



Leopard's Tale

Volume IX, Number VI

September 2024

LAURENS CENTRAL SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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Congratulations!

CLASSES OF 2024



PRE-K GRADUATION



KINDERGARTEN GRADUATION



6TH GRADE GRADUATION

Thank you to
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Family of Companies
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this issue of the
Leopard's Tale.

From the Superintendent

Welcome back, everyone! We've had a very busy summer here at the school. As always, I want to thank our summer maintenance crew for their outstanding work getting the building ready and looking amazing as well as all of our other twelve-month employees who work so hard to make sure we are prepared for a smooth opening of school in September.

Parents will still have the ability to monitor student grades and attendance through the School Tool online portal. Mr. Mushtare will soon be sending out information on setting up accounts for your 7th-12th grader and will be available to help parents with accounts at our secondary Open House on October 9.

We have some new staff members that we are welcoming into the District this fall. Mr. Anthony Casey has returned from his year teaching abroad and will once again be teaching Global History and U.S. History. Miss Taryn Ostroff will be joining us to teach seventh, eighth, and ninth grade English. Mr. Thomas Lisi will be our new secondary school counselor. Mr. Nicholas Smith will be our new instrumental music teacher. Schools across the state and the nation have had a great deal of difficulty filling positions and we feel fortunate to have found educators who we feel will do an excellent job. Please take some time to introduce yourselves to our new staff members when you see them at extracurricular events or at our Open Houses in October.

New York State has revamped their "Profile of a Graduate" and its pathways to graduation for our students. A Blue Ribbon Commission was formed to develop these proposals and Dr. Catie Huber, our BOCES District Superintendent, was a member of the Commission. We will provide more information as the Board of Regents and State Education Department hash out more details. Superintendents and Board of Education presidents are attending multiple roundtable sessions with BOCES to discuss how we can better meet student needs as a region.

Important Cafeteria News

The 2024-2025 school year is the second year of Laurens Central School being able to provide breakfast and lunch at no charge for four years. This is called the CEP (Community Eligibility Provision) and it covers all students in attendance at our school. This only includes one breakfast serving and one lunch serving a day per student; if a student wants seconds, it will need to be paid for from their account. All snacks will also need to be paid for.

We are asking all parents to still complete the Free and Reduced Application even if you know you don't qualify, as this affects our funding for Title I programs. Please look for the application in the first day of school packets. You will only need to fill out one per household.

If you have any questions, please contact Beth West, Cafeteria Manager at 607-432-2050, ext. 1330.

I want to thank LCS graduate Joel Tirado and the Rockefeller Institute for choosing Laurens as one of their five sites for statewide forums on the Foundation Aid Formula for state education aid. We were honored to host the meeting and I think it gave many rural educators the opportunity to express their opinions about how school funding should be calculated moving forward. The Rockefeller Institute's recommendations are due to Governor Hochul by December 1.

Speaking of Governor Hochul, I want to clarify information provided to the public by the Daily Star on June 26 in an article entitled, "Area Schools to Get State Building Aid." The article stated that Governor Hochul had signed off on \$2.825 million of building aid for Laurens Central School. While it is true that the Governor has to sign off on the bonds issued by DASNY, this is not new funding. It is simply signing off on the bonding we were already approved for when the 2021 capital improvements project was passed. This construction has already been completed, so I did not want our community to think that we were receiving new funding and expect a plan for the use of those funds. The use of this funding was already approved by our voters in June of 2021.

Good luck to our fall athletes as they gear up for their seasons. Please make sure that if you have not done so already you submit the blue health update form to the school nurse and the white athletic participation agreement to Mr. West. We hope to see you all at our homecoming games on Saturday, September 28.

Enjoy these last few weeks of vacation and we are extremely excited to see our students again on Thursday, September 5!

Sincerely,
Bill Dorritie
William F. Dorritie
Superintendent

Attention Parents of PreK-6th Students

Please send in a change of clothes for your child/ren to keep in their cubby/locker. There are times when things happen, such as a fall at recess where they get wet or dirty, a spill at lunch where they are covered with milk, etc., or a bathroom accident with younger children, and a student may need to change clothes to be comfortable for the rest of the day. While the Nurses office does have some clothes for this purpose, we are unable to store and keep clothes to cover every size of child that may need them. Thank you for your help.

School Counseling News

SCHEDULE CHANGES

Schedule change forms must be completed by Wednesday, September 11. The form must be initialed by teachers, student and parent. All forms must be returned to the guidance office by the 11th. Mr. Lisi may advise against dropping a class if it is related to your future career goals or if it is a required class to graduate. Until the schedule change has been made in SchoolTool, students must attend all classes according to their original schedule. Absences will be dealt with as truancy. Schedule changes may be made the first five (5) days of school ONLY.

PSAT/SAT/ACT INFORMATION

At this time, the dates and locations for the PSAT/SAT/ACT are to be determined. Once Mr. Lisi has been given the set dates and information for 2024-25 tests, a message will be sent out on Parent Square. The PSAT is given in October in our building. The SAT & ACT must be taken in other school districts.

SENIORS INFORMATION

Seniors should begin working on college applications as soon as possible and complete them no later than December vacation. If applying for Early Action or Early Decision, these deadlines are usually November 1 or 15. Seniors should also begin asking teachers and Mr. Lisi for letters of recommendation, now.

Seniors should also set up an account on Common App (<https://commonapp.org>) to apply to colleges. This also gives teachers and Mr. Lisi a place to submit letters of recommendation and school reports & transcripts.

Mr. Lisi will be meeting with seniors beginning in mid-September to talk with them about their career decisions, the college application process and post high school plans. Seniors are also encouraged to see Mr. Lisi throughout the year regarding these & any other concerns.

As we have in previous years, LCS will participate in College Application Month & Week. Seniors will be able to have individualized attention and assistance when completing their college applications.

Visit www.studentaid.ed.gov, www.fafsa.gov and www.hesc.ny.gov for more information regarding financial aid & scholarships.

Student Handbooks

In an effort to reduce the use of paper, all student handbooks and the student code of conduct can now be found on the Laurens Central School website on the Parents page at <https://www.laurencs.org/ParentsPage.aspx>

Hard copies of the handbooks can be obtained by request. If you would like to request a hard copy of any of these documents, please contact Pam Weir at (607) 432-2050, ext. 1120.

All Phones "Away for the Day"

Laurens Central School will continue with the "Away for the Day" phone policy that requires all phones to be turned off and placed in a student's locker for the duration of the school day. Studies have shown that cell phone use, particularly social media use, during the school day can have a negative impact on the self-esteem, mental health, and overall well-being of teenagers and young adults. Unsupervised cell phone use in schools has been shown to decrease student attentiveness and increase student conflict by providing unnecessary distractions primarily due to the use of social media. It is for these reasons that LCS is seeking to eliminate the use of phones and personal electronic devices during the school day.

Students will be required to turn off all personal electronic devices not issued by the Laurens Central School by the late bell (8:05 a.m.) each day and place those devices in their assigned locker. All personal electronic devices must remain out of view for the duration of the school day (2:59 p.m.). Families and students are encouraged to communicate through the main office during the school day. Personal electronic devices include, but are not limited to, cell phones, smart phones, smart watches, iPods, iPads, Fitbits, headphones, earbuds, and laptops not issued by the District. Students found to be in possession of any personal electronic device will be immediately sent to the principal who will confiscate the device for the remainder of the day.

- 1st offense—Confiscation of device and parent notification—device returned to student at the end of the day.
- 2nd offense—Confiscation of device and parent notification—device released to parent after 3:00 p.m.
- 3rd offense—Confiscation of device and parent notification After school detention—device released to parent after 3:00 p.m.
- 4th and all subsequent offenses—Confiscation and parent notification—device released to parent after 3:00 p.m. Consequences will be determined by the principal in a progressive manner. Students may be required to surrender their device to the office upon entering the building for a length of time as determined by the principal.

Students who refuse to go to the principal or refuse to surrender their device will also face consequences for insubordination.

Alumni News

Jon Ericson would like to inform people of the recent passing of his brother Hans Ericson. He was a member of the Laurens Central School Class of 1983. Our condolences to his family.

Laurens Central School Transportation 2024-2025 Bus Schedule

Bus	Route In Order of Pick Up	Driver	Leave Garage	First Stop	Arrive LCS	PM Start / Stop
83	County Route 15, Lena Road, Cty. Rt. 14, Braun, Gardnertown, Strong Cross Rd. and 11 back to village.	Martin	6:50	7:00	7:50	2:50 / 3:40
94	Cty. 10, Peterson Rd., St 23, New Rd., to trailer park	Clow	7:14	7:05	7:50	2:50 / 3:45
84	Fox Rd., Green Rd., Crawford Rd., Cty. 10 North of West Laurens, State Hwy. 23 from West Laurens to Cty 11 and County Hwy. 11 to the Trailer Park	Trask/Kessler	6:45	7:10	7:50	2:50 / 4:00
88	205 North of Laurens, Cty. Hwy 46, 205 South, Airport and Winney Hill Road.	DeMeo	6:45	6:57	7:50	2:50 / 4:00
85	Cty. Hwy. 12, Crow Hill, Potato Farm Rd., Gulf Rd., Naylor's Corner, Balantic Hill, Mary Brown, Pool Brook	Djurdjevich	6:50	6:57	7:50	2:50 / 3:55
Bus Number	BOCES and Special Needs Bus Runs	Driver	Leave Laurens	Destination 1	Destination 2	Return
88	AM BOCES Run to OAOC	DeMeo	8:15	8:35	NA	11:45
85	PM BOCES Run to OAOC	Djurdjevich	11:00	11:25	NA	2:45
89/93	AM/PM Spring Brook (Knapp Aide)	Trask/K. Dorritie	8:00 / 2:30	8:45 / 2:45	NA	9:30 / 3:30
91	AM/PM Morris	Clow	8:00 / 1:30	8:15 / 1:45	NA	2:30
85	Crop East	Djurdjevich	5:00	Changes	NA	Changes
91	Crop West	DeMeo	5:00	Changes	NA	Changes

PM BUS LINE UP	
94 - Clow	Turtle
84 - Trask	Squirrel
85 - Djurdjevich	Rabbit
88 - DeMeo	Monkey
83 - Martin	Tiger

- Please have your child(ren) outside five minutes before their scheduled pick up time.
- All Bus changes must be in writing or Parents may contact Main Office by phone.
- All transportation questions, please contact John Kessler at 607-432-0015. If you live at the trailer park and rode bus 84 last year then you will still ride bus 84 this year.

Emergency School Closing

In the event weather conditions or other factors necessitate the closing of school for the day, information will be posted on the school website (www.laurenschools.org) and local radio and TV stations will be notified to announce the information:

- WBNG & WKTV channels

Parent Square will also be used. If you have not signed up to receive this alert, or need to update your information, look on our website under the Parents and Students tab for instructions.

Emergency Management/ SAVE Plan

All school districts in the State of New York are required to comply with the Commissioner's Regulation 155.13 which requires written annual notification to parents, students, and staff regarding district emergency management/SAVE plans. The updated plans are on file in the Superintendent's Office and are available to parents, students, and staff at any time school is open, between 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.

The object of emergency planning is to anticipate problems in dealing with natural and manmade disasters. Depending on the kind of intensity of the disaster, the school may be required to carry out any of the following procedures: School cancellation, evacuation, sheltering.

Early dismissal, or "Go Home" drills, are held at least once a year. It is important to take note that emergency procedures may be carried out without advance notice. Children may be coming home to either empty homes or locked doors. Parents must make contingency plans with their children to go to the home of a neighbor if the children require supervision. A form will be sent home to all elementary parents requesting this information.

If you have any questions concerning this plan or wish to make a suggestion to increase its effectiveness, please contact Superintendent, Bill Dorritie at 607-432-2050.

Asbestos Notification

Notice is hereby given to all employees, parents, students, PTA or PTO Presidents and all other users of the facilities of the Laurens Central School District, that the District's original Asbestos Management Plan was submitted to the New York State Education Department in Albany, New York on May 31, 1988, in accordance with EPA's "ASBESTOS HAZARD EMERGENCY RESPONSE ACT (AHERA)" of 1987 (40 CFR Part 763) and the New York State "RIGHT TO KNOW LAW", annual notices pertaining to the inspection and availability of management plans have been posted in each building.

All management plan records are available for review at the office of Buildings and Grounds during the business hours of 9:00 a.m. through 3:00 p.m.

For further information, contact:

LEA Designee: Steven West, 607-432-2050, ext. 1160

Superintendent: William Dorritie, 607-432-2050, ext. 1120

No Child Left Behind Act

As part of federal regulations, parents of children attending Laurens Central School may request the school to provide you with information regarding the qualifications of teachers in the Title I/AIS program.

If you would like this information, please fill out the information requested on the form below and return to:

Superintendent's Office

Laurens Central School

PO Box 301

Laurens, NY 13796

_____ Please provide me with information regarding the qualifications of teachers in the Title I/AIS program.

Name of Parent/Guardian

Mailing Address

City

State

Zip

Telephone Number

Qualified Teachers

As part of federal regulations, parents of children attending Laurens Central School may request the school to provide you with information regarding the qualifications of our teachers.

For the school year 2024-2025, 95% of our teachers are highly qualified. An attestation form is posted in the Superintendent's office for review.

If you would like this information regarding the qualifications of your child's teacher sent to you, please fill out the information requested on the form below and return it to:

Superintendent's Office

Laurens Central School

PO Box 301

Laurens, NY 13796

Name of Parent/Guardian

Mailing Address

City

State

Zip

Telephone Number

Notification of Rights Under the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA)

PPRA affords parents certain rights regarding our conduct of surveys, collection and use of information for marketing purposes, and certain physical exams. These include the right to:

- A. Consent before students are required to submit to a survey that concerns one or more of the following protected areas ("protected information survey") if the survey is funded in whole or in part by a program of the US Department of Education (ED)
 1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or student's parent;
 2. Mental or psychological problems of the student or student's family;
 3. Sex behavior or attitudes;
 4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
 5. Critical appraisals of others with whom respondents have close family relationships;
 6. Legally recognized privileged relationships, such as with lawyers, doctors, or ministers;
 7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or parents; or
 8. Income, other than as required by law to determine program eligibility.
- B. Receive Notice and an opportunity to opt a student out of:
 1. Any other protected information survey regardless of funding;
 2. Any non-emergency, invasive physical exam or screening required as a condition of attendance, administered by the school or its agent, and not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of a student, except for hearing, vision, or scoliosis screenings, or any physical exam or screening permitted or required under State law; and
 3. Activities involving collection, disclosure, or use of personal information obtained from students for marketing or to sell or otherwise distribute the information to others.
- C. Inspect, upon request and before administration or use:
 1. Protected information surveys of students;
 2. Instruments used to collect personal information from students for any of the above marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes; and
 3. Instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum.

These rights transfer from the parents to a student who is 18 years old or an emancipated minor under State law.

School Tax Information

The Tax Collector will accept payment for school taxes beginning September 1, 2024 and ending October 31, 2024. Payment may be mailed to the Collector, Deborah Lawyer, at the Laurens Town Hall, 37 Brook Street, Laurens, NY 13796. Checks should be made payable to Deborah Lawyer, Tax Collector. The Tax Collector will accept cash payment if it is the exact amount. No change will be given.

THE COLLECTOR WILL ACCEPT TAXES BY MAIL OR YOU MAY DROP THEM OFF IN PERSON AT THE LAURENS TOWN HALL ON THE FOLLOWING WEEKDAYS, EXCEPT FOR HOLIDAYS:

Monday	9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Tuesday	9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Wednesday	9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Thursday	10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Friday	1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

The Tax Collector can be reached during the office hours listed above at (607) 433-2816.

Taxes will be collected at no penalty from September 1, 2024, through September 30, 2024, and at 2% interest through October 31, 2024. All taxes remaining unpaid after October 31, 2024, will be returned to the Otsego County Treasurer.

Laurens Athletic Booster Club News

The Laurens Booster Club engages in fundraising activities to contribute to the athletic programs offered by Laurens Central School. The club runs concession stands for the majority of our sports. Concession stands were also opened during the Coaches vs. Cancer Basketball Games in January.

Here are some of the ways the Booster Club has been able to help athletes and the Athletic Programs in the past:

- Funding for Girls Track and Field championship jackets.
- Funding for Boys Track and Field championship jackets.
- Donation to Coaches vs. Cancer
- Donation to Awards Banquet for student meals (\$1000 annually)
- Booster Club award plaques
- Spring and summer sports tournaments
- Scholarships for traveling sports team
- Scholarships for summer sports camps
- Funding for the Annual Athletic Hall of Fame Plaques

Thank you to the athletic fans that support our teams and Booster Club concessions. Our success is due largely to your support, but we also cannot do it without Booster Club members. Please think about joining the Athletic Booster Club. The Athletic Booster Club is always looking for new members and would encourage all sports fans to join. The meeting dates and times can be found on the Laurens website under the Athletics tab.



National Honor Society

Taken from Chapter Bylaws of the Laurens Central School Chapter of the National Honor Society

ARTICLE V. SELECTION OF MEMBERS

- Section 1. The selection of members to this chapter shall be by a majority vote of the faculty council, which consists of five faculty members appointed by the principal. The chapter advisor shall be the sixth, nonvoting, ex officio member of the faculty council.
- Section 2. The selection of active members shall be held once a year by the end of the second month of the school year.
- Section 3. Prior to the final selection, the following shall occur
- Students' academic records shall be reviewed to determine scholastic eligibility.
 - All students who are eligible scholastically (i.e., candidates) shall be notified and asked to complete and submit the candidate information form for further consideration.
 - The faculty shall be requested to evaluate candidates determined to be scholastically eligible using the official input form provided by the chapter advisor
 - The faculty council shall review the candidate information forms, faculty input, and other relevant information to determine those who fully meet the selection criteria for membership. Applicants will be scheduled for an interview with the faculty council, building principal and chapter advisor.
- Section 4. Candidates become members when inducted at a special ceremony.
- Section 5. An active member of the National Honor Society who transfers from this school will be given an official letter indicating the status of their membership.
- Section 6. An active member of the National Honor Society who transfers to this school will be automatically accepted for membership in this chapter. The faculty council shall grant to the transferring member one semester to attain the membership requirements and, thereafter, this member must maintain those requirements for this chapter in order to retain their membership.

Students eligible for selection into the National Honor Society would have received a letter of application. If there are any questions about the application or selection process, please feel free to reach out to Mrs. Murch, NHS advisor, via email bmurch@laurencs.org or by calling 432-2050.

No Child Left Behind NOTICE OF RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Pursuant to the Federal No Child Left Behind Act, the school district must disclose to military recruiters and institutions of higher learning, upon request, the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of our high school students. However, the district must also notify parents of their rights and the rights of their children to request, in writing, that the district NOT release such information.

Parents, or students who are at least 18 years old, wishing to exercise their option to withhold their consent to the release of the above information to military recruiters and institutions of higher learning must sign and return the form below to the District Clerk by Friday, September 27, 2024.

RELEASE OF INFORMATION

_____ I request that information concerning my child/children NOT be given out by the Laurens Central School District to anyone.

_____ I request that information concerning my child/children be given out by the Laurens Central School District to colleges only.

_____ I request that information concerning my child/children be given out by the Laurens Central School District to the Military only.

Name(s) of Student(s):

Name(s) of Parent/Guardian (please print)

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Student Signature (if 18 years or older)

Date

Mail to:
Laurens Central School
Pam Weir, District Clerk
PO Box 301
Laurens, NY 13796

Laurens Central School Alumni Hall of Fame By-Laws

NAME

The organization shall be known as the Laurens Central School Alumni Hall of Fame.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Laurens Central School Alumni Hall of Fame Committee will recognize those individuals who through their life-long accomplishments have brought pride and distinction to our school and community.

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The committee will consist of five (5) members with non-voting people invited as necessary. The Laurens Central School Alumni Hall of Fame Committee shall consist of the following members:

- a. Superintendent
- b. Building Principal
- c. Board of Education Member
- d. Officer of the Laurens Central School Alumni Assoc.
- e. A current employee who has a long history (minimum of 10 years) of service within the District

Applications for membership on the LCS Alumni Hall of Fame Committee will be brought to the attention of the Superintendent. Such applications will be brought by the Superintendent to the standing members of the committee for membership consideration.

The existing LCS Alumni Hall of Fame Committee will accept applications and make decisions regarding new members to fill vacated committee positions. The committee must come to consensus on all candidates.

ELIGIBLE CANDIDATES TO THE LCS ALUMNI HALL OF FAME

For each year, to be eligible for selection to the LCS Hall of Fame candidates must meet the following requirements:

- a. Election to the LCS Alumni Hall of Fame shall be open to persons who have made an outstanding contribution to their community and brought pride to their alma mater, and who graduated from LCS 10 or more years prior to the date of induction.
- b. Inductees must be Laurens Central School graduates.
- c. Nominees must have demonstrated good citizenship and character in their lives both during their years in high school and after.
- d. An employee of Laurens Central School shall be considered only after their employment at LCS has ended.
- e. A person may be nominated posthumously.

METHOD OF ELECTION

- a. Nominations shall be received from any community member, friend of LCS or any family member of any individual meeting the qualifications listed above.
- b. Nominations must be made on the appropriate application form to be considered. (See attachment—Incomplete nominations will not be accepted.)
- c. With the exception of the first year of the LCS Alumni Hall of Fame, the duty of the Committee shall be to vote for one (1) inductee into the LCS Alumni Hall of Fame in any given year. No nominations from the floor are permitted.
- d. Nominees not selected for induction into the LCS Alumni Hall of Fame will automatically be considered for future elections.
- e. Nominees will be approved by consensus of the committee.

PROCESS OF CONSENSUS

The Committee shall work to arrive at consensus regarding the acceptance of all nominations into the LCS Hall of Fame. The following qualities/characteristics will be taken into consideration:

- a. the nominee's high school record;
- b. the nominee's integrity and character;
- c. the nominee's contributions to their community; and society in general after their graduation.

AUTOMATIC ELECTIONS

No automatic elections shall be permitted.

TIME OF THE ELECTION

The Superintendent and/or Building Principal shall prepare an advertisement for nominations. This will be distributed in the LCS newsletter in September. All nominations with completed applications must be returned to the Committee no later than December 31. All applications received after December 31 will be considered for the following year's Induction Ceremony.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Whenever possible, the inductees will be presented during the LCS commencement ceremony in June. In the case of a deceased inductee, the inductee's family will be invited to accept the award on the inductee's behalf. The media will be alerted to this event. The inductees will be recognized on plaques which will be displayed in the school. All inductees will receive a duplicate plaque to keep.

PURCHASE OF PLAQUES

Laurens Central School will purchase all plaques.

PLAQUES

The following information shall be included on each plaque:

- a. high school graduation picture;
- b. current picture for a living inductee or picture provided by the family in the case of a deceased inductee;
- c. brief description of contributions made to the school while a student and to their community and society after their graduation from LCS.

Use of Pesticides

New York State Education Law Section 409H, effective July 1, 2001, requires all public and non-public elementary and secondary schools to provide written notification to all persons in parental relation, faculty, and staff regarding the potential use of pesticides periodically throughout the school year.

The Laurens School District is required to maintain a list of persons in parental relation, faculty, and staff who wish to receive 48 hour prior written notification of certain pesticide applications. The following pesticide applications are not subject to prior notification requirements:

- A school remains unoccupied for continuous 72 hours following an application
- Anti-microbial products
- Non-volatile rodenticides in tamper resistant bait stations in areas inaccessible to children
- Non-volatile insecticidal baits in tamper resistant bait stations in areas inaccessible to children
- Silica gels and other nonvolatile ready-to-use pastes, foams, or gels in areas inaccessible to children
- Boric acid and disodium octaborate biopesticides
- The application of EPA designated biopesticides
- The application of EPA designated exempt materials under 40CFR152.25
- The use of aerosol products with a directed spray in containers of 18 fluid ounces or less when used to protect individuals from imminent threat from stinging and biting insects including venomous spiders, bees, wasps, and hornets

In the event of an emergency application necessary to protect against an imminent threat to human health, a good faith effort will be made to supply written notification to those on the 48-hour prior notification list.

If you would like to receive 48-hour prior notification of pesticide applications that are scheduled to occur in the school, please complete the form below and return it to Steve West, LCS, PO Box 301, Laurens, NY 13796.

REQUEST FOR PESTICIDE APPLICATION NOTIFICATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

Day Phone: _____

Evening Phone: _____

LAURENS CENTRAL SCHOOL Alumni Hall of Fame Nomination Form

Nominee: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Nomination: _____

Nominee's Graduation Year: _____

Nomination Statement: Please write a brief statement including a summary of the individual's high school accomplishments. List all honors, awards and recognitions received. Please comment on the nominee's contributions to their community and society in general after graduation that have brought pride and distinction to their alma mater. Attach statement to this form.

Incomplete nominations will not be accepted.

Nomination submitted by: _____

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Please submit this nomination form to the
Superintendent by December 31.

Bill Dorritie, Superintendent
Laurens Central School
PO Box 301
Laurens, NY 13796

Date Received: _____



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

Photo and Video Opt-Out

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The Laurens Central School District regularly publishes photographs/videos taken throughout the school year on the school website (www.laurenschools.org) and in the school newsletter.

Please note, if you permit your child's photo/video to be shared, you do NOT have to fill out this form.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Mushtare, Building Principal at (607) 432-2050.

Photo and Video Opt-Out Form

I elect NOT to have any photos or video of my child used in District publications, including the school website and newsletter. This form must be filled out completely and returned to school to ensure that your child's information is kept private. Please print clearly.

Child's Full Name _____ Grade _____

Parent/Guardian Full Name (Printed) _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____

Contact Telephone Number: _____ Date _____

SEPTEMBER 2024

Laurens Central School



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

Monday

NO SCHOOL

LABOR DAY

Breakfast Sandwich
Chicken Bacon Ranch Bake
Broccoli
Garlic Bread
Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

Pancakes w/Sausage
Chicken Patty
Tater Tot
Carrots
Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

Breakfast on a Stick
Chicken Tenders
Brussel Sprouts
Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

Breakfast Sandwich
Macaroni & Cheese
Green Beans
WW Dinner Roll
Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

Tuesday

NO SCHOOL

CONFERENCE DAY

Pancakes w/Bacon
Soft or Hard Shelled Tacos
Refried Beans
Corn
Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

Breakfast Biscuit Sandwich
Pasta w/ Marinara or Alfredo Sauce
Garlic Bread
Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

Scrambled Eggs w/Ham & Cheese
Chili
Corn Muffin
Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas

Wednesday

NO SCHOOL

CONFERENCE DAY

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

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

Chocolate Chip Pancakes
Chicken Parm Wrap
Cauliflower
Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

Thursday

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL!

Scrambled Eggs w/Cheese & Homefries
Hamburger/Cheeseburger
French Fries
Green Beans
Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

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

French Toast Bake w/Strawberries
Chicken Quesadillas
Corn
Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

Egg Hash Brown Bake
Chicken Stuffing Casserole
Butternut Squash
Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

Friday

6

French Toast Sticks
Assorted Pizza
Spinach and Romaine Salad
Soup/Salad w/Chick Peas or Sandwich

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

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

French Toast Sticks
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

CROP News

My name is Jessica DeBoer. I am the CROP Site Coordinator here at L.C.S. This program is offered to students that are in K-8th grade. At this time Pre-K is NOT included in this program. The CROP program is based on needs, including children whose families qualify for free/reduced lunch, children who may be academically at risk, and children who may go home to an empty house. The main objective of this program is to provide academic improvement, youth development, and personal/social enrichment for students and to help working families by providing literacy and other educational related activities. The CROP program starts on September 16, 2024, and runs from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

The CROP program is FREE. This is a federally funded program with federal requirements, one which involves completion of an application.

There will be a mandatory parent meeting on September 13, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. at the school. A parent MUST attend the meeting before their child can participate in the CROP program.

The application for student enrollment is available on the school website or you can call the Main Office to request applications. Please return these to the school on or by September 11, 2024.

Feel free to reach out to me with any questions or concerns about the program at 607-432-0958 or jdeboer@laurenschools.org

—Jessica DeBoer,
LCS CROP Site Coordinator

Laurens Library New Hours!

ADDITIONAL HOURS ADDED!

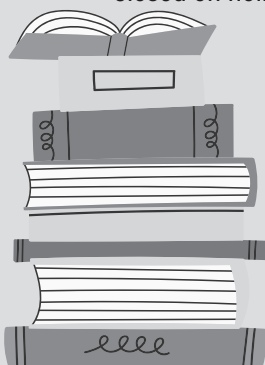
Monday & Wednesday—7:00-8:00 p.m.

Tuesday—1:30-3:30 p.m.

Thursday—4:30-8:00 p.m.

Friday—5:00-8:00 p.m.

Closed on holidays



Read
more
BOOKS

Summer CROP

This summer the CROP program went on a variety of field trips which included the New York State Museum, the Farmer's Museum, VIA Aquarium, SUNY Oneonta, SUNY Cobleskill, and Gilbert Lake. The students all had a great time and can't wait until next summer!



Special Education News

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act gives school districts the responsibility to locate and identify all students with disabilities who reside within the district. If you believe that your child has a disability and may qualify for special education classification, supports, and services, please contact my office at (607)432-2050, ext. 2100. I will be happy to schedule an appointment with you to discuss any concerns that you may have regarding your child and how the school district can assist you in providing a free appropriate public education. The Committee on Preschool Special Education and the Committee on Special Education will work with you to provide appropriate referrals, evaluations, and services for children with disabilities ages 3-21.

Lindsey Gifford

Director of Instructional Support Services

From the School Nurse

Many parents ask, "When is my child sick enough to stay home from school?"

This is not always an easy question to answer! We hope that these tips can help!

A child who is sick will not be able to perform well in school and is likely to spread the illness to other children and staff. We suggest making a plan for childcare ahead of time so you will not be caught without a comforting place for your child to stay if he/she is ill.

YOU SHOULD NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL IF HE/SHE HAS

- Fever in the past 24 hours
- Vomiting in the past 24 hours
- Diarrhea in the past 24 hours
- Chills
- Strep Throat (must have been taking an antibiotic for at least 24 hours before returning to school)
- Bad cold, with a very runny nose or bad cough, especially if it has kept the child awake at night
- Head lice—until your child has been treated according to the nurse or doctor's instructions

If your child becomes ill at school and the teacher or school nurse feel the child is too sick to benefit from school or is contagious to other children, you will be called to come and take him/her home from school. It is essential that the school health office have a phone number where you can be contacted during the day and an emergency number in the event you cannot be reached. Please be sure that arrangements can be made to transport your child home from school and that childcare is available in case of illness. If your daytime or emergency phone number changes during the year, please notify the school immediately.

Please call the School Health Office if you have any questions or concerns.

LAURENS CENTRAL SCHOOL Honor Roll Fourth Quarter

12TH GRADE

High Honor

Tara Bookhout, Jaidon Brodie, Eowyn Chickerell, Angelina Conley, Alexandria Geissinger, Ryeley Gravelding, Logan Green, Ethan Martindale, Jade Moxley, Bailey Rondeau, Logan Rondeau, Victoria Stevens

Honor

Hunter Huffman, Alysa Hunt, Kadance LeBeau, Nevaeh Norton, Spencer Platt, Starlene Stilson

11TH GRADE

High Honor

Cadence Koren, Carlton Long, Ashlynn Maier, Brooke Mann, Jaidyn Simon

Honor

Libby Cox, Dylan Pettit

10TH GRADE

High Honor

Colin Capraro, Wyatt Christian, Allison Johnson, Mackenzie Loudon, Nicole Stanley, Alicia Stevens, Hannah Weiss, Ryleigh Williams

Honor

Kyrah Andrades, Haven Bodor, Steven Kilts, Mallory Kovacs, Alyssa Stevens

9TH GRADE

High Honor

Mark DeMeo, Nathaniel Kovacs, Kayla Lewis, Courtney McCarthy, Moses Tafel

Honor

Rafe Antila, Rylee Balbuena-Solovitch, Ethan Barnes, Kendall Capraro, Lakota Chickerell, Logan Chickerell, Lucas Dorritie, Ariana LeBeau, Ryan Lindsay, Tyler Loudon, Jonathan Smith, Ashton Solovitch, Carmella Tripple, Bailey Wilcox

8TH GRADE

High Honor

Lucie Benada, Arianna Bormann, Kelsey Cox, Anella Croston, Kendra Lindsay, Kalee Stilson, Cole Williams

Honor

Stella Amerson, Andrew Hausmann, Jacob Hendrich, Kaitlyn Hughes, Olivia Rogers, Carter Rossman, Degan Smallin

7TH GRADE

High Honor

Jason Czarnecki, Owen Wright

Honor

Liam James Brown, Ariella Cohen, Alexander Fleury, Elizabeth Hendrich, Emanuel John, Hunter Kingsbury, Logan Loudon, Oskar Lyons, Lucas McCarthy, Wesley Olive, Maxine Schidzick, Jaecob Stoltenborg,

Class of 2024 Award Recipients

American Legion Award—**Eowyn Chickerell**
Desert Storm Memorial Award—**Angelina Conley**
Student Council Award—**Victoria Stevens**
Laurens Teachers' Association Scholarship—**Bailey Rondeau, Logan Rondeau**
William Martin Memorial Award—**Victoria Stevens**
Abraham B. Dorfler Memorial Scholarship—**Jaidon Brodie**
Mr. & Mrs. M. Dorfler Memorial Scholarship—**Alexandria Geissinger**
David L. Dorfler Memorial Award—**Ethan Martindale**
St. Matthew Lutheran Church Scholarship—**Tara Bookhout, Alexandria Geissinger, Victoria Stevens**
Laurens Presbyterian Church Award—**Ryeley Gravelding, Jade Moxley**
Dorr-Ullmann Mathematics Award—**Ryeley Gravelding**
Joyce W. Laing Memorial Scholarship—**Jade Moxley**
Rosabel-Gino Ganio Memorial Award—**Jacob Griswold, Kadance LeBeau, Starlene Stilson**
Alumni Association Award—**Eowyn Chickerell, Kadance LeBeau**
Ernest & Barbara Holling Memorial Award—**Alysa Hunt, Harley Loudon**
Noelle & Carl Lusins Award—**Angelina Conley**
Walter & Ann Burchan Charitable Trust Award—**Nevaeh Norton**
Environmental Awareness Award—**Victoria Stevens**
John E. Spoor, MD Memorial Scholarship—**Tara Bookhout, Jaidon Brodie**
Laura Layman Memorial Award—**Starlene Stilson**
Emily Timer Memorial Scholarship—**Ryeley Gravelding**
Vincze Memorial Perfect Attendance Award—**Logan Green**
Kim Ryan Memorial Award—**Jacob Griswold**
American Red Cross Scholarship—**Tara Bookhout**
Laurens Masonic Lodge #548 Scholarship—**Tara Bookhout, Victoria Stevens**
Bruce Aldrich Memorial Award—**Logan Rondeau**
The Child Development Scholarship—**Jade Moxley**
Otsego County School Counselors' Award—**Alesa John, Bailey Rondeau**
Community Bank Award—**Kadance LeBeau**
Triple "C"—**Alexandria Geissinger, Logan Green**
Paul E. Hunt Memorial Award—**Bailey Rondeau**
Leatherstocking Brush & Palette Award—**Angelina Conley**
Glenn Waffle Memorial Award—**Hunter Huffman, Alesa John**
Ryan "Pirate" Healt Memorial Scholarship—**Jade Moxley**
John Snyder Memorial Scholarship—**Ethan Martindale**
The Community Service Award—**Hunter Huffman, Victoria Stevens**
The Eric Ericson Memorial Scholarship—**Logan Rondeau**
The Pasquale "Coach" Grasso Memorial Scholarship—**Eowyn Chickerell**
The Elma & Gary Holway Memorial Award—**Bailey Rondeau**
The Bea Loftus Memorial Scholarship—**Alesa John**
Joseph L.G. Mone "Music Matters" Memorial Award—**Jaidon Brodie**
Assistant Chief Adam C. Burgess Memorial Scholarship—**Angelina Conley**
Lydia C. Thering Scholarship—**Tara Bookhout, Victoria Stevens**
Jeffrey E. Hahn Memorial Award—**Alesa John, Bailey Rondeau**
Corena Martin Memorial Award—**Eowyn Chickerell**
Crystal Timer-Borne Memorial Award—**Logan Green, Hunter Huffman**

Congratulations to all of our award recipients!

Calendar of Events September 2024

SEPTEMBER

2	LABOR DAY NO SCHOOL	
3	Superintendent's Conference Day Village Meeting, Rm 129A, 7:00 p.m. GVS vs. SK @ Stamford Tournament, 7:30 p.m. Zumba, MPR, 6:00 p.m.	18
4	Superintendent's Conference Day BVS vs. SK @ Stamford Tournament, 4:00 p.m.	19
5	CLASSES BEGIN GVS vs. Unatego Zumba, MPR, 6:00 p.m.	20
6	BVS vs. Worcester @ Milford	21
7	Zumba, MPR, 9:00 a.m. BVS vs. TBD @ Stamford Tournament GVS vs. TBD @ Stamford Tournament	23
9	Scouts Meeting, Cafe, 6:00 p.m.	24
10	GVS @ GMU Zumba, MPR, 6:00 p.m.	25
12	BVS vs. Morris @ Milford GVS vs. Milford Zumba MPR, 6:00 p.m.	26
13	BMS @ Cherry Valley-Springfield CROP Parent Meeting, 6:00 p.m.	27
14	Zumba, MPR, 9:00 a.m. BVS vs. TBD @ Stamford Tournament GVS vs. TBD @ Stamford Tournament	28
16	GMS vs. CVS/SS First Day of CROP	
17	BVS @ Edmeston GVS @ Franklin	
		Zumba, MPR, 6:00 p.m. BMS vs. Worcester @ Laurens BOE Mtg. Rm 115, 7:30 p.m. GVS @ Richfield Springs Zumba MPR, 6:00 p.m. BMS @ Sharon Springs Zumba, MPR, 9:00 a.m. GMS @ Edmeston 10:00 a.m. BMS @ Edmeston 11:30 a.m. BVS vs. Franklin @ SUNY Oneonta Booster Club Meeting, Rm 129A, 7:00 p.m. BVS @ CVS/SS GVS vs. Worcester Zumba, MPR, 6:00 p.m. BMS vs. Franklin @ Milford GMS vs. Franklin @ Otego Elementary Share & Shine, MPR, 2:00 p.m. BVS vs. RS @ Milford GVS vs. Schenevus Zumba MPR, 6:00 p.m. Homecoming Parade, 1:00 p.m. BMS @ Schenevus GMS vs. Schenevus Zumba, MPR, 9:00 a.m. Homecoming GMS vs. Schenevus, 10:00 a.m. BMS vs. Edmeston, 11:30 a.m. GVS vs. Stamford, 1:00 p.m. BVS vs. Stamford, 3:00 p.m.

*Subject to change

The Leopard's Tale Online!

We now have the ability to send you an online version of *The Leopard's Tale*! If you would like the newsletter to be emailed to you as opposed to being mailed a paper copy, please fill out the information below and return to the following address: **(If you already signed up to receive the newsletter digitally, you do not have to do it again this year).**

Pam Weir
Laurens Central School
PO Box 301, 55 Main St.
Laurens, NY 13796

____ YES, I would like to receive *The Leopard's Tale* in electronic format. You can stop sending me paper copies.

*Please note—Anyone with a Laurens mailing address is automatically sent a paper copy and cannot opt out for an electronic version.

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Address: _____

Email: _____

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Laurens, New York 13796

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2024-2025
Share and Shine

Month	Character Trait	Date
September	Kick off Assembly	9/26 (Thursday)
October	Self-Control	10/25
November	Respect	11/20
December	Fairness	12/19
January	Responsibility	1/31
February	Compassion	2/28
March	Honesty	3/28
April	Perseverance	4/25
May	End of Year	5/30



Mark Your Calendars!

Laurens Leopards Homecoming Weekend!

Homecoming Parade

Friday, September 27, 2024, 1:00 p.m.

Homecoming

Saturday, September 28, games start at 10:00 a.m.

Girls Modified Soccer vs Schenevus—10:00 a.m.

Boys Modified Soccer vs Edmeston—11:30 a.m.

Girls Varsity Soccer vs Stamford—1:00 p.m.

Boys Varsity Soccer vs Stamford—3:00 p.m.

LCS Annual Open House Nights

Elementary Open House: Wednesday, October 2, 7:00 p.m.

High School Open House: Wednesday, October 9, 7:00 p.m.

Congratulations Spring
2024 All Stars!

SOFTBALL

1st Team **Brooke Mann**
Bella Garlick (Milford)
2nd Team **Lexi Sutphin** (Milford)
Kara Mertz (Milford)
Honorable Mention **Bailey Rondeau**

BASEBALL

1st Team **Evan Clark** (Milford)
2nd Team **Aidan Mertz** (Milford)
Honorable Mention **Christian Lawson** (Milford)

GIRLS TRACK & FIELD

Jaidon Brodie
Alison Munson (Milford)

BOYS TRACK & FIELD

Carter Stevens (Milford)