per cycle, the total number of absences allowed will be five. To be given credit for attendance, a student must attend at least 35 minutes of the class.

Students who exceed the maximum number of allowed absences from PE will be allowed to make up five (5) of those classes only.

Students will not be counted absent from a class for music lessons, pre-scheduled counseling appointments, school sponsored field trips, and extra-curricular activities.

If a student exceeds the number of absences, a hearing between the district and the parents may immediately follow. A final determination will be made by school administration based upon the presentations at the hearing and/or other applicable information. In-school and out-of-school suspensions will not be counted when determining the total number of absences.

1. PROCEDURE FOR NOTIFICATION

- In checking student absence, (on a daily basis) a telephone call will be placed to the parents of the absent student by the school nurse.
- If a student is absent, it saves time if the parent/guardian notifies the school nurse via telephone that the student is absent and states the reason for the absence.
- Attendance Letters informing and recording poor attendance practices upon the part of the student will be mailed to the person in parental relationship.
 - Notification will be sent after 5, 10 and 15 days of absence from school or class.
- A parental conference is strongly recommended after a parent has received an Attendance Letter.

2. EXCUSED & UNEXCUSED ABSENCES AND EXCUSES FROM SCHOOL

- In Laurens Central School, it is required to obtain a written excuse from a parent or guardian for each case of absence or tardiness of their child. Parents and students should be aware of the classifications which determine whether an absence is excused or unexcused.
- The state attendance register defines excused absences as follows: Personal illness, sickness or death in family, religious observance, quarantine, required to be in court, attendance at health clinics, doctor and dental appointments, approved college visits, military obligations, and absences approved in advance by the administration.
- Absences not included above are interpreted under the law as unexcused. Unexcused absences occur when a pupil is absent for other than legal reasons.
- A child who fails to attend school, unknown to the parents, for other than a lawful reason, is truant.
- Excuses are required for all absences. Absences due to medical appointments require a note from the provider. All students must submit a written excuse for each absence from school. A student has five days (the day they return plus the following four school days) in which to deliver a written excuse. If no written excuse is turned in (within five school

days of the absence), the student will be recorded as illegally absent.

- School approved educational field trips are not absences from school and will be planned as an integral part of a particular course or program. The pupils will be accompanied by a teacher. Trips with parents are not approved educational trips.
 - All written excuses for absences must:
 - Be dated—the day the excuse was written.
 - State the name(s) of the student being excused.
 - State the date(s) of the absence.
 - State the reason for the absence.
 - Bear the signature of the person in parental relationship.
 - Students are not authorized to write or sign excuses even with parent's knowledge or consent. Any necessary exception to this rule must be approved by the Administration. A written excuse for a student's absence from school must be presented by the student to the Health Office immediately upon return to school.
 - No teacher and/or employee is to excuse a student from school for any reason. Permission to be excused from school can ONLY be granted by a school official AND parent/guardian. In cases of illness or other medical reasons, the School Nurse may excuse a student from school. The Nurse will contact the parent/guardian.
 - When students return to school following an absence, they must be sent to the Health Office with their excuse. No child may return to school after an illness unless he/she is able to participate in all activities, including gym and playing outdoors. The only exception to this rule is when a Doctor's excuse is presented. Failure to bring an excuse after five (5) days will result in attendance cards being marked with an illegal absence/tardy.
3. Attendance Issues leading to discipline:

A. LATE ARRIVAL TO SCHOOL

A student who arrives late (after 8:05 a.m.) to school must report to the receptionist desk to process the tardiness. All students must submit a written excuse for each tardiness to school. Legal tardiness is for such things as medical appointments, court appointments, illness, college visits, etc. Illegal tardiness is for such things as oversleeping, missing a bus, babysitting, etc. If a student is illegally tardy on three occasions, a detention will be assigned.

Students who arrive after 8:10 (8:05 plus A5) am will not be permitted to participate in extracurricular activities that day. The Administration reserves the right to make exceptions to this rule.

Senior Privilege—Any senior with a study hall scheduled for first period will not be required to be in school until 8:52. Qualifying seniors must:

- be in class by 8:52 a.m. to participate in any extracurricular activity;
- have parent permission for this privilege;
- This privilege can be removed by the administration at any time.

Seniors who habitually arrive later than 8:52 may have the privilege removed at the administration's discretion.

B. TRUANCY

A student who fails to attend school (regularly assigned classes or any part of a class - seven minutes or more - and assigned detention classes and study halls) unknown to the parents, for other than a lawful reason is truant.

Truant behavior is elected or chosen by the student. It is a voluntary act on the part of a student, and therefore, they have violated their rights and privileges. This means that they may lose claim to activities that the class participated in while they were truant. If a student is truant from one of his/her regularly scheduled classes on the day of a written or oral assignment that is to be graded (i.e., exam, test, quiz, speech, etc), the student may receive a zero for that day's activity. This grade will be averaged in when computing the final grade for that particular grading period. The student will not be provided with an opportunity to make up the work. In addition, appropriate disciplinary action will be taken.

C. TARDINESS TO CLASS

A student is tardy if not in homeroom, class or study hall when the tardy bell stops ringing. Staff members are not to give students passes to classes unless they are the direct reason for the student being tardy. All students are to be admitted to classes when late and the teacher will complete a discipline referral after a student's third tardy to their class. These tardiness and late arrivals will accumulate together for purposes of assigned detention and suspension.



SHARE AND SHINE

The character trait we are focusing on for the month of March is Honesty! The following “I can” statements can remind us how to be honest each and every day. I can tell the truth. I can keep my word. I can admit when I make mistakes. Students who have demonstrated honesty at school or on the bus, throughout the month of March, will receive individual awards. Classes can also win awards in their special area classes, in the cafeteria, and even for having the neatest classroom! On March 31 at 2:00 p.m. in the MPR, we will be holding a Share and Shine assembly. Parents/Guardians will receive a notice if their child will be getting an award. We hope you can join us!

SHARE AND SHINE AWARD WINNERS FOR RESPONSIBILITY



LAURENS CENTRAL SCHOOL
Laurens, New York 13796

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ECRWSS**



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 will be mailed out the first week in March, 2023.

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.



ZUMBA Fitness
with Linda Reeves, Holly Deleski,
and Tracy Bender

Licensed Instructors: Zumba/Toning

Tuesday Evenings: 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.
Saturday mornings : 9:00 a.m.
at Laurens Central School

\$5.00 a class or get your coupon card
(\$25 & \$50)

Any questions Call 607-433-4761
& 607-432-7521

Your first class is FREE!

Order your Yearbook before March 1 to ensure you get a copy!

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Name: _____

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