



Message from the Superintendent—Mr. Jonathan J. Cleaver

Holiday break is almost upon us and I would like to wish the entire Lehigh Educational Community a safe and happy holiday season. As most of us have enjoyed the unseasonably warm temperature, it is inevitable that the cold weather will be here shortly. Please make sure that all your information is updated in the PowerSchool Portal so you are contacted in the event of weather and other school related notifications.

Another yearly event just took place with the release of the School Performance Profile. This report is completed in conjunction with the Pennsylvania Department of Education and the data posted is from the previous school year. As the administration and staff work together to continuously improve the education throughout the Lehigh School District, I feel it is necessary to comment on the improvement our students have shown at the high school level in the area of student performance on the state Keystone Exam. Out of the ten local school districts in our area, the students at the Lehigh High School have produced the 4th highest rated performance in the area of Algebra I, 2nd highest performance score in the English/Language Arts and we are excited to announce that district has the top honor when it comes to student achievement on the Keystone Exam in the area of Biology. This is a true measure of the commitment that our staff and students have made throughout the Lehigh School District.

We would like to thank the three outgoing members of the Lehigh Area School Board. These members include Larry Stern (8 years of service), Rocky Ahner (4 years of service) and Lori Nothstein (1.5 years of service). These individuals have given countless hours to improve not only the Lehigh School district, but the entire Lehigh Community. We wish them the best and thank them for their support.

We would like to welcome three new members to the Board of Education for the Lehigh School District. The three members include Byron J. Arner, Richard R. Beltz, and Marianne Dwyer. We are looking forward to having them as part of the team and working together in the effort to keep moving this great district forward in all areas of education including student performance and districtwide facilities.

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

PA State Assessment Information

PSSA Tests & Information

The Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA) is an annual assessment administered in commonwealth classrooms in grades 3 through 8, and in English Language Arts and Mathematics. Pennsylvania adopted more rigorous PA Core Standards in late 2013 and the 2015 PSSA's marked the first time the assessment was fully-aligned to the standards. These new, more rigorous standards aim to better prepare students for the 21st century work force. Assessment scores represent a snapshot in time of student performance, and should not be considered the sole indicator of student achievement. Standardized assessments, like the PSSA, help Pennsylvania meet federal and state requirements, as well as provide educators, stakeholders, and policymakers with important information about the commonwealth's students and schools, and inform instructional practices.

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Five Key Points Parents Should Know about the PSSA's

Last year's assessments were the first PSSA's to be fully aligned to the more rigorous PA Core Standards, which the State Board of Education adopted in fall 2013. The PA Core Standards are intended to better prepare commonwealth students for college and career readiness when they graduate.

A decline in your student's performance level does not indicate that they are learning less. Transitions take time, including curriculum development and resources, and the 2014-15 school year was only year one of the new assessment. It is not useful to directly compare students' scores on the new assessment to students' scores from previous assessments because they are aligned to different standards.

The process of developing new standards and scaling scores was undertaken with thoroughness and thoughtfulness by a committee of Pennsylvania educators. As students and teachers become more familiar with the new standards, and more resources are directed at transitioning to the new standards, students will experience steady academic growth.

Results on standardized tests are not the sole indicator of student achievement. Students have different strengths and flourish in different ways. It is important to evaluate students in a holistic manner, using a variety of performance measures.

You can help your child(ren) grow academically by reviewing their PSSA results with them and by continuing to encourage them to do their best in school.

Four Key Points Students Should know about the 2015 PSSA's

The PSSA administered in your class last spring may have seemed more difficult than the PSSA's you've taken in the past. That's because the assessment measured the new standards of the PA Core. Pennsylvania adopted the PA Core in 2013 in order to help students, like you, be more prepared for college or the work force when you graduate from high school.

Some material you're learning in your classes is being taught much earlier than it used to be, and that can make the assessment harder. Plus, the new assessment included more problem solving, writing and critical thinking skills than on past assessments.

There are four performance levels on the PSSA: Below Basic, Basic, Proficient and Advanced. Because the test was harder, you may not have done as well as you have done in the past and that's ok. Teachers and parents know that the longer you are learning the new standards the better you will do.

Your teachers and your schools are working very hard to develop a new curriculum aligned to the new PA Core, to help you do well not just on tests, but to help you be successful as you proceed in school and when you graduate.

Keystone Exams

The Keystone Exams are end-of-course assessments designed to assess proficiency in various subjects. The Keystone Exams are one component of Pennsylvania's proposed system of high school graduation requirements. The students are currently tested in: Algebra I, Biology, & ELA.

Project Based Assessments are alternative assessments for Students who are unable to meet Chapter 4 requirements relating to high school graduation requirements through the Keystone Exam.

PA State Assessment Testing Dates 2015-16

PSSA

<u>Assessment</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Grades</u>
English Language Arts	April 11-15, 2016	Grades 3-8
Mathematics	April 18-22, 2015	Grades 3-8
Science	April 25-29, 2016	Grades 4 and 8
Make-up	May 2-6, 2016	

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Keystones

Keystone Exams Testing Windows 2015-2016

Winter:

Wave 1: December 2-16, 2015 Algebra I, Biology, Literature

Wave 2: January 6-20, 2016 Algebra I, Biology, Literature

Spring:

May 16-27, 2016 Algebra I, Biology, Literature

Lehighton Education and Athletic Foundation (LEAF)

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.

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”

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Donations

- ◆ **Monetary Donations**— the Foundation welcomes all monetary donations including matching funds, grants, and gifts by alumni, local businesses, and the Lehigh 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 - Guidance

Red Ribbon Week October 23-31, 2015

Ribbon Week was a success! The national theme is Respect yourself, be drug free. Mrs. Dawn Turitto spoke to the students in grades 3 and 4 about dangers of drugs. The kids in grades K, 1 and 2 were given a presentation on the need to avoid bullying. Both videos were excellent. A poster contest was held as well. Mrs. Scholl the art teacher feels the third and fourth grade did a fabulous job on the posters. The overall winner from Franklin was Allison Foeller, and the overall East Penn winner was Emma Hertweck. The other winners from Franklin were: Tyler Poole, grade 4 winner, and Jake Lewis, grade 3 winner. From the homerooms these students won: Mrs. Gerber-Ava Kistner, Mr. Fritz-Gabriella Brown. From grade 3 homerooms: Mrs. Rheinhardt-Nathan Fry, Mrs. Strausberger-Destiny Hitcho, and from Mrs. Zimmerman-Jocelyn Hoffman. The ambassadors were picked for being good role models to others. They were: Addison Chavanic, Amanda Burns, Shawn Tomsic, Jaxson Strauss, and Timothy Arace. At East Penn these kids were chosen as overall grade winners: Savannah Reiss from grade 3 and Emma Hertweck from grade 4. From the homerooms: Mrs. Barilla-Joel Rose, Mrs. Breiner-Ben Rehrig, Mrs. Haupt-Ciara Berhel. The ambassadors were: Griffin Traylor, Lauren Frantz, and Trey Kemmerer. The ambassadors from all 4 elementary buildings were treated to a fun lunch sponsored by The Nutrition Group. Special thanks go to Lauren and the cooks Kelly Koehler, Ann Kulp, and Mona Lorah.

All the poster winners received coupons from Pizza Hut, McDonalds, and the new ice cream shop Chantilly Goods. The ambassadors also got special prizes. Wonderful huge banners were signed by all the students and hung at the Homecoming football game as a commitment to staying drug free. On race day at Franklin, all the students from Franklin and East Penn decorated brown paper bags from Giant supermarket with drug free messages. These bags were generously donated by Giant and then returned to be used by shoppers. All elementary students sported red bracelets with a drug free message on them as well. Thanks to all students and staff for participating.

Welcome Mrs. Candace Zona-Slaw

Candace Zona-Slaw, known around the district as Candy Slaw, is the new school psychologist in the Lehigh School District. Candy's educational background includes a B.S. in Psychology from The Pennsylvania State University and an Educational Specialist degree in School Psychology from Lehigh University. Previously, Candy has been employed by the Carbon-Lehigh Intermediate Unit #21 and the Whitehall-Coplay School District. She is very excited to be back in the school setting after taking some time off to start a family and pursue other interests. Candy ran a photography business that specialized in maternity, newborn, children, family and senior photography. Lehigh is Candy's hometown and she continues to reside in the district with her husband and two children, who are both students at the Lehigh Area Middle School. Outside of work, Candy enjoys family time, reading, and outdoor activities (biking, hiking, camping, fishing, etc.). Welcome, Candy!

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

Athletic Department

Kyle Spotts, Director of Student Services and Facilities Planning

Fall Season

The Fall regular season has come to an end with many exciting memories and a number of individual and team accolades. The Fall was extremely successful for our Athletic program. We hope to continue that momentum into our Winter season.

We had a number of fall student-athletes selected to Schuylkill League All-Star teams. To date the selections are as follows: Selections to the Boys Soccer All Star Team: **Josh Knappenberger, Ben Cordova, Dan Baka and Zach Christoff** were all First Team selections. **Frank Bokan, Tyler Dietz, Haris Cokrljia and Patrick Lawler** were Second Team selections. The Schuylkill League MVP award also went to **Joe Marks**. In addition to the Boys selections we had 3 Girls that earned All-League accolades. **Rajah Quinones** was selected to the 2nd Team while **Morgan Yurasits** and **Lauren House** were chosen as Honorable Mentions. Lehigh had three girls selected to the Volleyball All-Star team. **Alyssa Jordan, Katie Higgins and Tori Eads-Rodriguez** were all selected to the First Team. In addition to the all-league selections we had a number of Cross Country runners place at their league meet and earn post season honors. **Michael Blacketter** earned All-Star recognition, placed 3rd at the League meet, and qualified in the State Championships at Hershey for his second consecutive year. **Trent Frey** also earned league all-star recognition and came in 4th at the League Meet. Other place winners at the league meet for the boys were **Anthony Tavella – 11th** and **Luke Fisher – 20th**. The boys had a great run at the District Championships and finished in 3rd place in the team standings barely missing out on trip to States. For the Girls, **Cera Gaston** earned All-Star recognition and placed 14th at the league meet and **Piper Dematte** medaled and finished in 13th place at the league meet.

In addition to the all-league selections the following records were broken: **Joe Marks** set the career goals record for the Boys Soccer program and has the most goals scored by a soccer player in Lehigh History. In addition career Records for the Football program that were broken this year consisted of **Tyler Cann** breaking the school record for Passing Attempts, Completions and Yards and **Wyatt Clements** breaking the career scoring records for Touchdowns and Points Scored.

Along with these individual awards, our field hockey, boys' soccer, volleyball, and football teams qualified for post season play. The Boys Soccer team set a school record for wins in a season and won the Schuylkill League Championship for their second consecutive season. Our Boys Soccer Coach, **Coach Yob**, was selected as the Schuylkill League Coach of the Year. The Football team also captured a League Championship by going 10-0 during the regular season and earning the Anthracite League Title.

Lehigh Athletics

I want to thank everyone for supporting the Fall teams. Many exciting games are ahead for our Winter 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:

December 4th

First day of regular season competition for Winter sports. Boys and Girls Varsity Basketball will be home vs. Palmerton beginning at 6:00pm.

Athletic Information

Lehigh Athletics Website: <http://www.lehigh.org/athletics.cfm>

The Lehigh athletics website is your hub for all Lehigh 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 Winter sports teams and have a great year!

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

Winter Notifications

A commonly asked question by many is what chain of events declares a school closing due to weather. Once the Superintendent decides to delay/close the district due to weather these are things that happen;

The Twitter account of LASD_Info tweets the delay/closing message.
Television and radio stations are notified of the delay/closing information.
District web pages are updated with the delay/closing information.
Telephone calls go out to district homes and the Lehighton community about the delay/closing.

You can sign up to be a follower of LASD_Info at <http://www.lehighton.org> and click on the Twitter icon on the lower right side of the page.

TV stations WFMZ (Channel 69), WNEP (Channel 16), WYOU (TV 28/22), and Blue Ridge Communications (Channel 13) run our district delay/closing information.

Radio Stations WAEB (790 AM), WAEB (104.1 FM), WBYN (1160AM), WBYN (107.5 FM), WCTO (96.1 FM), WEEX (1230 AM), WLEV (100.7 FM), WLSH (1410 AM), WMGH (105.5 FM), WODE (99.9 FM), WRAW (1340 AM), WRFY (102.1 FM) WWYY (107.1 FM) and WZZO (95.1 FM) also announce our delay/closing.

The district web page, <http://www.lehighton.org> shows delay/closing information on the top of every page when applicable.

District calls are made via Power Announcements. Power Announcements can call every house-hold in the district within 10 minutes and we are seeing 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 can 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 your child's school immediately.

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

During an assembly on November 18, Walmart awarded 20 teachers from Shull-David Elementary School with \$50 reward cards to purchase classroom supplies that will help students in the classroom as part of the company's Teacher Rewards program. For the sixth year, Walmart will donate over \$4.5 million to provide 90,000 teachers across the United States with reward cards to help offset the cost of classroom expenses throughout the school year. These funds come at a critical time, as many teachers spend an estimated \$1,000 of their own money to ensure their students have the supplies used during the school year.

Mr. Aaron Sebelin said, "We are extremely grateful to our local Walmart Superstore located here in Lehighton. Mr. Girvin Janicki and his staff have been very supportive to our parents, students, and staff for many years. It is wonderful to have the strong partnership between the store and our schools in the Lehighton Area School District. I know that many of our students and parents shop at Walmart. The store also provides valuable employment opportunities for our community. Hopefully, we can continue working together in the future. The teachers feel this is a great holiday gift and will put the cards to good use. "



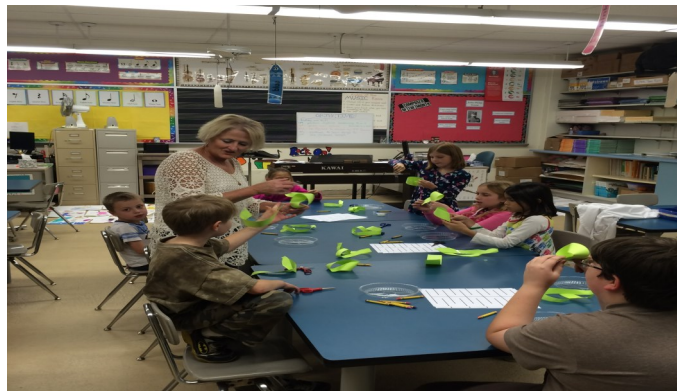
Pictured from Left to Right:
Front Row: Garyt Schleicher and Desarae Ahner
Back Row: Rebecca Verta and Karle Myers (co-managers)
Lehighton Walmart, Aaron Sebelin and Michele Kirsch

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(Mahoning & Shull David continued)

Mahoning Elementary School is proud to offer an interactive, after school program for all students grades K-4. Each week throughout the school year our students can participate in Science Explorers. This program is partially funded through grant monies and offers partial “scholarships”. One of the best aspects of the program is that it is taught by our very own teachers: Mrs. Nenscel, Mrs. Brownmiller, and Miss Fedor. Students enjoy creating scientific names like; Earth Erin, Milkyway Michelle, Biological Bob, and Carbon Carl. During the 60 minute session, kids are exposed to multiple science units which are aligned to the core standards. All of the weekly activities are hands-on and interactive. All of the completed science projects are shared and sent home to discuss with parents. If you are interested in becoming a science explorer, please contact Mrs. Nenscel or Mrs. Brownmiller.

Mrs. Brownmiller leading the Mahoning Science Explorers in a project.



National Title I Distinguished School

Congratulations goes out to the students and staff of Shull-David Elementary School for meeting the eligibility criteria to be considered and recognized as a National Title I Distinguished School for the state of Pennsylvania! The Division of Federal Programs must identify at least one school in the state from the following categories:

Category 1: School that was identified as a Reward: High Achievement School in 2014-15.

Category 2: School that was identified as a Reward: High Progress School in 2014-15.

Pennsylvania's Division of Federal Programs will determine the school(s) to represent Pennsylvania based on exemplary school effectiveness in the following areas:

- (1) use of research based strategies;
- (2) opportunities provided for all students to achieve;
- (3) coordination of Title I with other programs;
- (4) implementation of sustained research-based professional development;
- (5) established partnerships with parents, families and the community;
- (6) improvement of school climate.

Shull-David Elementary School is nominated under Category 1, which is identified as “High Achievement School in 2014-2015”. The teachers and staff continue to work extremely hard to meet individual student needs. Special thanks to our Title I reading/math department for continued support with small groups, collecting data, and bridging the home/school gap.

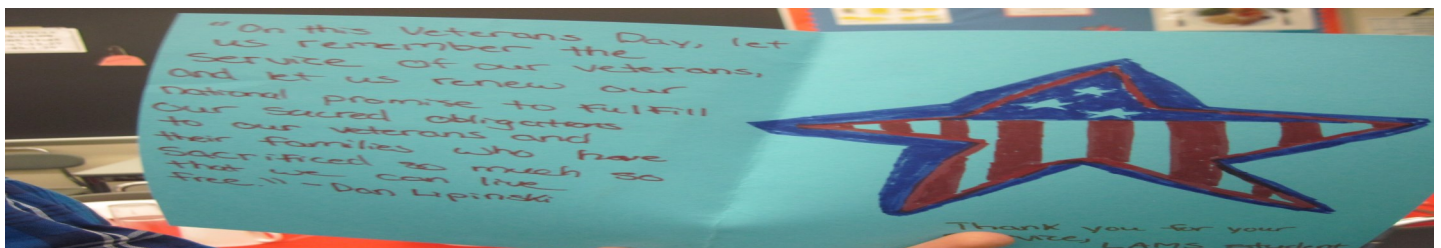
Middle School News—Dr. Mark McGalla, Principal



Student Council Veteran's Day Luncheon

On Veteran's Day, the 8th grade members (Aleah Nothstein, Madison Whiteman, Asia Arner, Ethan Malkowicz, Hannah Christman, Brooke Sheckler, Michala Lucas, and Jessica VanFossen) of the LAMS Student Advisory Council hosted a luncheon for all Veterans that were present at our school. During our club time, the 8th grade created a menu that consisted of French Onion Chicken, mashed potatoes with gravy, salad with a variety of dressings, bread rolls with butter, apple pie with ice cream for dessert, coffee, and water. Mr. Eck shopped for the supplies needed for the meal. Mrs. Slaby also brought in her own Veteran's Day supplies and set the tables before the student council got into the room.

The 8th grade students cooked and prepared the chicken, mashed potatoes, and gravy. They also made sure that the salad and bread were ready on the table for the veterans when they walked into the room. When the veterans arrived around 11:30 to eat, they were seated by a student council member and were served their meal. The student council members also shared a homemade card and a Veteran's Day key chain as a token of their appreciation and a way of saying thank you for your service. Mrs. Derr and Mrs. Kern also had their life skill students come in during the luncheon and presented the veterans with additional beverages and cards expressing their appreciation and thanks for their service as well. The veterans were very thankful and appreciative of the meal and gifts. The students' did an exceptional job of preparing and cleaning up the veterans left.



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Middle School News—CONTINUED

The Show Must Go On!!!!

The middle school bands, choruses, and select ensembles are working hard to present an outstanding program to friends, family, and the community on Tuesday, December 15 (snow date 12/16). Unfortunately, the concert will not take place at the middle school this year due to the ongoing renovations. However, the annual spectacular will take place at the high school auditorium.

Due to the large number of participants and attendees, the middle school has held two mini-concerts on the same evening for many years. This practice will continue for 2015.

The 5th and 6th grade portion (including jazz ensemble) **will start at 6:30pm** and end at 7:20pm. There will be about a 20 min. intermission. The 7th and 8th grade portion will start at approximately 7:45pm and should end around 8:45pm. If you only have a child in 5th or 6th grade, this means that he or she will have to be there from about 6:00pm-7:30pm (includes warm-up and performance). Most 7th and 8th grade participants, with exceptions for jazz ensemble and show choir, should report to the high school at 7:15pm.

Mrs. Hudlow, Mr. Weidner, and Mrs. Welkey will distribute more detailed information in the coming days regarding each ensemble's responsibilities and specific report times.

OKLAHOMA!



Leighton Area Middle School Theatre performed the musical, "Oklahoma", on November 23 and 24 at Leighton Area High School. Our show featured Kylie Kresge (gr. 8) as Aunt Eller; Calvin Maholick (gr. 8) as Curly; Ashley Beers (gr. 7) as Laurey; John DeMatte (gr. 8) as Jud Frey; Roger Pomposello (gr. 7) as Will Parker; Emily Martin (gr. 6) as Ado Annie; Jaiden Muffley (gr. 6) as Gertie, Christopher Jensen (gr. 7) as Andrew Carnes; and Nicholas Karpowicz (gr. 8) as The Peddler. The ensemble included students from grades 5 through 8. The production was directed by Mrs. Laura Welkey.

High School News—Mr. Craig Reichl, Principal

Each morning we come to school with frost on the grass and leave with a setting sun, so it's obvious we are well in to the 2015-16 school year. The students have been working hard since August and it is evident in the classroom, on the field and on the stage. As we prepare for winter, we want to keep parents and community members apprised of our goals for the school year and significant dates. Please continue to use the high school web page for the most up-to-date information and follow us on Twitter @lehightonhighsc.

We continue to make changes to our curriculum to provide solid learning opportunities for our students. In November, we met with our departments to discuss changes to the course offerings for the next school year. We will begin the scheduling process in early January to provide various learning opportunities for all of our students. New courses will be listed on the guidance web page under the Course Offerings for 2015-16. It is important that you have conversations with your student to help them prepare for their future.

As the winter weather interrupts our daily lives, we will continue to update you as quickly and efficiently as possible. We have made a concerted effort to reduce the number of alert calls sent. So, if you receive a call, please make sure you listen to it in its entirety. Athletics will also be affected, so please use the link <http://www.schedulestar.com>.

We appreciate your support and the time parents and guardians put forth to support our students and their co-curricular activities. As colder weather drives us all indoors, why not come out and support our Band/ Chorus, winter sports and take part in some fun activities we have planned. We look forward to seeing you!

National Honor Society

The Daniel I. Farren chapter of the National Honor Society held their annual induction ceremony on Thursday, November 12th at 7:00PM. 10 Juniors and 3 Seniors were selected for membership. Congratulations to the 2015-2016 inductees.

Homecoming

Homecoming was a huge success this year and the students chosen for our court were excellent representatives of our student body. The student council along with Ms. Schiffer, their advisor, provided an exciting night and we were all amazed how the gym was transformed into a nightclub for the evening. I want to thank Ms. Schiffer and the students for their hard work to make the night so memorable. The student council is currently working on other activities for the winter and we are excited to see what they dream up next!

LAHS Newspaper

The LAHS student newspaper can be accessed online at www.tribetimes.org. We are seeking information about community events. Please contact the newspaper advisor, Mr. David Hauser, at dhauser@lehighton.org to share your event with the student newspaper.

Penn State Engineering Ambassadors Visit

Many of our current science students are interested in becoming engineers. On Wednesday, November 11th, 7 ambassadors from Penn State came to Lehighton high school to give our students a taste of what it means to be an engineer. Among the ambassadors was former Lehighton graduate, Shane Haydt, who was instrumental in assembling the Ambassador Program.

Aspects of engineering such as robotics, chemistry, renewable resources, and prosthetics were presented. Students learn much about becoming an engineer as they built prosthetic limbs, manipulated robots to run a maze, investigated ghost stories, built computers, and more. This was a valuable time for students to interact with college students and learn what the future has in store for them.

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(High School continued)



SADD



The beginning of the school year has been a busy time for Students Against Destructive Decisions. In September, the Lehigh Valley Health Network brought three Distracted Driving simulators to the Lehighon High School. Every Sophomore student was given a designated time to complete the simulation. The distracted driving simulators shows the dangers and consequences of distracted driving as well as the dangers associated with not wearing a seatbelt. In October during Red Ribbon Week SADD members from the high school attended one lunch at the middle school to talk to students about good decision making and to scoop ice cream for the middle school students. During that week SADD members also encouraged high school members to sign a Red Ribbon banner that was displayed at the football stadium. SADD also placed Red Ribbons on student and staff cars during the school day as a reminder to stay drug free, and this was also done during the homecoming football game. Please continue to talk to your child about the dangers of drugs and alcohol, as well as the dangers of distracted driving. SADD wishes everyone a safe and happy holiday season.

Honors Statistics

The LAHS Honors Statistics students are conducting their own research and data collection on some topics of interest. Here are some interesting facts for you...

- Of a sample of LAHS students who have completed a 5k, 53% were female. In the US, 57% of 5k runners are female.
- Fifty-eight percent of a sample of 50 local adults admitted to texting while driving, compared to 49% of a nationwide sample.
- For teens, 65% of LAHS drivers reported texting while driving. This is quite a bit less than the nation's percent of 90!
- In a sample of LAHS drivers and front-seat passengers, 75% of males and 87.5% of females were wearing their seatbelt. The state of PA reports 79% of males and 89% of females wear seatbelts when driving or in the front passenger seat.
- Thirty-two percent of LAHS teens attend church regularly, compared to 48% nationwide.
- At Mallard Market, 63% of smokers purchased mentholated versus full flavor cigarette. In the nation, only 30% prefer mentholated.
- Continuing with smoking, according to a sample, over 20% of Lehighton adults smoke. However, the smokers in the world make up less than 5% of the population.

Two-year colleges in Pa cost about \$1300 more than 2-year colleges across the country. Four-year private schools are about \$6,000 more a year in PA than in the nation. However, 4-year public schools are about \$2500 less in PA than in the nation.

The students have gathered their own statistics, created displays of their data, will analyze their results using hypothesis testing, and will present their findings at the end of the semester.

Financial Aid Night

Financial Aid Workshop: A Financial Aid Workshop will take place on Wednesday, December 16, 2015 (snow date is December 17, 2015) in the Lehigh Area High School Cafeteria from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Mr. Joe Alaimo, from LaSalle University, will be on hand to provide information about completing the Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) application and updates on any yearly changes to money awarded to fund post-secondary education. Parents and 11th and 12th grade students are encouraged to attend. Changes in the filing date will be discussed which will directly impact 11th grade students. Please RSVP to Anita Stern in the guidance office at (610) 377-7600 by Friday, December 11, 2015.

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(High School continued)
FCCLA NEWS

The Lehighton High School's FCCLA Chapter has been very busy since the start of the school year. The members hosted a Welcome-Back-to-School dance in August with DJ DannyE playing the tunes. During the first two weeks in September the girls collected fall and winter wear along with coats and boots to benefit the Family Promise Organization of Carbon County.

Their first fundraiser in October was a Hoagie Ticket Sale, featuring Cindy's Deli. They, also, traveled to Berks Career & Technology Center in Oley, PA to attend FCCLA's Eastern Regional Conference.

The members are currently hosting a food drive to benefit Zion's UCC Food Pantry. They placed boxes in homerooms to collect the items and as an incentive, the class that collects the most items will be treated to a breakfast buffet prepared by Mrs. McHugh and club members.

During the month of December, the girls will decorate the Holiday Tree, with all the trimmings, which has been graciously donated by Yenser's Tree Farm. Keeping up with yuletide of the season the girls will donate gifts to the residents of The Summit Nursing Home during their annual Christmas Bingo visit.

Future events for 2016 include a "Cabin Fever" Bingo, which will be hosted by FCCLA and the National Art Honor Society members on Sunday, February, 21, 2016; a spring Bake Sale; and a Teacher Appreciation Breakfast in May.

The members, along with Mrs. McHugh, would like to take this opportunity to thank our families, the school, and the community for their continued support in all of our endeavors during the year and to wish everyone a Happy and Healthy Holiday Season.



Red Cross

Red Cross has teamed up with the Zion Church Food Pantry. Some of our students volunteered to be there for food distribution. It was eye opening to see the needs of our community. We will continue to help there and work to provide resources. As a result of our volunteering, students decided they wanted to do more to contribute. Red Cross is backing FCCLA's food drive for Thanksgiving and trying to make it our school's most successful food drive. The high school also donated the extra food and water from the tailgate football game. We are excited to work in partnership with another community group.

For the Christmas Season we will be participating in a stocking stuffing program for the residents of the Lehighton High Rise Building and we will also be Christmas caroling there.

We are in the planning process for our next blood drive with the Miller-Keystone Blood Center. Miller Keystone delivered our plaque for the 2014/2015 Spirit Award and we are now headed toward our goal of 125 units of bloods for the 2015/2016 school year. Miller Keystone provides blood to our local hospitals and through our school drives we look to create a culture of lifetime donors.

LEHIGHTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

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

Newsletter information:
rkarpowicz@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

12/23/14	-	Early Dismissal (MS-12:10,HS 12:15, Elem. 1:10)
12/23-31, 1/1/15	-	Winter Holiday (No School)
1/11/16	-	End of Marking Period 2
1/18/16	-	Teacher In-Service (No School)
1/19/16	-	Report Cards Issued
2/12/16,2/15/16	-	President's Day Holiday (No School)
3/14/16	-	High School Parent/Teacher Conferences
3/15/16	-	End of Marking Period 3
3/22/16	-	Report Cards Issued
3/23/16	-	Early Dismissal (MS-12:10, HS- 12:15, Elem. 1:10)
3/24/16, 3/28/16	-	Spring 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

Board of Directors

Hal Resh, President
Richard R. Beltz, Vice President
Andrew Yenser, Treasurer
Gloria Bowman
William Hill, Jr.
Stephen Holland
Marianne Dwyer
Byron Arner
Wayne Wentz

