



Leopard's Tale

Volume IX, Number VIII

November 2024

LAURENS CENTRAL SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

WHAT'S INSIDE...

Superintendent's Letter	2
Early Dismissal Drill	2
School Counseling News	3
Library News	3
Board Recognition Week	3
School Counseling News	4
News From the Nurse	4
Spirit Week	5
Pat Grasso Girls Holiday Tournament	5
Key Club Raffle	5
Share & Shine	5
POW/MIA Assembly	6
Homecoming Parade	7
Holiday Craft Bazaar	8
Holiday Bazaar Vendor Application	9
November Calendar of Events	10
POMP	10
School Hygiene Backpack	10
October Menu	11
Congratulations to Our Soccer Players	12



COACHES VS CANCER

Hoops for Hope

The Coaches vs. Cancer Basketball Tournament, Hoops for Hope, will be taking place this year on Saturday, January 18, 2025. There will be games for most of the day, concessions, and we hope to do basket raffles. If you are interested in donating a basket or items for this great cause, please contact Lindsey Gifford at 607-432-2050 ext. 2100. All donations will be gratefully accepted up until January 10, 2025. More information regarding the basketball tournament will be in future newsletters. Thank you for your support!

Honoring the Service of Our Veterans On Friday, November 8th

WE INVITE ALL VETERANS TO CELEBRATE VETERANS DAY WITH US.



We will be having a breakfast served by students from our Key Club and Student Council starting at 9:00 a.m. Please join us!

If you know a Veteran, please share this information with them. We would love to have any men and women in our community who have served our country join us on this special day.

Parent/Teacher Conferences

During the month of November we will host the first series of Parent/Teacher Conferences. These conferences will be held on November 21 and 22. Report Cards for students in grades PreK-6 will be handed out at the conferences. Parents of students in these grades are requested to schedule a conference with their child's teacher at the following times:

GRADES PreK-12

November 21 12:40-3:00 or 7:00-8:30 p.m.

November 22 12:40-3:00 p.m.

Students in grades 7-12 will be given their report cards at the end of the day on November 19.

Please call the main office today to schedule your conference.

From the Superintendent

Our Board of Education has approved Mr. Ken Olsen as the new Armed School Resource Officer for Laurens Central School effective November 1. As my letter to families stated, Mr. Olsen has extensive law enforcement experience and I am confident that he will do a fine job assisting us with building safety and security while forming positive, trusting relationships with students and staff. The administration will be working together to provide opportunities for students and families to meet Mr. Olsen and discuss his role as the School Resource Officer.

If you haven't already done so, please call the Main Office to set up a parent/teacher conference with your child's teachers. Conferences will be held on Thursday, November 21 and Friday, November 22 and there will be half days of school for

all students. Dismissal will be at 12:15 p.m. on both of these days for PK-12. Consistent communication between home and school is vital to our students' success.

I hope that everyone has a relaxing and enjoyable Thanksgiving holiday with friends and family and that the football games and deer hunting are good! I ask that each and every one of us take a minute to say "thank you" to a veteran for their sacrifice and service to our nation.

Sincerely,



William F. Dorritie, Superintendent

**Laurens Central School
"A Community Center"
P. O. Box 301 - 55 Main Street
Laurens, New York 13796 • Telephone (607) 432-2050
Fax (607) 432-4388**

**William F. Dorritie
Superintendent**

**John Mushtare
Building Principal**

October, 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians

School Districts in New York State are required to conduct an "early dismissal" drill on an annual basis. This is also known as the "go home early drill." The purpose of this drill is for families to prepare their children in the event that there is a sudden dismissal of school for weather or other emergency-related reasons. Families should have a plan in place in case students are dismissed early and a child gets home earlier than anticipated.

This year's "early dismissal drill" will be conducted on **Friday, November 8. Students who ride buses will be dismissed at 2:45 p.m. Students who are picked up by parents will be dismissed at 2:30 p.m.**

Please have a plan in place for that day as students will be arriving home 15 minutes earlier than usual. Thank you very much for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

William F. Dorritie

William F. Dorritie
Superintendent
Laurens Central School

November 2024 School Counseling News

IMPORTANT DATES

November 22: Registration deadline for the 12/7 SAT (See Mr. Lisi for help!)

November 8-November 3: Registration deadline for the 12/14 ACT

November 8: 1st marking period ends

November 15: The usual deadline for early action college applications

There will also be more plans made for College reps to come in and talk with seniors and juniors. Please be sure to continue to check your emails and listen to announcements!

COLLEGE APPLICATIONS

Seniors should be completing or have completed college applications. Applications should be completed by Thanksgiving vacation or, at the very latest, by December vacation. Students should ask teachers for recommendations now, as well as finalizing college essays. It is recommended that students apply to at least 3-5 colleges to provide some choice when selecting a college to attend. Seniors, please check your email for important reminders and information from these colleges AND with Mr. Lisi.

CLARK SCHOLARSHIPS:

Mr. Lisi will be handing out application information and the process will be reviewed with seniors, sometime in late November or early December. Class averages and rank will be calculated after second quarter grades are completed. This scholarship is based primarily on academic performance. Even if you think your grades are not high enough, Mr. Lisi recommends you apply. The worst they will say is no!

HELPFUL WEBSITES FOR SENIORS AND THEIR PARENTS:

www.fsaaid.ed.gov—The place to start when applying for financial aid! All student borrowers and one parent must obtain an ID prior to completing the FAFSA (Free Application for Financial Aid) application.

www.fafsa.gov—Complete the FAFSA online. Link to NYS TAP application as well.

www.hesc.ny.gov—If applying to colleges in New York State, the student must apply for a TAP (Tuition Assistance Program) ID prior to completing the TAP financial aid application. This site also has many helpful tools, such as a financial aid award comparison tool and information on NYS scholarships and grants.

www.studentaid.ed.gov—From the US Dept. of Education. Information on the entire financial aid process



Library News

Please check the library website: <https://laopals.oncboces.org/bin/home> often to browse for available books and e-books, access our various educational databases, find book recommendations, explore links to FREE reading websites, and more!

A PEEK INTO THE LIBRARY CLASSROOM

Grades Pre-K through 3rd grade

- We know the physical parts of a book.
- We can “tell” what information is on the “title” page.
- We know how to use a bookmark. And we can “show & tell” proper book care.

GRADE 3: Additional knowledge

- We know the layout of the library: Early Readers, Books for Everyone, Fiction GENRE sections, and the Non-fiction shelves.

Grades 4-6

Students are beginning our Library Classroom novel studies.

Grade 4: "Flora & Ulysses" by Kate DiCamillo

Grade 5: "The One and Only Ivan" by Katherine Applegate

Grade 6: "Number the Stars" by Lois Lowry

MEDIA SKILLS grades Pre-K-6th

- Proper book care
- Purpose of a bookmark
- Having a safe place at home for our books
- Using a book bag to keep our book safe and dry
- How the elementary library is organized (mapping skills)
- The elements of a FICTION and NON-FICTION book (Research /ELA skills)
- How to search the online library catalog (technology skills)
- Research and gather information about a topic.

Grade Level	#of books permitted to borrow.
Loan Period 2 weeks	
Pre-K	1
Kindergarten	1
Grade 1	1
Grade 2	2
Grade 3	3
Grade 4	3
Grade 5	3
Grade 6	3



Fight Flu

at Home and School

Influenza (flu), spreads easily and can make people very sick, especially kids. You can help stop flu!

Flu symptoms include:

Fever or chills, body aches, cough, sore throat, headache, runny or stuffy nose, feeling very tired. Some people, especially children, may have stomach problems and diarrhea. Unlike a cold, the flu comes on very suddenly.

Prevent flu!

- Flu vaccine is the best protection against the flu. It is recommended every year for everyone 6 months and older.
- Get the flu vaccine for you and your children every year! It helps make flu sickness milder or prevents it altogether.
- Getting the vaccine early in the fall means you and your children will be protected when flu season starts.
- Make sure people close to your children, like babysitters and relatives, are also vaccinated.
- The vaccine is especially important for young children and people of all ages with certain health conditions like asthma, diabetes, and heart or lung conditions. The flu can make them even sicker.

If your child gets the flu:

- Your child will need plenty of rest and lots of fluids.
- Keep your child home from school for at least 24 hours after their fever is gone without using fever-control medicine. This helps avoid giving the flu to others.
- Talk with your child's health care provider before giving a child any over-the-counter medicine.
- Never give your child or teenager aspirin or any medicine that has aspirin in it. Aspirin can cause serious problems.
- Young children and those with certain medical conditions, like asthma, diabetes, and heart or lung disease, are at greater risk for getting seriously ill from the flu.
- If your child gets flu symptoms, call their health care provider and ask if antiviral treatment is right for them.
- If you are worried about your child, call their health care provider.

Don't spread flu!

- Stay home if you are sick.
- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- If soap and water aren't handy, use an alcohol-based hand rub.
- Cough or sneeze into a tissue or your elbow, not your hands. Put used tissues in the trash.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth. That's how germs spread.
- Stay away from people who are sick.

health.ny.gov/flu



Department
of Health

Spirit Week at LCS

Faculty, staff, and students got into the school spirit during Spirit Week, which led up to the Homecoming Parade and Spirit Games on September 27 and the Homecoming games and dance on September 28.

Our Spirit Week dress-up days were:

Monday—Red and White Day

Tuesday—Rhyme, No Reason Day: Dress up with a partner or group of friends in costumes that rhyme, but don't necessarily connect thematically

Wednesday—Music Genre Day

Thursday—Students as Staff, Staff as Students

Friday—Class colors



Pat Grasso Girls Holiday Tournament

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2024 (JUNIOR VARSITY GAMES)

5:30 Edmeston vs. B/G JV
(Edmeston will be the home team)

7:00 Laurens vs. S/K JV
(Laurens will be the home team)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2024 (VARSITY GAMES)

5:30 Edmeston vs B/G Varsity
(Edmeston will be the home team)

7:00 Laurens/Milford vs S/K Varsity
(Laurens will be the home team)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2024

1:00 JV Consolation Game

2:45 JV Championship Game

4:30 Varsity Consolation Game

6:15 Varsity Championship Game

Food Drive

The National Junior Honor Society and National Honor Society is excited to announce that we are hosting a food drive in partnership with St. Matthew's Lutheran Church. We are collecting non-perishable food items such as canned goods, pasta, and rice, which will be distributed to the church. Donations can be dropped off in classrooms throughout the school until Friday, November 22. There will be a party for the class that collects the most items. Thank you for your generosity and support!

Share and Shine

The focus of this month's character trait will be on Respect. Respect is using good manners, obeying school rules, and taking care of other people's property. Throughout the month of November and the rest of the school year teachers in K-6 will be teaching students the importance of good character. On Wednesday, November 20 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.

Town Library News

As of October 1, the library has increased its hours to:
M, W, TH, Fri - 4:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Tues. - 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Sat. - 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

POW/MIA Assembly

Post Commander Carlton Cleveland, members of the Laurens' American Legion Post 1688, and members of the Auxiliary visited LCS on Friday, September 20 to perform the annual POW/MIA ceremony for students in grades 6-12. The ceremony included the singing of the National Anthem and God Bless America, guest speaker Neil Riddell, and the reading by 11th grader Mallory Kovacs of "In Flander's Field" by John McRae. Students also witnessed a flag folding ceremony and learned about the Missing Man Table. A Missing Man Table, also known as a fallen comrade table, is a ceremony and memorial that is set up in military dining facilities of the United States Armed Forces and during official dining functions, in honor of fallen, missing, or imprisoned military service members. After the assembly, students visited and witnessed demonstrations by an Explosive Ordnance Disposal Unit.

Thank you to all that participated!



HOMECOMING PARADE



Holiday Bazaar CRAFT FAIR

**Saturday, December 14,
2024**

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Laurens Central School

**Sponsored by the
Class of 2025**



For more information or to be a vendor
please call

Christine Cox @ 607-432-2050
607-434-5091

Or

Jennifer Mann @ 607-432-2050
607-437-4305

Email: ccox@laurenschools.org
jmann@laurenschools.org

Holiday Bazaar Vendor Event Application

When: Saturday, December 14, 2024

10:00am - 2:00 pm

Business/Organization Name: _____

Description of your merchandise/products/display: _____

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone number: _____

Email: _____

___ \$15 for a table spot

___ \$20 for a table spot with electric * Make checks payable to: LCS Class of 2025

___ \$25 for an 10 X 10 booth

Set up: 8:00 am – 10:00 am ***Please bring a donation for the Chinese Auction***

Deadline: Submit your application and payment by December 1st. All payments are non-refundable.

- Only one representative from each direct sales company will be allowed. This is determined in the order in which applications with payment are received.
- It is required that vendors provide their own tables and chairs.
- A limited number of spaces have electricity available. These will be assigned on a first come, first serve basis.

For any further questions, feel free to contact:

Christine Cox: 607-435-5091

Jennifer Mann: 607-437-4305

November 2024 Calendar of Events

1 Blood Drive, Café 3:00 p.m.
 2 Zumba, MPR 9:00 a.m.
 4 Colorguard Advocates, Trophy Hallway, 6:00 p.m.
 5 Zumba, MPR 6:00 p.m.
 7 Zumba, MPR 6:00 p.m.
 Village Meeting, Rm 129A, 7:00 p.m.
 8 Veterans Day Breakfast, Café 9:00 a.m.
 1st Quarter ends
 Early Dismissal Drill
 9 Zumba, MPR, 9:00 a.m.
11 VETERANS DAY—NO SCHOOL
 12 Zumba, MPR 6:00 p.m.
 13 POMP Mtg. via Teams, 7:00 p.m.
 14 Zumba, MPR 6:00 p.m.
 16 Zumba, MPR 9:00 a.m.
 18 Start of Winter Sports
 Booster Club Meeting, Rm 129A, 7:00 p.m.
 19 Zumba, MPR 6:00 p.m.

20 Share & Shine, MPR, 2:00 p.m.
 BOE Mtg., Rm 115, 7:30 p.m.
21 ½ Day P/T Conference Day PK-12,
12:15 p.m. dismissal
 Zumba, MPR, 6:00 p.m.
22 ½ Day P/T Conference Day PK-12,
12:15 p.m. dismissal
 Area All-State @ Walton
 23 Area All-State @ Walton
 Zumba, MPR, 9:00 a.m.
 26 Zumba, MPR, 6:00 p.m.
27 Thanksgiving Holiday—NO SCHOOL
28 Thanksgiving Holiday—NO SCHOOL
29 Thanksgiving Holiday—NO SCHOOL
 30 Zumba, MPR, 9:00 a.m .
 GJVBB @ Afton 10:00 a.m.

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



POMP (Patrons of Music People)

POMP is a group consisting of Faculty, Administration, Laurens Community Members, and Parents of Music Students, who help in fundraising, organizing events, and assisting in musical/drama productions for the Laurens Central School. We meet every second Wednesday of the month to plan for upcoming events and ways to better the performing arts department for the school year.

Meetings for the 2024-2025 school year will be held via Teams. If you are interested in attending a meeting, please contact Markus Ling at mling@laurenschools.org or 607-432-2050 for more information.

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 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: _____

NOVEMBER 2024

Laurens Central School

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

Monday

4
Scrambled Eggs
w/Ham & Cheese
Chicken & Biscuits
Peas
Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

NO SCHOOL VETERANS DAY

18
Sausage Gravy & Biscuit
Goulash
Garlic Bread
Carrots
Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

25
Breakfast on a Stick
Ultimate Chicken Bowl
WW Roll
Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

Tuesday

5
Oatmeal w/ Brown Sugar
and Raisins
Soft or Hard Shelled Tacos
Refried Beans
Corn
Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

12
Breakfast Biscuit Sandwich
Baked Lasagna
Corn
Garlic Bread
Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

19
Pancakes w/Bacon
Hamburger/Cheeseburger
French Fries
Green Beans
Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

26
Scrambled Eggs
w/ Home Fries
Chicken Parm Wrap
Broccoli
Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

Wednesday

6
Pancakes w/Bacon
Chicken Bacon Ranch Bake
Garlic Bread
Carrots
Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

13
Waffles
Fish Nuggets
Sweet Potato Fries
WRAP DAY
Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas

20
French Toast Sticks
THANKSGIVING DINNER
Hand Carved Turkey
Stuffing
Mashed Potatoes
Squash
Corn Casserole
Apple/Pumpkin Pie

Thursday

7
Breakfast Pizza
Grilled Cheese
Tomato Soup
Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

14
French Toast Bake
w/Strawberries
Chicken Tenders
Tater Tots
Green Bean
Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

21
HALF DAY
Scrambled Eggs w/Cheese
Chicken Patty
Tater Tots
Cauliflower
Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

Friday

1
Breakfast on a Stick
Assorted Stromboli's
Spinach and Romaine Salad
Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

8
Scrambled Eggs
w/ Home Fries
Assorted Pizza
Spinach and Romaine Salad
Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

15
Breakfast Burrito
Assorted Stromboli
Spinach and Romaine Salad
Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

22
HALF DAY
Egg Hash Brown Bake
Assorted Pizza
Spinach and Romaine Salad
Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

29

THANKSGIVING RECESS

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

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**

Soccer

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR SENIOR SOCCER PLAYERS!

*Libby Cox, Brooke Mann, Ashlynn Maier, Nicole Stanley
Wyatt March, Alan Illescas, Luke Edmonds, Chase Long, and Nick DeBoer*

