

# FOCUS ON EDUCATION

FALL 2021

## Message from the Superintendent & Chair

Dear Members of the Lyme-Old Lyme Communities,

The first few days of the 2021-22 school year are behind us, and it is invigorating to see our schools bustling with activity once again. This year finds us with slightly fewer COVID-19 restrictions though flexibility will remain important as we navigate our way through the pandemic and adapt as necessary to keep our schools and communities safe.

We will be reviewing and updating the strategic plan for Lyme-Old Lyme Schools this fall. This plan outlines expectations and goals in the areas of curriculum, human resources, facilities, and community as well as the metrics for success in each area. We encourage and welcome your participation and feedback and invite you to the community forums listed below.

We will also be conducting a facilities study of Pre-K through 8 schools. You can find more information on this initiative on page three, along with the dates of community presentations.

As always, we thank the communities of Lyme and Old Lyme for their ongoing support.

Sincerely,

Ian Neviaser  
Superintendent of Schools

Diane Linderman  
Chair, Board of Education



## UPCOMING MEETINGS

### Strategic Plan Community Forums

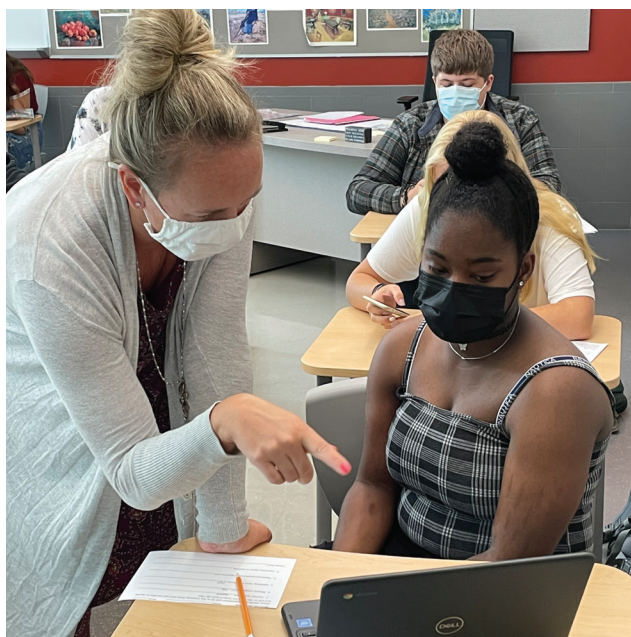
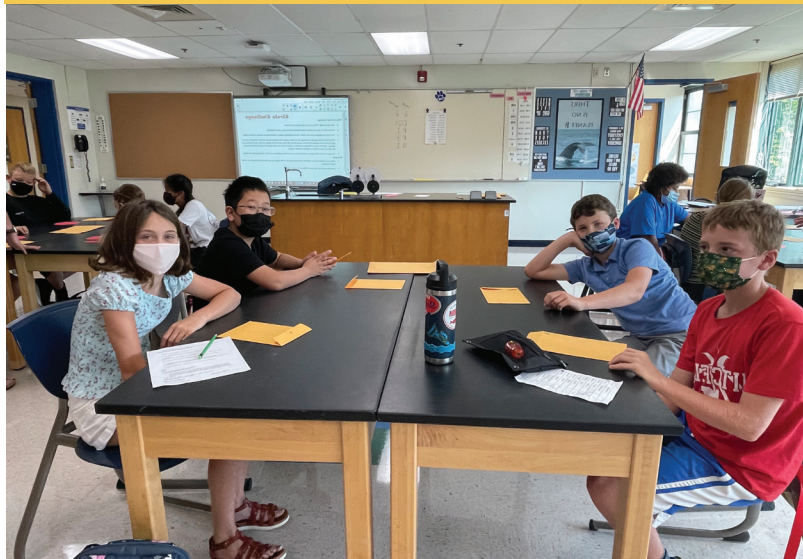
Oct. 27 and Dec. 8

6:00 PM

Lyme-Old Lyme Middle School Auditorium



# First Week of School



## Board of Education Meetings

Please join our Board of Education for the following presentations. All meetings are held at 6:30 PM at Center School.

- **October 6**  
School Updates
- **November 3**  
QA+M Facilities Study Presentation
- **December 1**  
Strategic Planning
- **January 5**  
Budget

Meetings are held in the Board of Education Conference Room at Center School, 49 Lyme Street, Old Lyme. Agendas, links to live-streams of meetings, and links to recordings of previous meetings are available at [www.region18.org](http://www.region18.org) under the "District Information" tab.



# Facility Facts

Our schools were far from quiet this summer as numerous facility upgrades took place. This summer saw the execution of planned maintenance activities as well as additional upgrades made possible by federal COVID-19 relief funds.

Work continues on the outdoor classroom at Mile Creek School in partnership with Vinal Technical High School. Construction of an outdoor classroom at Lyme School will take place later this year, and the playground equipment for Mile Creek School will be installed in October.

The Board of Education has commissioned a study to assess the state of its PK-8 facilities. The information resulting from this study allows us to plan and budget in a responsible, proactive manner and ensure we maintain the quality facilities that are an integral part of our schools. This year QA+M Architecture will review



Center School, Mile Creek School, Lyme School, and Lyme-Old Lyme Middle School. The facilities study will include a review of existing conditions, assessment and evaluation of the buildings, and the future budget cost estimation for repairs/updates. Work began this summer and will continue into the fall. QA+M will present their initial findings and solicit feedback from the community in September and November.



## Pre-K – 8 Facilities Study

### QA+M Community Presentation

Sept. 30 6:00 PM

Nov. 17 6:00 PM

Lyme-Old Lyme Middle School Auditorium  
53 Lyme St, Old Lyme

**TOP RIGHT:** An outdoor classroom was constructed at Lyme-Old Lyme Middle School. A stamped concrete pad will be added to this post-and-beam structure later this year.

**MIDDLE RIGHT:** Installation of the artificial playing surface began this summer and at the time of this writing is nearly complete.

**BOTTOM RIGHT:** The gym floor at Lyme-Old Lyme Middle School was painted and refinished with the school logo.

**TOP LEFT:** New playground equipment at Lyme School.

**BOTTOM LEFT:** Tennis courts at Lyme School were replaced.

# Focus on Faculty



**Andy Raucci** is Lyme-Old Lyme Schools **Teacher of the Year**. Andy is the technology integration specialist for the middle school and high school and has worked with Lyme-Old Lyme for eight years. Known as a friend to all, he is always ready to help, listen, give advice, and most of all, make you laugh. Andy navigated the numerous technology challenges related to the pandemic with a can-do attitude, a calm demeanor, and a positive attitude. Though most of Andy's work is with teachers, he also works with students through technology boot camps, the WLYM morning news broadcasts, ping pong club, drone lessons and more.



**Pat Aldrich** is Lyme-Old Lyme Schools **Employee of the Year**. As a technology facilitator at Lyme-Old Lyme Middle School for the last seven years, Pat consistently goes above and beyond the call of duty. She constantly seeks new challenges and knowledge to help students and staff excel. Pat handles issues both small and large and never makes anyone feel as though their question is silly. Her positive attitude and work ethic are admirable and appreciated by her peers.