



Message from the Superintendent—Mr. Jonathan J. Cleaver

It is an understatement to say that we have had a challenging winter. Even with seeing signs of spring throughout the community, it is hard not to reflect on the difficulties we had with snow and ice conditions during the winter. The decision to close or delay school is always difficult and is always made with students' safety in mind. Just to confirm how difficult a winter it was, during the 2014-2015 school year we have had the following: eight snow days, 16 two-hour delays, and two early dismissals. As a school district we are required to have 180 educational days throughout the year. With the challenges set before us from Mother Nature, we have made adjustments throughout the year to still have graduation on Friday, June 5, and meet the requirement of 180 education days. I would like to thank the staff throughout the district that has enabled us to make the adjustments to allow for the seniors to keep their graduation date as originally scheduled.

As you read this newsletter, you will see a number of programs that are going on throughout the district. Our schools are filled with a dedicated staff that try innovative approaches and encourage their students to take on challenges at all levels. The accomplishments and dedication of our students and staff are evident through the accolades and awards that they receive when competing against other districts throughout the area. The Lehigh Education Community has a lot to be proud of with the desire and effort our students and staff put forth each and every day, not only in the classroom, but with everything they do beyond the school day.

Curriculum & Instruction—Mr. Timothy M. Tkach

Congratulations!

After reviewing all the grants, the Pennsylvania Department of Education selected Shull-David Elementary as a recipient of the Reward School – “Innovation Grant”. We are being awarded the full amount of \$38,840, which will be used to purchase iPads, carts, software, and implement an after-school remediation program for students in grades 3 & 4. Congratulations to the staff and Mr. Sebelin for helping to submit and attain this grant.

PSSA Testing Window for 2014-2015 Assessment Dates & Grades

Listed below are the content areas, dates, and grade levels that will be tested during the month of April.

English Language Arts (ELA) - April 13-17, 2015 Grades 3-8

Mathematics - April 20-24, 2015 Grades 3-8

Science - April 27-May 1, 2015 Grades 4 and 8

Make-ups - May 4-8, 2015

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Curriculum & Instruction—continued

PSSA (continued)

We are asking for your help! The Pennsylvania State System Assessment (PSSA) tests will be given to our students in grades 3 through 8 during the month of April. I'm sure you realize how important these tests and days are important to all of us. As the teachers and staff are making sure the students are prepared and ready for the tests, we are asking that you help in making sure your child or children are ready to test on the dates listed above. Here are some helpful hints that you can do at home: Get them to bed on time and they get a good night of rest, make sure they eat something in the morning before they leave for school (elementary students will be receiving breakfast), please explain the importance of this test to them but don't put added pressure on them, please emphasize to them that all we are asking them to do is put forth their best effort, and finally that attendance is very important so they need to be here and on time. Thank you for your time, effort, and cooperation during this period of time!

School Attendance Improvement & Truancy Reduction

The impact of truancy within Pennsylvania, as well as nationwide, is a relevant topic for both educators and youth-serving organizations. This is a topic that we take very seriously at Lehigh Area School District.

Facilitating and encouraging regular school attendance, and subsequent student achievement, may be viewed by some as the sole responsibility of the school system. The truth is that promoting the value, and necessity, of education for our youth is important for all of us. **The most effective strategy for reducing truancy is possible when parents, schools, public agencies, the legal system, non-profit organizations, businesses and all members of the greater community understand the ramifications of truancy and strive together to make school a place in which all students desire to fully participate.** In order to have a positive impact for truant students and their parents, this issue requires true cross-system integration of services among multiple agencies on a statewide level.

How Can We Prevent Truancy?

Preventing truancy requires the support of schools, families, and communities. Truancy prevention efforts are typically school-based, court-based, or community-based. The best efforts incorporate all three components and provide a continuum of prevention and intervention strategies.

Truancy reduction programs may involve one or more of the following components:

- Parent/guardian and family involvement.
- A continuum of support, including incentives and consequences for good, improved, and poor attendance.
- Collaboration among schools, courts, law enforcement agencies, social services providers, businesses, and faith-based and youth-serving agencies.
- Tangible goals to measure program and student performance.
- Effective record keeping tracking improvements in student attendance and truancy rates.
- Establishment of a community standard in which school attendance is valued and expected.

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Curriculum & Instruction—continued

School Attendance Improvement & Truancy Reduction (continued)

For decades, educators, researchers and social reformers have recognized the link between truancy and delinquency. A lack of commitment to school (i.e., truancy) has been established by several studies as a risk factor for the development of five problem behaviors: substance abuse, delinquency, teen pregnancy, violence and school dropout. High rates of truancy have been linked to high daytime burglary rates and high vandalism. Truant students are at higher risk of being drawn into behavior involving drugs, alcohol, violence or teen pregnancy. Youth who miss school frequently are often unable to develop interpersonal relationships or gain the knowledge and skills they will need for future employment.

Further, many chronic truants are also likely to drop out of school, which puts them at greater risk for future problems in various areas of their lives. For example, U.S. Department of Education statistics indicate that dropouts have lower wage earnings, experience more unemployment and are more likely to end up on welfare or in prison than students who complete high school or college.

Truancy prevention and intervention efforts protect youth from risk factors and help reduce juvenile delinquency and other related problems. Programs that prevent a young person from entering the juvenile justice system save taxpayers money prevent more people from becoming victims of crime and help prevent youth from adopting criminal behavior patterns in the future.

To help address this issue the state created a **Task Force on School Attendance and Truancy Reduction**. The statewide Truancy Task Force on School Attendance & Truancy Reduction was created to find effective practices to promote increased achievement in Pennsylvania's schools. Through the work of the Task Force and magisterial district judges, parents, schools and child welfare agencies were able to receive better guidance on what they can do to help Pennsylvania's children attend school on a daily basis.

The Pennsylvania Department of Education provided support for the Task Force's recommendations and encouraged statewide cooperation in truancy reduction efforts. Members of the original Task Force included representatives from schools, the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission, the PA Department of Human Services, the Governor's Policy Office, the PDE, magisterial district judges and other stakeholders in truancy reduction.

The Task Force identified a need for a roadmap for schools that clearly and consistently identifies the protocol in implementing quality truancy reduction efforts. We at Lehigh Area School District want all of our students to attend on a daily basis and benefit from the quality education that the teachers, staff, school board, and community provide to them.

Nurses' News



ATTENTION Parents of 6th Grade Students

Pennsylvania requires 2 immunizations for entry into seventh grade. All students must receive the Adacel (Tdap) and the Menactra (MCV or Medimmune) vaccines. Parents should bring proof of their child's vaccine to the School Nurse at Lehigh Area Middle School. For more information, please call Kathryn Lloyd, School Nurse, at 610-377-3720.

Message from the Board President—Mrs. Gloria Bowman

As the 2014-15 academic year comes to a close, I would like to congratulate all of the seniors who will be graduating in June and wish them well in their future endeavors. Handing out diplomas to these delightful young people and seeing the family enthusiasm and pride, is one of my very favorite activities as board president. Everyone should be proud of his/her accomplishments on this special day.

I am very proud to be part of the Lehighton school community where we value academics, athletics, extracurricular activities, the arts and community service. Our students continue to excel in all of these areas. This board, as well past school boards, will continue to support these values as well as promote quality programs and offerings, provide many resources and hire excellent staff to ensure that each student is receiving a well-rounded education and ready for his/her future.

Our building projects continue to move forward with great enthusiasm from the staff, students, and many community members. I wish to thank every board member, as well as the community and all staff, for their ongoing support of moving Lehighton Area School District in a positive direction in the 21st century. Lehighton Area School District continues to be committed to the future of each child where he/she is academically and emotionally supported in a safe environment. This vision for each child will always remain a high priority.

I am grateful to serve as your board president. Our district website can be visited where one can review our superintendent's evaluation and board motion accomplishments over this past year. The board works diligently to be transparent, from our committee meetings to workshop sessions, regular board meetings and website information. We still have much work ahead of us but with the continued support from so many people, we will accomplish many of our goals, including sustaining and adding quality programs, renovating the Middle School and High School and the anticipated construction of an elementary center. Thank you to all administrators, especially Mr. Cleaver, for communicating their vision for the district's future. Thank you to all staff for his/her dedication to Lehighton Area School District, our students, who work hard and their parents who support them each and every day. I wish everyone a great, safe, and happy summer.

Elementary Guidance News—Ms. Deb McKain & Mr. James Blakeslee

The counselors have been excited about the career lessons they are doing with grade 3. The students have interviewed an adult about their job, and learned about how their personality and strengths should affect their future job choice. They are also enjoying the friendship and social skills groups they are running. PSSA time is coming in April. Parents: be on the look-out for an information letter in early April.

Cafeteria News

Lehighton Area High School Supper Program

The Lehighton Area School District has recently applied to be eligible for the CACFP Program (Child and Adult Care Food Program). This program allows students who are staying after school for sports, tutoring, clubs, or other reasons, the ability to have something to eat. The meals would include the same components as the School Lunch Program, but the meals will be free for all students who choose to participate. During the start of the program, meals will be available only on Tuesday and Thursday for students tutoring or staying after school. Once the program is fully implemented, there may be more days added. The meals will be available each day until around 3:00 p.m. and will have 2 or 3 options for children to choose from. We hope this will encourage students to stay after school if needed and have the option of getting a full meal to improve focus.



The Nutrition Group joined the Lehighton Area School District this year as part of their Foodservice Program.

One of the programs The Nutrition Group provides is educational lessons about different food groups or items served in the cafeterias. The picture to the left is of children at East Penn Elementary with our mascot Molly the Cow. When Molly visits we promote the dairy food group and why it is important for kids to get their proper amount of dairy servings each day. Also, the kids get a coloring sheet handout with a website on it to visit for healthy eating tips and foods in the dairy group.



Another part of the lessons are when we go to the classrooms and teach children about the different food groups and components that make up a student's lunch. The lesson to the right was at Shull-David. The kids were educated about the 5 components that make up a lunch, and what the serving size of each component should be for a healthy lifestyle. The kids were also given a MyPlate handout to fill in the items they had for dinner, and what components those foods met at home. A healthy snack is also given out to the students who participate in the lesson to promote healthy options.



The final picture on the left represents a Wellness Wednesday presentation done for the students during lunch. Wellness Wednesday's are done at each elementary school almost every month, and they cover the five food groups. However, these recipes display a new food item for kids to try, and then a handout with the recipe and the benefits of the food included is given to the kids to take home. When the kids try one of the new items or recipes, they get a sticker that says "I tried something new today!" Staff members and children enjoy this because the kids get to experience a wider variety of healthy foods.

***Athletics**—Kyle Spotts, Director of Student Services*

Winter Season

The winter season has come to an end with many exciting memories and a number of individual and team accolades. We had one student-athlete selected to the Schuylkill League Girls' Basketball All-Star Team. Freshman **Aubrey Blasiak** was selected as a member of the 2nd Team. In Wrestling, Connor Frey became the 1st Schuylkill League Champion by winning the 182 lb. championship. For post-season wrestling, we had four individuals advance from Districts to Regions with Connor Frey following up his league title with a District Title at 182 lbs. They were Junior's **Connor Frey, Tegan Durishin, Zach Kemmerer, and Tyler Cann**. Connor Frey was our lone representative at States and he took home a 7th place medal and earned his 100th career victory while competing at Hershey. The Boys' Basketball program also had an individual make reach a career milestone this year. **Tyler Crum** made Lehighton history this year by reaching the 1,000 point mark in Boys' Basketball. Tyler ended his career with 1,089 career points. To date, there has been no all-league announcements for Boys' Basketball.

Our winter Scholar-Athletes were: **Boys' Basketball – Tom Ruzicka; Girls' Basketball – Riley Durishin** and **Cheerleading – Marissa Michalik**. In addition to her selection as Lehighton's scholar-athlete, Riley Durishin was selected as a member of the All-Academic Schuylkill League Girls' Basketball Team.

Along with these individual awards, the Boys' Basketball team and Wrestling team qualified for the District XI Playoffs.

Lehighton Athletics

I want to thank everyone for supporting the winter teams. Many exciting games are ahead for our spring sports! Please join us and share in the INDIAN 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:

May 20th – 6:30 p.m.

Top 10% Banquet – Franklin Fire Co.

May 28th – 7:00 p.m.

Winter/Spring Athletic Awards Assembly – H.S. Auditorium

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 on the district athletic 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 to the spring sports teams and have a great year!

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

As the saying goes, March comes in like a lion and out like a lamb. It has definitely felt that with the roaring snow and ice events this year! We are ready for spring.

I would like to commend all our students and staff for their hard work preparing third and fourth grade for PSSA time. All of our students continue to put forth a valiant effort. Third and fourth graders will be taking the ELA and Math exams during the weeks of April 13-16 and April 20-22. Fourth graders will be taking the PSSA Science exam during the week of April 27th at East Penn and Franklin. As an incentive both schools will have an assembly to focus on wellness through the Lehigh Valley Phantoms GOAL program on April 16th. Marvin, the mascot, will be in attendance

In the upcoming weeks our elementary students will be attending some fun, engaging sights for their annual field trips. Some of the locations are: the Blue Mountain Health Fair, Crayola Factory, Hershey Park, Crystal Cave, Roadside America, Harrisburg, and Quiet Valley.

Both East Penn and Franklin schools will be observing Earth Day during the week of April 20-24th. The day is filled with centers and rotations themed around taking care of our natural environment. Dan Kunkle from the Lehigh Gap will be attending one of the schools for a beneficial bugs assembly.

Franklin will be holding their second Science Family night on Friday, May 1. The day will begin with an assembly entitled “Burbble, Fizz, KaBoom!” to engage all students. The evening will be filled with hands-on science centers and experiments.

Both schools will be observing Memorial Day this year on Friday, May 22nd. The annual programs are open to the public. Franklin’s program will begin at 9:00 a.m. and East Penn will begin at 1:00 p.m.

The year will end with our annual spelling bee, spring concerts, the traditional “Big Kahuna” race and field day at both elementary buildings. These events are lead by our creative and dedicated staff and music and health & physical education teachers, Mrs. Susan Stuffleet and Mr. Larry Koons. Please refer to our school website for specific dates.

As you can see the students and staff will be sprinting to the finish line of the 2014-15 school year.

East Penn Elementary Calendar of Events

4/8/15 - PTO Meeting - 6:30 p.m.
 4/24/15 - School Wide Celebration - Earth Day
 5/4/15 - Envirothon - Grade 3
 5/5/15 - PTO Meeting - 6:30 p.m.
 5/12/15 - Dist.-Wide Spelling Bee/Orientation (MS)
 5/15/15 - Spring Concert
 5/21/15 - Grades 2, 3, 4 - Field Trip to Hershey
 5/22/15 - Memorial Day Program
 5/27/15 - Field Day/Big Kahuna
 6/3/15 - Grade 4 Awards Program

Franklin Elementary Calendar of Events

5/16/15 - Lehigh Valley Phantoms GOAL Program
 4/20/15 - PTO Meeting - 6:00 p.m.
 4/29/15 - Grade 3 Field Trip - Quiet Valley
 5/4/15 - Envirothon - Grade 3
 5/12/15 - Dist.-Wide Spelling Bee/Orientation (MS)
 5/13/15 - Spring Concert
 5/14/15 - Field Day/Big Kahuna
 5/21/15 - Kindergarten Field Trip—Crayola
 5/28/15 - Grades 1, 2 Field Trip - Crystal Cave
 6/4/15 - Grade 4 Awards Program

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

3rd & 4th Grade Authors

Mahoning Elementary third and fourth grade students anxiously waited for boxes of books to arrive at their school. In early March, the boxes were delivered, filled with hardcover books written and illustrated by them! Copies of Mrs. Rupell's "Fourth Grade Fabulous Figurative Fun," Mrs. Swanson's "The Alphabet Book of Character Traits," and Mrs. Blisard's "An Alliteration Adventure" were a culmination of many weeks of work. Each student contributed and spent time planning and pre-writing with their classroom teachers and Mrs. Long, the reading specialist, to produce these three titles using Student Treasures, a student publication company. After lessons on their topics, first drafts were written and illustrations were begun. Everyone involved learned the unique challenges of word selection, careful illustrating, and copying final drafts onto the publishing pages. The books can now be student driven teaching tools. One more third grade class is publishing a book this school year.



The Rain Forest- Understanding Wildlife Program

Snakes, monkeys, kinkajous, beautiful parrots, macaws, amazons and cockatoos from around the world visited some Lehighton schools on February 10. Arrangements were made through the Shull-David and Mahoning PTO's for the appearance of Understanding Wildlife's **"LIVE ON STAGE, THE RAINFOREST"** in separate shows at both elementary buildings. Two nighttime performances took place in the Lehighton Area Middle School auditorium.

The group Understanding Wildlife, who hail from Ohio, also shared their love of animals through positive messages about conserving our planet's natural habitats. The two evening shows were well attended and filled with laughter. Both shows were wildly entertaining and put on for children and adults. Students were able to interact with a few of these magnificent creatures. Flying macaws, talking amazons, and very mischievous monkeys kept the crowd laughing all night long.



Understanding Wildlife is a non-profit organization that travels from California to New York City with this incredible rainforest program. Animal trainers work hard to teach children about respecting wildlife and natural habitats. They also spoke about how energy conservation and recycling can help save the beautiful animals of the rainforests.

Founder and director Mike Kohlrieser felt as though each and every person should have an opportunity to experience the Rain Forest. Realizing that this is not possible, Mike set out to do the next best thing. "Let's bring the rainforest to them." Twenty-one years later, Mike has shared monkeys and birds, snakes and lemur, alligators and sloths with literally hundreds of thousands of students and their families across the United States. Audiences love seeing these magnificent animals.

With this educational program Mike is bringing to students the reality of what we stand to lose if we do not take care of this precious gift we call Earth.

The students thank both the Mahoning and Shull-David PTO's for bringing this excellent, educational program to our schools!

Middle School News—Dr. Mark McGalla, Principal

Lehighton Area Middle School Students Place in K'Nex Competition

On March 24, 2015, twelve Lehighton Area Middle School students, along with their advisor, Lisa Steigerwalt, traveled to the Carbon County Intermediate Unit in Schnecksville to compete in the K'Nex STEM Design Challenge. The students were divided into three teams, two of which secured second and third place at the competition. The team winning second place in the sixth to eighth grade division was comprised of members Dylan Coffin, John DeMatte, William Kocher, and Jade Schleicher, who built the structure, "The Elephant". Walking away with third place in the sixth to eighth grade division was team A.C.E.L., made up of Lyle Cordes, Carter Strauss, Emma McClafferty and Andrew Danilovitz. Competing in the fourth and fifth grade division was, The Koopa Troope, with Benjamin Zacharias, Benjamin Slaw, Trey Gower and Jenna Gasker building, "The Turtle".



A total of sixteen teams competed in the STEM challenge. The teams were divided into two divisions; the fourth and fifth grade division and the sixth, seventh, and eighth grade division. Each team was comprised of four students and their task was to create a K'Nex structure that would move a ping pong ball four feet across a table. They had to arrive with their structures disassembled and were given a two hour assembly time limit.

In addition to the structure, each team was required to design a blueprint, write a narrative, and make a presentation to the judges. The judging criteria was based on creativity, team-

LAMS Theatre

Lehighton Area Middle School Theatre presented "The Sound of Music" on Monday and Tuesday, November 24 and 25. The show was directed and produced by Laura Welkey. The student production was very well attended and received by audience members, many of whom have voiced their congratulations in person and via email.

The cast and crew included students from grades 5 through 8, totally 25 students. Our production featured 8th grader Madison DeLuca as Maria, and 7th grader John DeMatte as Captain von Trapp. The von Trapp children are played by: Kylie Kresge (7th), Calvin Maholick (7th), Alison Miller (7th), Justine Nidlund (7th), Ryley Fahringer (6th), Megan Aaron (5th), and Emily Martin (5th).

Other roles include Jaden Scherer (8th) as Rolf, Jazzmin Sicher (7th) as Mother Abbess, Megan Latshaw (8th) as Sister Sophia, Emma McClafferty (8th) as Sister Margaretta, Ashley Beers (6th) as Sister Berthe, and Michael Miller (8th) as Max.



Middle School News—continued

R-E-L-A-X

Yahoo Sports article reports September 23, 2014. The NFL Green Bay Packers are 1-2. The offense has been ranked 28th in total yards. Quarterback Aaron Rodgers has failed to reach the 200-yard mark in two of the three games. Time to panic? Rodgers had some advice for Packers fans bracing for a long, cold winter. “Five letters here just for everybody out there in Packer-Land: R-E-L-A-X” “Relax- We’re going to be OK.” Feel better, Packers Nation?

Over the last several school years students at the Lehigh Area Middle School have been participating in relaxation technique groups conducted by guidance counselors Michael Snyder and Susan McElvar.

When we experience anxiety, our body enters a state called the fight-or-flight response. During fight-or-flight our bodies release chemicals that prepare us to either confront or flee from situations. Immediate symptoms include a reduced ability to think clearly, increased blood pressure, sweating, tensing of muscles, and more. These changes prepare us for survival from physical threats, but they do little to help against modern stressors such as presentations, meeting new people, situations in athletics, or long days at work or school. Relaxation techniques discussed and practiced included deep breathing, imagery and progressive muscle relaxation.

Deep breathing sends messages to the brain to begin calming the body. Practice will make your body respond more efficiently to deep breathing in the future. To explore deep breathing, simply breathe in slowly, count in your head and make sure the inward breath lasts at least 4 seconds. Pay attention to the feeling of the air filling your lungs. Now, hold your breath for 4 seconds. Then breathe out very slowly for 4 seconds. Repeat the breathing process until you feel calm.

Imagery is when we find a quiet location away from distraction and we think about a favorite place. Some examples are the beach, hiking along a creek bed, or playing with a pet. These places fill us with a feeling of calm and relaxation. Our brain creates an emotional reaction just by thinking about these places; we don’t actually need to be there. Just sit and try to imagine the pleasant sounds, smells, and feelings associated with our happy place.

Progressive muscle relaxation makes us aware of the tension and stiffness in our bodies that stress can create. Once identified, we can now learn to release this tension from our bodies. Once again, find a private and quiet location. Lie down and get comfortable. You will intentionally tense each muscle, hold the tension, and then release the tension while focusing on the feeling of letting go. An example would be to tense the muscles of your hand to create a fist. Notice the feeling of tension. Hold this tension for 5 seconds. Release the tension from your fist and notice the feeling of relief in your hand. Follow this pattern of tensing and releasing tension all throughout your body. Begin with your toes and move up through your feet, legs, stomach, chest, back, shoulders, arms, fingers, hands, neck, face, and finally your whole body.

None of us have a perfect life; some days are better than others. Hey Indian-Land, when we are having that bad day, just remember: R-E-L-A-X-“Relax- We’re Going to be OK.” Feel better Indian Nation!!

High School News—Mr. Craig Reichl, Principal

A Message from Mr. Reichl and Mrs. Evans

NO MORE SNOW! Spring is finally here, so it's time to finalize plans for our school play, choral, band concerts, senior outing, banquets, the prom and graduation. The next two months will go by quickly, so make sure you take time to see the baseball, softball, tennis and track and field teams as they compete for titles in the Schuylkill League. We wish all of our spring co-curricular participants well and we thank them for their dedication. Please see the list of activities listed on the high school calendar and follow us on Twitter for the most recent updates.

Student course selection has been completed for all 8th through 11th graders for fall 2015. Here at Lehigh, we try to do our best to meet the educational needs of all our students through various educational offerings at the high school and dual enrollment classes at the new Jim Thorpe Carbon County Campus. If you have questions regarding course offerings or the course selection process please see our guidance webpage or contact Mrs. Costenbader or Mrs. Martin.

As the end of the school year draws near, we know our students will continue to *Strive for Success* in all areas of their schooling. Continue to push yourself and have the expectation that you will be successful. If you need assistance in any of your classes please see your teacher or a guidance counselor and set-up tutoring during enrichment or after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Hard work will define you in the tough times, so work hard and enjoy every day and continue to build great memories for your future.

CANVAS Learning Management System

A training session was held for any secondary teachers to attend on the Act 80 day in March. Several teachers who have been previously trained in CANVAS presented information about the features of CANVAS they find most helpful. Diahann Ouly was also here from CLIU#21 to field additional questions from the teachers. The feedback from the session was to have another training time that would allow the teachers time to just work on their courses and learning the essential features. As a district, we also created a course for district faculty to participate in as a student. This gives teachers an opportunity to learn CANVAS from both points of view, both teacher and student. Using CANVAS across the school district will give students and teachers a greater level of collaboration.

Students Against Destructive Decisions – Advisor Mrs. Volcskai

Spring is a busy time of the year for Students Against Destructive Decisions at the high school. On April 15th, SADD members will attend an Iron Pigs game sponsored by the Lehigh Valley Health Network. This will be a fun day for the SADD members to enjoy the spring weather, while also having the ability to see what the Lehigh Valley Health Network has to offer at the game. On May 6th, the Lehigh Valley Health Network will be at the high school with their DUI simulators as a way of showing the students the dangers of drinking and driving. All students attending prom will be asked to sign up for the simulator, which will be available throughout the entire school day. On May 7th, SADD members will participate in Grim Reaper Day. The purpose of Grim Reaper Day is to raise awareness about the consequences of drinking and driving. Every 53 minutes throughout the day a bell will ring to commemorate those Americans who will be killed by impaired drivers that day. SADD will also have a table at the Lehigh School & Community Educational/Safety Program on Thursday, June 18th. The purpose of our table will be to raise awareness about the dangers of texting and driving. Spring and summer are fun and exciting times for teenagers, but they can also be dangerous. Please take a minute to talk to your child about the importance of making good choices and the impact that making the right decision can have on their future.

High School News—continued

SAT's- Mrs. Costenbader and Mrs. Martin

SAT testing will take place at the High school on Saturday May 2, 2015. Students looking to attend a college/ university requiring SAT scores will need to register for the SAT for this date or may register for an alternate test date as scheduled by CollegeBoard. Information about SAT registration is available on the Lehighton High School Guidance page or at www.collegeboard.org Students are encouraged to see their Guidance Counselor if they have any questions or to see if they qualify for a SAT fee waiver.

Lehighton Volleyball Stays Active with Tomahawks VBC- Mr. O'Connor

The Lehighton Volleyball Program has remained active during the winter and spring off-season with its off-season volleyball program. LAVB, in conjunction with the Tomahawks Volleyball Club, recently held its annual high school volleyball tournament. The tournament hosted ten teams from Pennsylvania and New Jersey on Sunday, February 15th at the high school gym. Additionally, the u17s team has traveled to tournaments in King of Prussia, PA on Saturday, February 21st and Scranton, PA on Sunday, March 1st, leading to qualifying for play-offs and a 5th place finish. The team competed in the Kutztown Classic tournaments over St. Patrick's Day weekend on both Saturday and Sunday.

Lehighton Middle School students have been active in the sport of volleyball with twenty-five 6th-8th graders attending weekly practice sessions at the high school on Sunday nights this winter/spring. The Lehighton Volleyball coaching staff and players hold the weekly skills session for the middle school age students to help expose younger student-athletes to the sport of volleyball letting them know that the sport is offered at the high school level despite not offering a school-sponsored middle school team for them to play on.

The LAVB players and Booster Club worked at LAHS for the Jugglefest event at LAHS March 6th - March 8th. The program worked in the concession stand during the open workshop on Saturday, "Big Show" Saturday night, and closing workshop Sunday morning. Thank you for coming out and supporting this great event.

Finally, the Lehighton Volleyball Program will continue to hold off-season training sessions every Tuesday and Thursday after school from 2:45-4:00 pm at LAHS. Sessions are opened to any 7th-12th grade student-athletes interested in volleyball or trying out for the 2015-2016 high school volleyball team on Monday, August 17th, 2015.

Any middle school or high school Lehighton students interested in playing volleyball should e-mail Coach TJ O'Connor at toconnor@lehighton.org or visit the program's website at <http://www.eteamz.com/lehightonindiansvball>.

Lehighton Indians volleyball will be offering summer workouts for interested student-athletes entering Lehighton Area High School next fall. Workouts will be held at LAHS on Monday and Wednesday mornings throughout the summer from 9:00-11:30 am. Contact Coach TJ O'Connor at toconnor@lehighton.org or consult the team website at <https://www.eteamz.com/lehightonindiansvball>.

GED Classes-Heather Mullins

Lehighton is partnering with LCCC to offer GED classes at the high school. Heather Mullins has been coordinating with the high school to running class, Tuesday & Thursday April 14th – June 12th. Last semester we had around 5 students attend so we are hoping to increase those numbers for spring. There is no cost to the district for these services and no cost to the students.

High School News—continued

Senior Outing- Mrs. Hartney

The Senior Outing will be held on Monday May 18, 2015. The students will be taking a beach trip to Ocean City New Jersey on Catawese charter busses leaving the high school at 7:00 a.m. and returning to the high school at approximately 9:30 p.m. There are two rain dates for this trip of Tuesday May 19th and Tuesday May 26th.

Assemblies

We had three assemblies in the past month for our students:

Rohan Murphy, a wrestler at Penn State University spoke to our students about overcoming adversity and getting it done without making excuses. Rohan had both of his legs amputated when he was 4 years old. He grew up embarrassed about his disability until he was introduced to wrestling late in middle school. He accepted the challenges life gave him and went on to wrestle varsity and then walk-on as a PSU wrestler his Junior year. It was a great assembly and around 150 students stayed afterwards to take pictures and speak to Rohan.

It was great to have Team RootBerry here at Lehigh Area High School on Friday March 6th. The Juggling and feats of dexterity were amazing and the students were entertained by the team's great sense of humor. Mr. Berry even swallowed swords live on stage. Along with all the amazing acts, the performers also took time to encourage the students to pursue their dreams. Over the weekend of March 6th to 9th, the juggling club of Lehigh along with Team RootBerry hosted JuggleFest for people to come and learn about juggling and comedy. There was a second performance on Saturday night for the community. A great time was had by all who had the opportunity to see the show!

Brandon Williams, a Lehigh alumnus spoke to the students about his experience with drugs and alcohol. You could have heard a pin drop as Brandon spoke about his descent into that world and how he eventually needed to be saved. Brandon is currently enrolled at Bucknell University and he will graduate in May. He begins a Master's program in Minnesota this fall. Brandon has a gritty story that will shock students but his path has provided him with so many opportunities to help people. All the students felt Brandon's message and more importantly his courage to share his experiences.

Winter School/Credit- Mrs. VanNorman

Our credit recovery program at the High School went very well this year during the Month of February. The students worked hard to get their work completed despite the weather conditions we encountered. They remained flexible and determined. I am proud of our students for putting in the time to rectify their previous unsuccessful attempt at earning their credits. Mrs. VanNorman was our teacher for the 30 hours of Winter School this year. We will be running our summer school June 22nd to July 3rd 2015. If you would like further information please contact the guidance department or high school administration.

Dual Enrollment-Mrs. Costenbader and Mrs. Martin

The guidance office is beginning to accept registrations for Fall 2015 dual enrollment classes through Lehigh Carbon Community College. We are hoping to offer Intro to Philosophy and Intro to Criminal Justice during the school day and Intro to Psychology and Fundamentals of Drawing and Painting after school.

High School News—continued

Interact Club- Mrs. Marchetti

The Interact Club of the Lehigh Area School District aspires to better the well-being of the community and its residents. In November 2014, the club ran the food stand at the Holiday Craft Show sponsored by the Lehigh Rotary Club; the craft show featured vendors who displayed their handcrafted specialties. A special booth was created for the Interact Club and the members maintained it. This particular booth showed a somber video about the effects Polio has on destitute regions of the world. Moreover, purple paint and stickers were available if a person donated a dollar. One dollar saved one life by helping purchase Polio vaccines for underprivileged areas of the world. This spring, Interact Club members will organize an egg hunt specially crafted for local elementary school students. Another event is the in-school volleyball tournament planned for the spring. The event will provide student involvement and help raise money to purchase supplies for an under-funded school in Connecticut. Involvement in the community is paramount for the Interact Club, and the planned events benefit people of Lehigh, Connecticut, and even inhabitants of far-away nations. Spring will be a fantastic season for the club. Let the snow melt, the tulips bloom, and the festivities begin!

Pi Day-Ms. Rohrbach

The LAHS Math Department celebrated Pi Day on Thursday, March 12th. Students attended 6 stations at which they did various activities related to pi. Activities included estimating pi using the Buffon's Needle experiment, making a paper chain using the digits of pi, learning about the history of pi, comparing heights and circumferences of objects, discovering pi as the slope of a best-fit line, and reciting pi in two digits at a time while working as a class. Students and staff enjoyed this non-traditional day of learning.

Student Forum-Mrs. Costenbader

Lehigh Area High School hosted Student Forum for the month of February. The focus of student forum this year is careers and career pathways. We were very appreciative of Blue Mountain Health Systems who sent various staff members to discuss careers in the medical field. Students from 10 different schools from Carbon and Lehigh Counties were in attendance. Many compliments were paid to the wonderful maintenance of our building.

Keystone Remediation

With the recent release of Winter 2014-2015 Keystone Scores, the High School administration along with department heads have begun to sort and analyze the scores of students. For students not scoring Advanced or Proficient in any of the three content areas: Algebra I, Biology, and Literature, we will be providing remediation during the enrichment period. We will be using a variety of resources to remediate our students such as released items, practice tests, Study Island practice, direct instruction, and collaborative work time. The Spring keystones will be here before we know it and teachers of the tested content areas are working hard to prepare their students. The Keystone Exams have been scheduled as follows: Biology on May 13th and 14th, Literature on 18th and 19th, and Algebra on 21st and 22nd.

Student Newspaper-Mr. Hauser

The LAHS newspaper can now be found online at www.tribetimes.org. The Tribe Times features student-authored pieces about a range of issues in the school's community and highlights the many strengths of LAHS students. All students are welcome to submit news, editorial, and creative pieces for publication.

High School News—continued

School Wide Positive Support

To demonstrate plans for the School Wide Positive Behavior initiative for next year, McDonald's, and more importantly Sarah Moser, the manager at McDonald's donated 50 Shamrock Shake vouchers we handed to staff for jobs well done. A little sweet treat and positive words can go a long way for staff moral. McDonald's also offered a McTeacher night where teachers and administrators could volunteer their time to clean tables and 15% of the proceeds will be allocated to the National Art Honor Society for a cause of their choice. Please check the high school website for more information.

Hot Chocolate

On February 13th we finally had enough of the winter and we thought it would be nice to cheer-up the students. We came up with the idea, around 7 a.m., but still pulled it off. We purchased 30 cans of hot chocolate mix and served 700 cups of hot chocolate to the students during first block. It was a nice pick-me-up for the staff and students alike. The staff chipped in to help and the kitchen staff at the high school jumped in with both hands to make sure we pulled it off. Thanks to all involved.

LAHS Science Olympiad Team-Mr. Bowman

The Science Olympiad team has made some great achievements this year. The team consists of 15 of the top science students from the high school. Students from all four grade levels work side by side to compete in science events. Event types range from tests and laboratory investigations, to projects and technical writing skills. At each competition there are twenty-three events. Student work in pairs and each student may compete in up to 5 different events.

Preparation for competing in Science Olympiad entails building projects, preparing notebooks and study tools, and working closely with a partner to learn material. We attend a couple of invitational events in January and February. At these events we compete against some of the best teams from Pennsylvania and surrounding states. This is great practice for the participants and an eye opener for new members.

Recently we competed in a league tournament held at Northampton Community College. Students did well and won a few medals. We placed 7th out of 12 teams. This helped prepare them for regional competition. Regionals were held at Penn State, Wilkes-Barre Campus. Twenty-five teams competed and we placed 5th overall qualifying for state competition.

States will be held at Juniata College on April 24th. Thirty-five of the top teams from the state will come together to compete. The top two will go on to nationals. The team goal is compete in all events and each student is preparing to win at least one medal each. For more information about the LAHS Science Olympiad visit our website. <http://lahsolympiad.weebly.com/>

Congratulate members of the team if you see them. Members are: Kirkland Breiner, Maeann Brougher, Kyle Collins, Brianna Karpowicz, Nathan Kroboth, Chris Lawler, Michaela Petrucci, Mary Schaudé, Matt Shanton, Trevor Dobrowski, Jacob Hoffner, Cammi Nalesnik, Thomas Phelan, Mary Grace Collins, Matthew Eckhart, Pengcheng Zhang, Michael Bongiorno, Alexander Karpowicz

LEHIGHTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

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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)

Lehigh Middle School

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

Lehigh 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

4/3/15-4/6/15	-	Spring Holiday
4/27/15	-	Board Meeting—7:00 p.m.
5/4-7/15	-	Kindergarten Testing - Administration Building
5/8/15	-	Act 80 Day (no school for students)
5/18/15	-	Board Meeting—7:00 p.m.
5/25/15	-	Memorial Day Holiday
6/4, 5, 8/15	-	Early Dismissal
6/5/15	-	Graduation
6/8/15	-	Last Student Day
6/8/15	-	Last Teacher Day
6/18/15	-	Community & Education Pool Event—Baer Memorial 5:00-8:00
6/22/15	-	Board Meeting—7:00 p.m.

Administrators

Jonathan J. Cleaver, Superintendent
Brian D. 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, Assistant 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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Atty. William Schwab, Solicitor

