

LEARNING PREP SCHOOL



May Newsletter

The monthly newsletter that celebrates our community.

*** STUDENT SPOTLIGHT ***

Owen Sutcliffe
10th grade



In April, LPS's Owen Sutcliffe was nominated for, and awarded, the "Dougie" Award by the [Doug Flutie Jr. Foundation](#). Owen, who

IMPORTANT DATES

Friday, May 6: Junior & Senior Prom

Tuesday, May 10 & Wednesday, May 11 :
MCAS Math 5th/6th grade

Wednesday, May 11: Partners in Education
(PIE) meeting (virtual), 9:00 AM

Thursday, May 12 & Friday, May 13: MCAS
Math 7th/8th grade

Saturday, May 14: Pickleball Frenzy, 12:00
PM *new time*

Tuesday, May 17 & Wednesday, May 18 :
MCAS Math 10th grade

Thursday, May 26: Senior Parent Event

Monday, May 30: No School, Memorial Day

Friday, June 3: Middle School Field Day

like his younger brother Leo, has an autism diagnosis, is a fantastic supporter of Leo's artwork. His family's self-proclaimed "Sales Man", Owen worked over 30 events in 2021, raising over \$3,000 for the 501c3 @completepuzzle that the Sutcliffe family founded. All funds raised support the autism community: Individuals, their families and the therapists that help them progress.

Over the years, as the result of his hard work with therapists and his family, Owen's confidence has grown. His increased confidence and growing skills have paved the way for him to be successful supporting and promoting Leo. Owen has earned the ability to do this AND he consistently rises to the occasion. Owen circulates at all of his brother's exhibits telling anyone that will listen that Leo is "the best artist in our whole family!" There are sales that result because he puts himself out there.

In addition, Owen mailed bookmarks featuring Leo's artwork to several Massachusetts public libraries, resulting in an exhibit at the [@tiltonlibrary](#) last November.

We are so proud of Owen and his hard work on behalf of his brother and the Autism community, and we are lucky to have him as part of our LPS community. This award is so well-deserved. Congratulations Owen!!

*** PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT ***

Assistive Technology

All LPS students have access to Assistive Technology tools and services. Assistive Technology (AT) compensates for learning challenges by offering alternative means for achieving a goal. All of our students have documented goals in their IEPs, and most of them have AT accommodations that allow them to be successful. AT tools are used in conjunction with remedial strategies, meaning our students continue to learn while using the tools that enable them to succeed.

The AT tools most often used at LPS include text to speech for listening to classroom material or books as well as one's own typing for editing purposes. Text to speech options include adjustable speech rate, voice options, highlighting in sync with audio (or students can mute the audio and follow along at their independent reading

Friday, June 3: High School Commencement

Tuesday, June 7 & Wednesday, June 8: MCAS Biology 9th grade and Retest

Tuesday, June 7: 8th Grade Moving On Ceremony

Monday, June 20: No School, Juneteenth

Tuesday, June 21: Early Release, 11:00 AM

Wednesday, June 22: Last day of school, Early Release 11:00 AM

Monday, July 11 - Friday, July 29 : Summer Program

Monday, August 29: First day of school, Early Release 11:00 AM

*** STAFF SPOTLIGHT ***

Marianne Verhaegen
Art Teacher,
After School Program Coordinator



What do you do at LPS?

My main role at LPS is the art teacher. I teach students from both middle and high school. I try to help every student find their love of creativity and self expression. I am

rate). Students also have access to highlighting tools, collect highlights, built-in dictionaries and picture dictionaries, a vocabulary list creator (select unfamiliar words and a chart is created with definitions and images), word prediction, speech to text, audio notes, screen recordings, and more.

There are a wealth of tools and programs available that students can access at LPS. Some specific programs we find most commonly used include Read&Write for Google, Bookshare, Braille and Audio Reading Download, Kami, Screencastify, Mote, Immersive Reader, Mercury Reader, Tinted Windows, and OpenDyslexic. To learn more about these tools and others you can [check out this resource](#), as well as the [Assistive Technology page](#) on our website.

also the After School Coordinator and create the yearbook for the Middle School.

Where were you before you came to LPS?

Last year was my first year at LPS as the Art Teacher but that was not my first role at LPS. About 9 years ago I taught Performing Arts for five years before taking a break to work on cruise ships with my husband (a job I held for 10 years prior to my time at LPS.)

What is your most memorable student experience or favorite teaching moment?

Anytime a student says to me that they used to hate art but now they love it. I want to show every student that art is all around them and each and every one of us has some artistic talent inside of us! I love helping students discover their inner artist.

What is your personal philosophy?

I heard a quote once when I was in High School that has stuck with me for a while. It is...

[Read more](#)

Announcements & Reminders

Greenhouse Plant Sale!

Wed, 5/4- Sat, 5/28

Hours:

Wed-Fri: 8:00am-2:00 pm

Sat: 9:00am-1:00 pm

Come and shop early for the best selection!

Offering:

- Houseplants
- Herbs
- Vegetables
- Flowering annuals

Prices vary depending on plant type and sizes. Vegetables, herbs, & flowering annuals in 6-Packs are \$5.00. Also, many of these are available in 4.5" Ecogrow pots for \$3.00/plant.

Pickleball Frenzy next weekend!

The LPS Wellness Committee is excited to announced a Pickleball event on Saturday, 5/14, open to all students, faculty & families. Pickleball is welcoming to all ages and athletic abilities not to mention REALLY fun. The event will be held at LPS. Racquets and balls will be provided.

Date: **Saturday, May 14th** (rain date 5/21)

Time: 12pm-3pm

RSVP: **Gretchen Petersen**
gpetersen@learningprep.org

Summer Program

Registration is now open!

Summer Program will run **Monday, July 11 through Friday, July 29**.

For more information including a curriculum overview, sample schedules and registration info [click here](#).

Houseplants range from 4" to 12" pots.

We hope to see you there!

High School Yearbook

It is time to pre-order your 2021-22 High School Yearbook! A full color book documenting this extraordinary school year!

Order today on JostensYearbooks.com

2022-2023 School Year Calendar

The [2022-2023 School Year Calendar](#) is now available.

Get involved

The Parent Advisory Group (PAG) & the Partners In Education (PIE) are two parent organizations that families can participate. For more information about each group's goals and the meeting dates, [click here](#).

The next meeting is:
PIE - Wed, 5/11 9:00 AM

Zoom link for all meetings:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83490769413>

MCAS Dates

Please see the schedule below for MCAS dates the spring. More info to come.

May 10 & 11 - 5th/6th grade Math
May 12 & 13 - 7th/8th grade Math
May 17 & 18 - 10th grade Math
June 7 & 8 - Biology - 9th grade & retest

Updated Covid Protocols

The 2021-22 Covid Protocols have been updated. You can find them on our website under Current Students/Covid-19 or [attached here](#).

You can also see [this updated flowchart](#) from the Department of Education on what to do when identified as a close contact or testing positive for Covid.

Grade Level Parents

Grade representatives for the 2021-22 school year:

12th: Debbie Berechman

11th: Stacey Suckerman

10th: Roslyn Michelson

9th: (available)

8th: Lori Day

5th-7th: Christina Chatalian

Family Directory

Is available via DIRECTORYSPOT. To access:

Download [DirectorySpot](#) from the app store. Enter your email address as the username. Click RESET PASSWORD

Lunch Menu

To review the lunch menu, [click here](#).

Parent Facebook Group

Join our private Facebook group just parents and guardians called:

LPS Panther Parents & Families Group.

Click this link to join!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/803852983897093>

Get your LPS Gear!

Here's a great way to show your LPS Panther Pride!

[Check out the School Store](#) today!

Know someone who would benefit from LPS?

If you know someone who may be looking for a place like LPS, tell them about our weekly, Virtual Information Sessions and to reach out to:

Korina Martin, Director of Admissions at kmartin@learningprep.org

Contact Info

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