



Message from the Superintendent—Mr. Jonathan J. Cleaver

An Opportunity to Give Our Children Equality Regarding Their Education

Lehigh Area School District is carefully considering replacing our aging elementary school buildings with a newly constructed elementary center (K-2/3-5). All of our elementary schools were built in the 1950's with three of them built in 1954. Over the past years we have been patching and repairing these properties to maintain a safe, secure, and healthy educational environment. We have also made every effort to maintain educational opportunities and keep up with the ever-changing technology progression, which every year is moved to a lower grade level.

In the winter we turn up our old heating systems and in the spring we wish for cooler weather because none of our elementary buildings are air conditioned. Just to give you an example of some of the extreme costs to heat the aging buildings as a district, we spent \$134,200.91 to heat our elementary buildings during the 2013-14 school year. Each year we are also plagued with increased and often unexpected maintenance expenses. In short, operating the old buildings is costing excessive amounts of money and they are a constant challenge to keep updated and offer a 21st century learning experience for our elementary students.

The money that is saved from operating and maintaining our aged buildings, along with the other projected savings (staffing, contracted services, etc.) will be marked to offset the debt service of the new building which will allow for the district to keep its current budgeted bond payment. We have worked very closely with our financial institute and with the projected reimbursement from PDE; the district is able to borrow \$52.5 million (which would cover the renovation to the high school and middle school) with no additional increase in taxes as it relates to the already budgeted bond payment. This estimation does not include any use of fund balance or take into consideration the attractive construction cost or some of the lowest interest rates in years.

At the end of the Lehigh's Long-Range Facility Plan all of Lehigh Area School District students would be able to pursue their education at the best, safest, and most energy efficient buildings in the area.

Quick Facts Regarding the Lehigh Area School District Facility Plan

"Building Optimization Plan for 21st Century Excellence"

Key Features

- ♦ Introduces K-5, 6-8, 9-12 grade level structure
- ♦ Reduces educational buildings in operation from 6 to 3
- ♦ Encompasses improved building designs
- ♦ Buildings will be more energy efficient
- ♦ All buildings will be built or renovated to meet the ADA standards

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Key Features *(continued)*

- ◆ Design of all buildings will meet the needs of all educational programs
- ◆ Simplified transportation to one general site
- ◆ All elementary students will receive the same educational opportunities

Advantages

- ◆ Offer students 21st century learning opportunities
- ◆ Eliminates transferring of elementary students based on need and/or program
- ◆ Simplified transportation to one general site
- ◆ All elementary students will receive the same educational opportunities
- ◆ Offers long-term, budget neutral solutions for all buildings
- ◆ Eliminates classroom disruption due to renovating or continual repairs
- ◆ Take advantage of low interest rate
- ◆ Provides additional revenue from potential sale or rent of properties
- ◆ Provides attractive gathering space for community groups and/or organizations

Curriculum & Instruction—Mr. Timothy M. Tkach, Coordinator of Curriculum

As the Coordinator of Curriculum, Instruction, & Grants, I'd like to welcome you to another exciting school year in the Lehigh Area School District. We are continuing to increase and improve the rigor of our curriculum (K-12) as we begin to prepare our students for the 21st Century and world experiences. It does not matter if they plan to attend and matriculate from a 2-year, 4-year, post-secondary certification program, Armed Forces, or enter the work force we must provide them a solid educational foundation that will allow them to grow and flourish as productive citizens. We, at the Lehigh Area School District, do not, and will not, accept "Status Quo". It is our job to provide a safe, conducive, and nurturing environment for each and every student to learn. The professional and support staffs have been working very hard this summer as they prepare to instruct and support our school children for this coming school year. We have been and will continue to provide professional development, training, and support to achieve and maintain these goals.

At all levels, high school, middle school, & elementary, staff continues to work on their common assessments, curriculum maps, and SLO's (Student Learning Objectives). They are making sure the curriculum is aligned with the PA Core Standards. In addition, they are continuing to offer enrichment and remediation programs and materials as they prepare their students for the PSSA's and Keystone Exams in Algebra, English Language Arts, and Biology. We've added another AP course and we are looking to add two more for the 2015-2016 school year.

Last year at the elementary and middle school levels, we implemented the new Math series enVision (Grades K-5) & Digits (Grade 6). I know this series created a lot of frustration and anxiety, especially with parents as they tried to help their child, but we are really excited with the learning potential it is allowing the students. This fall, at the beginning of school, we will be offering one or two nights where a

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(Curriculum continued)

group of teachers will be meeting with parents and administration to help ease the fears of parents as their child is taking this math curriculum. It will be a basic introduction to the course content material, how it is presented to the students, and what they can do as a parent to help their child at home. Also, this year, K-5 staff will start professional development and training in January 2015 with the new reading series “Reading Wonders”. We will be implementing this series during the 2015-2016 School Year.

Finally, with technology and software the district has purchased new computers (108) for the high school labs. We replaced one full cart of MAC laptops (32), sent 1 cart of MACS (32) to the middle school and purchased 20 computers for CAD, STEM, & Art classes, plus 2 iPad carts with 30 in each cart. At the Middle School, we installed an Apple server to better manage the school’s iPads and replaced the older computers in the building. In addition, with the help of elementary PTO’s we were able to match their purchases of iPads and each building will have one cart of iPads plus we purchased servers to meet their additional needs. Also, projectors have been installed in all of the elementary core classrooms within all four buildings and 29 new access points were installed to increase the speed and security.

We are proud of our students, parents, staff, and community! We look forward to another successful year of working with our students, parents, and the Leighton Community. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at the Curriculum Office at 610-377-4490 Ext. 1540.

Leighton Education and Athletic Foundation (LEAF)

LEAF is an independent nonprofit organization which has been privately established to cooperate with the Leighton Area School District in supporting educational programs and extracurricular activities that are outside of the school district’s operational budget.

Our Mission Statement: The LEAF is an independent, nonprofit organization dedicated to providing support for students and programs and promoting creativity, innovation, and excellence in LASD.

Our Goals:

- ◆ Provide scholarships to LASD graduates.
- ◆ Award competitive program grants to LASD teachers and administrators for innovative curricular activities.
- ◆ Provide financial support for promoting and maintaining enrichment and remediation programs.
- ◆ Enrich the fine arts, extra-curricular, and athletic programs.
- ◆ Expand the use of technology in the classroom.
- ◆ Promote innovation.

LEAF is a 501(c) 3 non-profit, tax exempt, charitable organization that will be funded through:

- ◆ **Fundraising**—although we are separate from the school district, we will be engaging in fundraising activities to assist all the students in grades K-12 to achieve their maximum potential.
- ◆ **EITC Credits**—a tax credit (not a deduction) is available for businesses that make donations to local educational improvement organizations such as LEAF.
- ◆ **Donations**—tax deductible donations are gratefully accepted from any person or organization who contributes to LEAF.

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How you can help:

Volunteers—the framework of LEAF has recently been completed. We have established the following committees in order that we may move forward toward achieving our goals. We now need caring individuals who share our views to step up and join us. The following is a brief description of the focus for each of our committees.

- ♦ **Endowment and Legacy Society**—provides for the establishment of specific “endowment funds” for academic purposes and long-term stability.
- ♦ **EITC, Major Gifts, and Grant Writing**—charged with attracting contributions through the PA Tax Credit Program, major gifts from individuals, and grants from private foundations and corporations.
- ♦ **Alumni**—provides for the long-term success of the Foundation through the creation of an Alumni Association for both short-term (annual giving) and long-term (endowment giving).
- ♦ **Information Technology**—supports the Foundation’s website and database management of donor relations.
- ♦ **Public Relations and Advocacy**—promotes, markets, communicates, and improves the image of the Foundation and student achievements within the school district and community.
- ♦ **Allocation**—establishes a priority list of needs for the school district, which the Foundation could support.
- ♦ **Governance**—recruits qualified individuals in all areas of the foundation and ensures that all financial reporting requirements are met and publishes an annual report.
- ♦ **Giving Campaign**—contacts donors for annual solicitation campaigns.
- ♦ **Special Events**—creates events to generate funds for the Foundation to include an annual “Signature Event”

Donations:

- ♦ **Monetary Donations**—the Foundation welcomes all monetary donations including matching funds, grants, and gifts by alumni, local businesses, and the Lehighton area community.
- ♦ **“In Kind” Donations**—the Foundation gratefully accepts donations of “goods and services” to carry on the daily business of the Foundation. Office equipment and supplies, printing, advertising, and design services, or gifts and prizes that can be used at our fundraising events are very much appreciated.
- ♦ **Memorial Donations** —you may honor a loved one by making a gift in his or her name. You may also create a gift within your estate for the foundation or establish an endowment fund.

In the event that you are interested in joining the LEAF team or in receiving more information about LEAF, please visit our website at www.LEAF-foundation.org or e-mail at info@LEAF-foundation.org.

LASD School Board—Mrs. Gloria Bowman, President

Welcome to the 2014-15 School Year

On behalf of the Lehigh Area School Board Directors, I would like to welcome everyone back to the 2014-15 school year. I know this year will be exciting and bring some changes at all levels. At the high school level, students will have the opportunity to bring their own device to school to use during educational instruction. They will also meet the new assistant high school principal Mrs. Jennifer Evans, who will bring her expertise in data and coaching to this level. Elementary students will see some new staff and have more opportunities to access technology. The elementary staff will continue working with Dr. Romano and Dr. Watkins as reading consultants in order to get ready for a new reading program for our students in January 2015. At the middle school, students will also see some new faces. Additional intervention services in reading and math will be provided along with enrichment opportunities at this level and students will have the chance to earn having lunch with the principals. The district also welcomes a new food service, Nutrition Group and an additional school psychologist.

Each year, the district looks for ways to improve educational programs and as stated above, it is evident that “Commitment to Excellence” continues to sustain our district motto. The School Board will continue to support quality educational programs, hire highly-qualified staff, provide extracurricular activities for all students, and engage parents and the community throughout the school year by offering school-wide events, computer classes to adults, and opening facilities to the community and various agencies and organizations.

Under the leadership of the superintendent and business office, the district and board remain committed to sustaining quality throughout the district while being fiscally responsible to the community. The board committees, and the board as a whole, have worked hard this past year to promote excellence for our students as well as upgrade some facilities and support community use of district facilities. As we move forward with building projects in the district, know that we, the school board and all staff, are committed to “Educating together to prepare our students for life’s journey”.

Without everyone’s support, hard work, and cooperation, Lehigh would not be the quality district that we know. I would like to thank the parents/guardians and the community for supporting district programs and all staff who put their best foot forward on a daily basis for our district, the students, and the community. I would like to especially thank the students, who continue to do their best and be their best. We are **TRIBE PRIDE!**

Have a great school year.

Mrs. Gloria Bowman
LASD School Board President

Facilities Update—Mr. Joseph Hauser, Supervisor of Plant Operations

The start of the 2014-2015 school year has come about quickly. The summer work crews and regular staff have worked very hard to restore our facilities with that fresh-look appearance. The Administration is proud to be associated with all the staff and we say **THANK YOU** for a job very well done, for our students, staff, and community.

Along with routine summer maintenance, the Lehigh Area School District has capital projects that have been completed: Asbestos abatement has occurred at the East Penn and Mahoning Elementary School. District staff has prepared these schools for the start of the school year. Carpet tile has been installed in the Mahoning Elementary corridors.



There are many other smaller maintenance projects that have been completed that are not listed.

Safety and Environmental Information:

The district will be complying with the new EPA/DEP water testing regulations starting in 2012. These regulations are for facilities supplied by on-site well water. The facilities are Mahoning Elementary, East Penn Elementary, and the Field House.

The **Asbestos Management Plan** and inspection reports are on file at the District Administration Building in office of the Supervisor of Plant Operations; as well as East Penn Elementary, Franklin Elementary, Mahoning Elementary, Shull-David Elementary and the Middle School Main Offices.

Potable Water test results and reports are in compliance with DEP regulations and are on file at the District Administration Building in the office of the Supervisor of Plant Operations.

Right to Know (Chemical Awareness) are annually updated. Information is located in the main office of each school facility and in the office of the Supervisor of Plant Operations.

Lead Based Paint Inspection Reports are on file at the District Administration Building in the office of the Supervisor of Plant Operations. The District is in accordance with 40CFR 745.225 EPA Lead Rule.

District-Wide Safety Committee-Safety is of the greatest importance to the District. For more information contact the Supervisor of Plant Operations.

Fire Protection Systems (Main Building Systems, kitchen exhaust hoods and fire extinguishers) are inspected annually.

Athletics—Kyle Spotts, Director of Student Services and Facility Planning



I want to start off by welcoming everyone back to school and to the beginning of a great year! The new year offers many opportunities to participate in athletic and/or extracurricular programs. I encourage all students to be involved in a program outside of the classroom. If you are interested and seek further information please stop in my office.

Lehighton Athletics

Many exciting games and events are ahead for our fall programs! Please join us and share in the INDIANS school spirit and support our teams. Our student-athletes and coaches work very hard to achieve success. Let's cheer them on! Remember always cheer for the Indians and never against the opposing team or officials! Go Indians!



Mark your Calendar:

August 27th **"Meet the Tribe" 7:00 p.m., @ Football Stadium** - Introduction of all student-athletes and coaches participating in a fall sports program, including a performance by the Indians Band and cheerleaders.

August 29th First day of regular season competition for fall sports.

September 5th First home football game vs. Minersville – 7:00 p.m.

October 4th Homecoming



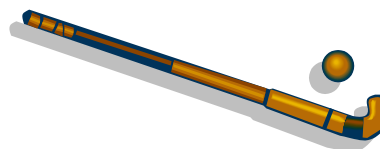
Athletic Information

Lehighton Athletics Website: <http://www.lehighton.org/athletics.cfm>

The Lehighton Athletics Website is your hub for all Lehighton Athletics Information. Team schedules are accessible off the main page of the athletics website.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions, concerns, or inquiries. My door is always open.

I hope to see each one of you at a contest supporting our wonderful student-athletes and coaches. Good luck and have a great year!



Technology News—Mr. Marcus Statham—I.T. Director

Power Announcement

Keeping you informed is a top priority at Lehigh Area School District. For that reason we have adopted the Power Announcement Notification Service which will allow us to send a telephone or e-mail message to you providing important information about school events or emergencies.

As most of you know we have been using the system to notify you of school closings and delays, school events, and reminders. Power Announcements can call every household in the district with 10 minutes and we are seeing an over 95% success rate in notifying district households.

What you need to know about receiving calls sent through Power Announcement

- ◆ Caller ID will display the school's main number when general announcement is delivered.
- ◆ Power Announcement will leave a message on any answering machine or voicemail.
- ◆ We update your telephone number via the school that your child attends. All you need do is keep your home telephone, emergency telephone, and e-mail updated with the school office and we will do the rest in getting that data into Power Announcement.
- ◆ You can opt out of getting call/e-mails by requesting not to be called in writing to your child's school.
- ◆ The successful delivery of information is dependent upon accurate contact information for each student, so please make certain that we have your most current phone numbers. If this information changes at any time, please notify the school immediately.

Information Technology News

While summer is seen by most people as three months to slow down and enjoy the season, the Information Technology (IT) Department has picked up its usual busy pace to make various improvements throughout the district.

In the high school, we have replaced all the computers in the four business labs and one of the laptop carts. Also, sixty iPads have also been added for the students' use. In the middle school, we have added a laptop cart, installed an Apple server to better manage the school's iPads, and replacing the older computers in the building. In the elementary schools, we have installed all new access points so that their wireless connection will be faster and more secure. A new Apple server has been installed to support iPads at the elementary level. Forty iPads have been added to the Franklin Elementary inventory thanks to Franklin Elementary PTO. We also are working with our Building and Grounds Department to install 18 new interactive projectors in the classes of the elementary schools. Also, each elementary computer lab will have new headphones installed.

All of this is on top of refreshing all the laptops in the district, refreshing the computers in the labs, rolling over student accounts, supporting summer school and other summer events, repairing/replacing worn out equipment, and staff support.

While I write this in the beginning days of August, we still plan to install computers for the High School's new Computer Aided Design (CAD) lab and put on-line the new cafeteria system with new hardware and software. We also want to replace as many older computers as we can before school starts. So if you're about the district and see someone that does not look refreshed from the summer, it's someone from IT.

Mahoning & Shull David Elementary—Mr. Aaron Sebelin, Principal

Shull-David and Mahoning Elementary Schools Welcome You Back to School!

Welcome back to all of our elementary students to a new, exciting school year! With the start of the 2014-15 school session, there are a few changes we'd like to share with you.

Our schools will have a few changes since the end of last year. We will be welcoming Mrs. Katy Decker in second grade at Shull-David. Katy is coming to us from the middle school. She is very excited to begin this year. Shull-David will once again house 3-second grade classrooms due to student enrollment.

Miss Elyse Roman, the Title 1 Reading Specialist and reading department chair, is now Mrs. Matika. Mrs. Matika was married in July. Congratulations!

Mrs. Michele Kirsch has moved from first grade at Franklin Elementary School and will now be a Kindergarten teacher in Shull-David. She is taking the place of Mrs. Maloney who has moved to Kindergarten in the Franklin building. We will miss Mrs. Maloney and welcome Mrs. Kirsch to our building.

Mrs. Sarah Fink will be returning to Shull-David and Mahoning as a long-term substitute teacher in the Title 1 Math department. She is filling in for Mrs. Kim Nenscel, who will be returning from maternity leave in January 2015.

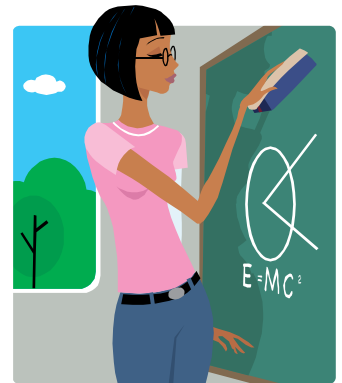
Mr. Robert Hawk has taken over the custodial duties in our Shull-David building. He has been working with us since the end of last year and is excited to welcome back our students.

Mrs. Karen Shaffer begins her first school year as Mr. Sebelin's secretary at both Shull-David and Mahoning. She began working in her current position in April of 2014 and has spent the summer getting familiar with our district. She is eagerly awaiting the start of this school year.

Due to lower numbers in grade 3, we will only have two classes of third grades students at Shull-David this year. Mrs. Jan Wentz and Mrs. Jennifer Boyle are the third grade teachers. Mrs. Weiss has moved on to teach in the middle school. We wish her the best in her new venture as a middle school teacher.

Mahoning Elementary School does not have as many changes with staff this year. We are welcoming Ms. Nicole Hydro, who is coming to us from Franklin Elementary School. Ms. Hydro will be teaching first grade for the retired Miss Miller.

Other than staff changes, we have some other highlights to bring to your attention. The parent pick-up procedures will look a bit different this year at Mahoning Elementary School. Please look at the article posted in this newsletter for more information. This will also be discussed at our Meet the Teacher Night, Kindergarten Orientation, on Power Announcement, and through the first few weeks of school. We know with everyone's cooperation, the transition will work out in the best interest of the safety of all of our students. Please be patient with our changes.



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(Mahoning & Shull David continued)

We are also continuing in our second year of the enVision math series. Though the math may have been a bit difficult to understand at times in its first year of implementation, we are hoping the second year will be a bit easier. Look for “open house” opportunities in the near future for parents to receive further information about the processes of learning and teaching in the enVision format.

Our curriculum department is looking into a new reading series, Reading Wonders, which is directly aligned to the Pennsylvania Core Standards. Teachers have been looking at the new materials for the last few months. Beginning in January, our staff K-5, will be receiving professional development in order to roll out the new reading series in the 2015-16 school year.

Another curricular change occurring this year is the move from the D'Nealian handwriting format to the Zaner-Bloser style of printing. All grades Kindergarten through 2 will be practicing the new style of print. Grades 3 and 4 will move their focus to cursive handwriting. You will be getting more information from your child's teacher as the school year begins.

We hope you can come and join us for our Kindergarten/New Student orientations the week of August 18. All new students and incoming Kindergarteners should have received letters in the mailing giving dates for these presentations. Our “Meet the Teacher” nights will be held the week of September 2, for grades 1-4 in each individual elementary school. Please do your very best to attend these important events to learn more about our educational programs and to become an active partner with the teacher assigned to your child this year.

If you ever have any questions, concerns, or comments about our elementary programs please do not hesitate to contact me at school. I hope you have an enjoyable, educational academic school year.

New Procedures at Mahoning:**Parent Drop-off/Pick-up Procedures for Mahoning Parents**

Listed below are changes to traffic patterns in the morning and afternoon for Mahoning Elementary School. Please go over our new procedures that are listed below. It is extremely important for everyone to follow our drop-off/pick-up procedures to ensure student safety.

A.M. Drop-Off

- ♦ It is suggested that students take advantage of George's Transportation. All students who reside in the Mahoning Township area are offered busing service before and after school.
- ♦ **Please adhere to all signage located at the bottom of our driveways. Entrance and exit signs are posted for safety of all travelers.**
- ♦ Both cars and buses may drive into our school driveway beginning at 8:10 a.m. daily. Be sure to give yourself time to safely drop-off students on time at school.
- ♦ **There is absolutely no passing allowed within the driveway.**

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(Mahoning & Shull David continued)

A.M. Drop-Off (continued)

- ♦ Teachers will be positioned in front of the building to assist children in and out of vehicles and buses. Please do not exit your car when dropping children off while in the driveway. This will cause traffic to become stagnant. All parents are asked to stay in an orderly line during parent drop-off and pick-up. Students are asked to exit all vehicles on the passenger side so they are not walking between traffic. It is suggested that students wait inside of the vehicle until they are at or near a teacher at the front doors to exit the vehicle.
- ♦ Students may enter the building at 8:15 A.M. Do not bring students to school before 8:10 A.M. Those students who arrive after 8:30 will be considered tardy and must be accompanied by a parent to be signed in at the office. Consistent tardiness will not be tolerated and violators subject to discipline.

P.M. Pick-Up

- ♦ Parents should park in the rear lot (outside of the 4th grade doors). Please keep the driveway open in the front of the building as to not impede bus and parent traffic.
- ♦ Any parent who will be picking up their child at the end of the day will wait outside of the 4th grade wing doors. Teachers will dismiss children to parents as they arrive at the doors, beginning at 3:05 p.m. Only students who have written permission for pick-up will be dismissed. All others parent pick-up will be done in front of the school **after** the buses depart.
- ♦ Only school buses will be permitted park in the driveway from 2:55-3:05 p.m. All bused students will be loaded onto the buses. Once all the buses have exited the school, parents may drive through to pick-up children. Remember that students should enter all vehicles on the passenger side so they are not walking between traffic. It is suggested that students wait to enter the vehicle until it pulls up to the school entrance area and comes to a complete stop. The children know to wait until cars come to a complete stop.
- ♦ When students enter your vehicle to leave school, please make sure your child is buckled in the proper seat to follow state seat belt laws.

***** REMINDER—We have worked hard to create a safe, smooth traffic pattern to ensure all students are safe during drop-off and pick-up times. Please adhere to all traffic patterns. It may take a few weeks for everyone to become familiar with our new format. Give yourself ample time in the morning and afternoon for these changes. If you have any questions about our traffic procedures, please do not hesitate to call the school office at 570-386-4678 to speak with Mr. Sebelin or Mrs. Rodgers (head teacher).**

East Penn & Franklin Elementary—Mrs. Suzanne Howland, Principal

The 2014-2015 school year is off to a great start filled with rigorous teaching, learning and community centered events. Our instructional focus is small group, differentiated instruction in both reading and math. As our teachers instruct critical and creative thinking and academic skills, our expert teachers ensure that each child excels.

This year we are continuing to work on our reading initiatives by balancing our literacy program and re-searching new reading series. We will increase our focus on writing, instruct math through the enVision series and transition in grades K-2 from D'nealian to Zaner-Bloser handwriting.

We are looking forward to our second Race for Brilliance on October 24, 2014 merging East Penn and Franklin schools. The Race for Brilliance is an annual jog-a-thon, which involves students and staff, walking and/or jogging around the Franklin track throughout the day with planned activities and incentives to slime either the Principal, Mrs. Howland, or Mr. Koons. The event is held as their main fundraiser to separately raise funds for each schools field trips, celebrations, technology, etc.

Thank you to East Penn and Franklin PTO's for their tremendous generosity. Because of their amazing support and partnership we have:

- ♦ Purchased round tables for all classrooms at East Penn to assist with guided reading instruction and bought new chimes for our music program.
- ♦ Purchased through cooperation with the district forty new iPads and two iPad carts for all students at Franklin and purchasing iPads at East Penn.
- ♦ Planned wonderful activities for the 2014-2015 school year at each building.

East Penn and Franklin will continue reinforcing our *Tribe Pride Oath* and school behavior matrix through positive behavior support. All students and staff in both buildings will continue signing the oath and displaying it in the main entrance to the buildings. It stands for:

I will
Need to
Do my Best
I will
Always treat People and Property with Respect
Never put
Staff or Students Down

The Oath and Behavior Matrix can be found on the building websites at www.lehighton.org.

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(East Penn & Franklin continued)

We welcome some staff changes in our buildings this year: Jessica Bruch—East Penn Second grade, Jessica Grasso—East Penn Second grade, Christina Haupt—East Penn Fourth grade, Ben Tkach—East Penn Special Education, Susan Maloney—Franklin Kindergarten, Paula Bonser—Franklin First grade, Allison Rheinhardt—Franklin 3rd grade, Justin Fritz—Franklin 2nd grade, and Ashley Lichtenwalner—East Penn/Franklin Title I Reading Specialist. All have done a great job engaging their new students and promoting a positive educational climate.

As always our teachers and staff remain fully dedicated to educating our children utilizing new curriculum strategies, technology and unmatched enthusiasm. We encourage parental involvement at all levels, especially via the PTO. We want all parents to realize that learning does not stop at 3:15 p.m. when our students leave the buildings.

Help your child Succeed:

Your interest in your child's progress and school activities demonstrates that you value education.

Expect youngsters to do their best in school.

Ask what they learned in class.

Encourage them to find out more.

Provide space, time and materials for homework.

Ensure nutritious meals, physical activity and rest.

Read and talk with children about books.

Limit television viewing and other passive activities.

Regularly attend parent-teacher conferences.

Keep informed about the issues that impact education

Get Involved in School Life:

Participate in the PTO and attend school events

Volunteer

Chaperone field trips

Assist in classrooms

Middle School News—Dr. Mark McGalla, Principal

Welcome Ms. Tobash and Mrs. Pagotto!

It is great to welcome Mrs. Pagotto to the LAMS team in her position as an 8th grade History teacher. Before moving to Lehighton Mrs. Pagotto taught history at Milton Area School District. Her family moved to Lehighton in 2008 and she stayed home with her children, while running a home childcare facility named Wee the People. Additionally, Mrs. Pagotto substituted extensively in the district, volunteered to help with the track team and coached cross country. We are very excited for her to join the LAMS team. Welcome! Ms. Tobash is also joining the team at LAMS and we are excited to welcome her on board. Ms. Tobash graduated from Shippensburg University with a B.S. and B.A. in Information Technology for Business Education in 2014. In her free time she enjoys participating in and/or coaching sports such as basketball, volleyball, and cross fit to name a few. Ms. Tobash spent the last six weeks at LAMS as a daily substitute and stated that, “I grew to love the LAMS faculty, staff, and parents!”

Lehighton Summer Wellness Camp 2014

The Lehighton Summer Wellness Camp is back! This is great news because many more Lehighton Area Middle School students are taking advantage of this great opportunity. Once again, Mrs. Quinn is the camp director and Mr. Molchany is assisting her in providing fun and educational activities to promote wellness to our kids. There are too many exciting places and experiences that the campers have had to list. However, I encourage all parents and/or guardians to go to lehightonsummerwellness.weebly.com to peruse what has been happening this summer. When visiting the webpage you can click on various links and view pictures to see the campers in action. One section that may be of particular interest is the section entitled, Link for kids by kids. Here students write about their experiences and share their thoughts with other campers. Mrs. Quinn makes a conscientious effort to stay local and take advantage of all the opportunities that exist within our area. Therefore, if you or your place of employment has any activities or potential activities that our campers can participate in to promote wellness please contact Mrs. Rachel Quinn at rquinn@lehighton.org or call the Lehighton Area Middle School office at 610-377-6535. Wellness encompasses many aspects of our lives including but not limited to our emotional, social, physical, and financial well-being. So if you think you may be able to become a partner with the Lehighton Area School District in promoting wellness, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Health News—Ms. Kathryn Lloyd, R.N., C.S.N.—Middle School Nurse

REMINDER FOR 7th GRADE PARENTS:

Pennsylvania Health Law requires that student receive the Adacel and the meningitis vaccines in order to enter 7th grade. You may bring proof of your student's immunization to the Middle School Office during regular office hours, or to the Middle School Nurse's Office at Meet The Teachers Night, or send them with your student on the first day of school. If you are having difficulty obtaining these vaccines, please contact the School Nurse klloyd@lehighton.org or call the Middle School at 610-377-6535.

High School News—Mr. Craig Reichl, Principal

Well, we're almost through a well-deserved summer break and after the winter we had, I couldn't have asked for more gorgeous weather. I know many people are vacationing and spending time with their families and I hope you're enjoying the memories with the people you care about. The refreshing change of pace of summer should recharge your batteries and prepare you for fall. As the days grow shorter and we start to plan for the new school year please use the website and high school twitter account @LehightonHighSc for the most up-to-date information. We are extremely excited for the 2014-15 school year and prepared for the challenges that will be presented to us, but we know our staff's enthusiasm and dedication is infectious and I'm sure our students will respond with unlimited success throughout the year. I wanted to share some of the things we've been working on at the high school.

First, I would like to welcome Mrs. Evans, our new assistant principal to the high school. Mrs. Evans comes to us from Berwick School District where she was a full-time Math instructor and secondary math coach. Her excitement and fresh ideas will only enhance what our departments are currently doing. Please stop by the high school main office and take time to introduce yourself and make her feel welcome.

Ms. Gasper an Art teacher from the middle school will be with us 4th block teaching two additional classes, Photography and a Visual Arts class.

The Technology Department received a new computer lab in the basement. All the Tech Education classes and Art instruction will use the lab throughout the year. It will be running *Solid Works*, an industry standard 3D design program that will be used in our new course Introduction to Technology, Engineering, upper level metal and wood classes.

The Social Studies and Math departments received iPad carts that will be used for assessments, projects, research, flipped classrooms and other unique and positive educational opportunities.

All Advanced Placement teachers attended a two-day conference in Philadelphia and found the content to be exciting, and worthwhile. We're interested to see the classroom impact this year after this years scores were the best in Lehighton history.

Members of the Science and Technology Education Departments participated in a STEM conference at Lehigh University. This was a great opportunity to see practical application of their courses in industry and build relationships with other professionals.

News Items

All field trips, meetings, facility usage, and other date-oriented data will be listed on the ScheduleStar Calendar under Athletics and Activities on the high school homepage. If you have a question on when something is happening please check the site.

(continued on next page)

(High School continued)

News Items *(continued)*

PDE has adopted a change in regulations regarding food fundraising based on nutrition guidelines. PDE states that we cannot allow sales of food items that do not meet the minimum requirements during the school day and until 30 minutes after the end of the day. This will most likely include the following: candy bars, doughnuts, Gertrude Hawk, and some others. To make sure we are compliant, all fundraiser request forms should be turned in to Mr. Spotts for pre-approval.

Lehighton High School has an Enrichment block at the end of the school day. This time will be used as additional class time and required remediation for those students needing additional assistance on the Keystone tested areas. Remediation is mandatory and will be offered once a four-day cycle for all 11th graders that did not demonstrate advanced or proficiency levels on the Keystones. Tenth grade students that are not currently enrolled in a Keystone course in the fall semester will also participate in remediation.

Meet the Teacher/Back to School Night, will be held August 20th 6-8 pm. Beginning at 6:00 pm, we will hold a 1/2 hour presentation and answer session for students and parents in the auditorium. Parents and students will be able rotate through their students first semester classes between 6:30-7:30. We are requesting parents bring a copy of their child's schedule from PowerSchool. Between 7:30-8:00 staff will be available to answer additional questions.

Meet the Tribe will be held August 27th at 7pm. Come on out and support our students!

Through a partnership with Lehigh-Carbon Community College, we will be offering GED classes in the fall. The classes will be 60 hours from 6-9 pm. More information will be forthcoming along with dates for placement testing.

SAT prep classes will be offered by LCCC and the Lehighton School District in September and October. Dates will be updated on ScheduleStar.com.

Math Department News

The Math Department has adopted a new textbook for the 2014-2015 school year. In an attempt to further promote the use of technology in the classroom, students will be using their textbooks exclusively online. With all of the possible technology available with the textbook and through a variety of external resources, an online textbook will give students the ability to access the information in their books at any moment while in school or out of school. If students are unable to access the Internet, parents should notify the teachers. The Library will be open from 7:15 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. to allow students the ability to access these resources.

With this new program, the students will have access to hands-on application, interactive personal tutors, animations and practice problems. These online textbooks were designed to help all students develop a deeper understanding of mathematics and increase their scores on high-stakes tests such as the Keystones. Each student will be given the opportunity to experience lessons incorporating careers in science, technology, engineering and Mathematics all from their electronic device. Additionally, they will be challenged to use critical thinking skills and creative problem solving that will help them as they plan to enter the workforce or pursue a college education.

(High School continued)

Technology Department News

The Technology department is introducing a new element to their program this year. A new technology computer lab has been placed in the classroom. These computers have been set up with SolidWorks CAD software; a program that offers our students to work on real life 3-D designs. Technology students will be using the same software used by colleges, universities and current industry leaders. Our students will enter their colleges and career studies with a firm background in the use of relevant technology in the field of engineering.

Schools and students have commented on the same program used in their buildings:

"With SolidWorks, we can do more hands-on design with real-world projects, which keeps our students interested and learning."- Jay E. Moore, Technology and Computer Science Department Coordinator

"We can now conceptualize and modify ideas on the computer without creating a whole new drawing: that's a simple thing to do with any CAD program. However, where SolidWorks CAD software excels is the learning curve is so much faster than with other CAD packages that it cuts time in half when teaching students."- Alan Gomez, Department Chairperson and Engineering Instructor

"I was able to learn and use SolidWorks CAD software myself."- Ellis P. Kieffer, Student

This new school year holds great promise for our students looking to enter the field of technology. We are striving to provide every opportunity to advance our students so that they are fully prepared as they leave our buildings to enter the next stages of their education and careers.

LEHIGHTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

1000 Union Street
Lehigh, Pennsylvania 18235
610-377-4490 (telephone)
610-577-0032 (fax)

Newsletter information:
mwagner1@lehighton.org

East Penn Elementary

610-377-6094
610-577-1008 (fax)

Franklin Elementary

610-377-6163
610-577-0067 (fax)

Mahoning Elementary

570-386-4678
610-577-1009 (fax)

Shull David Elementary

610-377-7880
610-377-0908 (fax)

Lehighton Middle School

610-377-6535
610-377-6503 (fax)

Lehighton High School

610-377-6180 (main office)
610-377-0303 (fax)
610-377-7600 (guidance)
610-377-1852 (fax)

School Hours:

Elem. 8:30 a.m.-3:10 p.m.
M.S. 7:25 a.m.-2:14 p.m.
H.S. 7:35 a.m.-2:20 p.m.
Adm. 7:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

George's Bus

Transportation
610-377-5511

Important Dates

8/18/14	-	Shull-David New Student/Kindergarten Open House - 5:00-7:00 p.m.
8/19/14	-	Franklin New Student/Kindergarten Open House - 5:30-7:30 p.m.
8/20/14	-	East Penn New Student/Kindergarten Open House - 5:30-7:30 p.m.
	-	Meet the Teacher Night/New Student Orientation-Middle School-6:00 p.m.
	-	Meet the Teacher Night/9th Grade Orientation - High School - 6:00 p.m.
8/20-22/14	-	Teacher In-Service Days
8/21/14	-	Mahoning New Student/Kindergarten Open House - 5:00-7:00 p.m.
8/25/14	-	Students' First Day
	-	Board Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
8/27/14	-	Meet the Tribe Night - 7:00 p.m. - Stadium
8/29/14-9/1/14	-	Labor Day Holiday
9/2/14	-	Meet the Teacher Night - Mahoning & Shull David Elementary
9/4/14	-	Meet the Teacher Night - East Penn & Franklin Elementary
9/25/14	-	Student Progress Reports
10/13/14	-	Teacher In-Service (No School for Students)
11/24,25,26/14	-	Parent/Teacher Conferences (Early Dismissal for Students)
11/27-28, 12/1/14-	-	Thanksgiving Holiday (No School)
12/23/14	-	Early Dismissal
12/24-31, 1/1,2/15-	-	Winter Holiday (No School)

Administrators

Jonathan J. Cleaver, Superintendent
Brian Feick, Business Administrator
Tina Holmes, Asst. Business Administrator
Timothy M. Tkach, Coordinator of Curriculum, Instruction and Grants
Sean LeDonne, Supervisor of Special Services
Floyd Brown, Asst. Supervisor of Special Services
Joseph Hauser, Supervisor of Plant Operations
Craig Reichl, High School Principal
Jennifer Evans, Asst. High School Principal
Mark McGalla, Middle School Principal
Charles Bachert, Asst. Middle School Principal
Aaron Sebelin, Mahoning & Shull David Elementary Principal
Suzanne Howland, East Penn & Franklin Elementary Principal
Kyle Spotts, Director of Student Services and Facilities Planning

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