



Summer 2019

LEYDEN

HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 212



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Superintendent's Corner



Nick Polyak, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Hello Leyden Family,

Every year we create a video containing the highlights of the school year. With the conclusion of the 2018-2019 school year, we asked the staff to contribute to the "Year in Review" video, an account of Leyden's numerous accomplishments over the past several months.

You are invited to view the video so you can share in our pride with all that our students and staff members have accomplished. Please visit <http://bit.ly/1819LeydenYIR> to view the 2018-2019 Leyden Year in Review. Thanks to Frank Holthouse and Brandon Delgado for putting this together to celebrate the year.

We also congratulate our 2019 graduates from East Leyden High School and West Leyden High School. Your families and teachers have prepared you well for what lies ahead. We wish

you the very best of luck and ask that you go forward and continue to make us proud.

With our construction project complete at West Leyden, our focus is on the East Leyden project. We expect completion in February of 2020, but a great deal of work is planned to occur during this summer. Our website contains links to view images of the project captured every fifteen minutes.

We also have posted videos of 360 degree virtual reality walks-through of the project. We want our community to see what is happening behind the construction fences at our schools as we look forward to state-of-the-art learning environments that will benefit future generations of Leyden Eagles.

With #leydenpride,
Nick Polyak

Patricia Makishima Named West Leyden Principal

Patricia Makishima has been appointed principal at West Leyden High School. She officially started on July 1, when she began a period of mentoring with current principal and former colleague Tatiana Bonuma. The women worked together at Larkin High School in Elgin when Makishima served as a lead teacher in the English as a Second Language (ESL) department and Bonuma was her supervisor.

As former coordinator of English Language Learners (ELL) Initiatives for Elgin School District U-46, Makishima says the more she had looked into Leyden, the more she liked it. "The community service, the leadership, the culture, the commitment to the students and families – it speaks to who I am. We have the same value system and beliefs and I see that in the teachers, staff, and administrators I've met," she says.

Makishima obtained an undergraduate degree in English Language and

English/American Literature from the Universidade de Sao Paulo in Brazil. She also earned a master's degree and ESL/Bilingual endorsement from Aurora University. In addition to English, she is fluent in Spanish and Portuguese.

Bonuma, who served as a reference for Makishima, says the future principal is dedicated to supporting students and teachers. "Her rich experience with ELL students, curriculum development, and program implementation will be invaluable as we continue to strengthen career pathways and formalize new supports for students. She will be able to contribute immediately to conversations about developing confident problem solvers through relevant experiences," she says.

Superintendent Nick Polyak says Makishima has a "calm professionalism" that was immediately evident. "She is a brilliant educational leader and a tireless advocate for students and staff. Her experiences and passion for



Tatiana Bonuma (L), Principal at West Leyden; Beth Concannon, Assistant Superintendent; and Patricia Makishima, future West Leyden Principal at a meet and greet held to introduce Makishima to Leyden faculty and staff.

working with students, parents, and community members will be important to the work we are continuing at West Leyden," he says.

Makishima, who is married and the mother of three sons, says her goal is "to continue with the growth established under the current leadership and to get to know the staff, students, parents, and community members so we can work together to benefit the students."

She adds the students' best interests are her priority. "I want to ignite the flame in the kids and guide them to be independent, innovative learners."

You Will Be Missed 2018-2019 Retirees

Congratulations to the 15 Leyden employees and one Board of Education member who retired during the 2018-2019 school year. Collectively, they represent 355 years of service and dedication to the Leyden community. Thank you for everything you've done to ensure our students' success and to keep Leyden running smoothly. Happy retirement and all the best to:

FACULTY – Valarie Berger, Carolyn Browne, Judith Condren, Alex Jomarron, Susanne Ricchio, and Bob Smith.

EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT – Ardith Olmetti, Jenny Alvarez, Debbie Buttkus, Audrey Fanselow, Pat Mast, Joan Rose, Nancy Sharp, and Nancy Wojnar.

TRANSPORTATION – Willie Douglas.

BOARD OF EDUCATION – Jack Tobin.



#leydenpride



Pictured from left to right: 2019 BRIDGE Program graduates Yulissa Becerra, Ingrid Sanchez, Elizabeth Sanchez, Crystal Whitehead, Luis "Eddie" Ortiz, Gabriel Carrera, and Christopher Gonzalez. The seniors were recognized for their accomplishments at the annual BRIDGE Program Graduation Tea held in early May.



Students who completed the district's Certified Nurse Assistant (CNA) program were honored at a White Coat Ceremony on May 14. Program participants take related science classes and gain hands-on experience by completing CNA clinical training at long term care facilities. Course completion qualifies students to take the Illinois Nurse Assistant Competency Exam. The program is conducted in partnership with Triton College.



Pictured from left to right, Leyden's 2017-2018 Vocal Jazz Ensemble: Amanda Cortez, Alan Ramirez, Stephanie DeLaCruz, Raul Rivera, Stefani Graff, Nathan Mesa, Ariana Bace, Carlos Toral, and Emerson Becker. The ensemble is Downbeat Magazine's 2019 Small Vocal Jazz Group Award winner in the High School category.



Members of West Leyden's SeaPerch Club split into teams to compete in the SeaPerch robotics regional competition held at the Great Lakes Naval Training Academy. The Flying Robot Cats are under the flag and the Flaming Marshmallows are just to the right, in black tee shirts. The Flaming Marshmallows earned the right to compete at the national competition held at the University of Maryland in June.

District Hosts 31st Annual William H. Fern Awards Ceremony

Leyden students, faculty, and staff were honored at the 31st Annual William H. Fern Awards Ceremony held on Thursday, April 25 at East Leyden. William Fern, a former Leyden teacher, began the awards program after he retired from teaching several years ago.

Faculty and staff select honorees by voting for those who have exhibited extraordinary effort, talent, and dedication to their goals and work. In recognition of their accomplishments, each winner received a monetary gift from William Fern.

Fern Awards and Outstanding Achiever Awards

The Patricia Schuler Award for Excellence in Art

East: Stephanie Diaz
Outstanding Achiever: Alejandro Diaz

The James Terrill-Liesz Award for Excellence in Art

West: Lilliana Olesky
Outstanding Achiever: Analisa Moore

The Ken Monahan Award for Excellence in Bilingual Education

East: Phuc Phan
Outstanding Achiever: Michael Basave

The Paul Brown Award for Excellence in Business Education

East: Jacob Haiges
Outstanding Achiever: Karen Quintero

The Kathy Robbins Award for Excellence in Business Education

West: Dominik Skorynko
Outstanding Achiever: Rakeb Ayalew

The James Callister Award for Excellence in English

East: Kaitlyn Dermody
Outstanding Achiever: Sashenka Soto

The John Strauss Award for Excellence in English

West: Osbaldo Parrua
Outstanding Achiever: Diego Aguilar

The Kathy Klaus Award for Excellence in Family and Consumer Sciences

East: Vanessa Herrera
Outstanding Achiever: Alyssa Urizandi

The Christina Williams Award for Excellence in Family and Consumer Sciences

West: Steve Pardinias
Outstanding Achiever: Lisette Tapia

The Dave Berton Award for Excellence in Industrial Technology

East: Maya Gronkowski
Outstanding Achiever: Nico DeBellis

The Jim Hopp Award for Excellence in Industrial Technology

West: Seth Johnson
Outstanding Achiever: Adrian Moreno

The Joanne Corwin Award for Excellence in Mathematics

East: George Linares
Outstanding Achiever: Oscar Meza-Quintero

The Laurie Hodgson Award for Excellence in Mathematics

West: Sutape Chantapim
Outstanding Achiever: Diane Santos

The Carolyn Dunoon Award for Excellence in Modern Languages

East: Omar Dario Montiel-Martínez
Outstanding Achiever: Paige Kozial

The Marcel Lewinski Award for Excellence in Modern Languages

West: Emily Nájera
Outstanding Achiever: Jasson Rodríguez

The Henry Hiorns Award for Excellence in Music

East: Saimarie Rivera
Outstanding Achiever: Dannallee Mata

The Joe Idaszak Award for Excellence in Music

West: Thomas Barroso
Outstanding Achiever: Kiara Valenzuela

The Gary Wolf Personal Achievement Award

East: Summer Lawrence
Outstanding Achiever: Kayla Blomquist

The John Testa Personal Achievement Award

West: Devin Duhamel
Outstanding Achiever: Kasumi Trinidad
West Life/Bridge: Manuel Payan Estrada
Outstanding Achiever: Rebecca Anderson

The Eileen Wudel Award for Excellence in Physical Education

East Female: Kinga Nowaczyk
Outstanding Achiever Female: Deisy Leon
East Male: Nicholas Motyka
Outstanding Achiever Male: Daniel Casarez

The Tim Ruettiger Award for Excellence in Physical Education

West Female: Tori Kornatowski
Outstanding Achiever Female: Alyssa Delgado
West Male: Maximus Gonzalez
Outstanding Achiever: Male: Nathan Agoncillo

The Jane Russell Award for Excellence in Science

East: Erick Reyna
Outstanding Achiever: Michaela Klein

The Dalia Zygas Award for Excellence in Science

West: Adrian Lechuga
Outstanding Achiever: Jonah Bas

The Robert Johnson Award for Excellence in Social Studies

East: Diana Salkic
Outstanding Achiever: Krystian Kowalkowski

The Mike Dickey Award for Excellence in Social Studies

West: America Banuelos
Outstanding Achiever: Heidi Mazon

Extra-Curricular Fern Awards

The Gloria Currins Award for Excellence in Student Council

East: Alexa Cabello
West: Felix Celestino

The Jack Leese Award for Excellence in Athletics

East Female: Alexis Weiner
East Male: Daniel Uribe

The Darle Kriete Award for Excellence in Athletics

West Female: Elle Engelke
West Male: Jose Diaz

The Richard Nardini Award for Excellence in Student Activities

East: Kamila Obrzut
West: Macy Michorczyk

The Paul Schmidt Award for Excellence in Student Activities

East: Luca Ferrantelli
West: Giovanni Delatorre

Faculty and Staff Fern Awards

The Gene McCormack Award for Fine Teaching in Literacy

East: Jen Black-Foltin
West: Jennifer Lazar

The Kim Gerber Award for Fine Teaching in Industrial Technology

East: Michael Matticks
West: Greg Lindeman

The Thomas Masters Award for Fine Teaching in Modern Languages

East: Bill Heisler
West: Michael Anderson

The Reg Green Award for Fine Teaching in Special Education

East: Michele Curley
West: Anne Gruettner

The Rosanna Andras Award for Significant Staff Contribution

East: Egor Plichta
East: Debbie Mazanek

The Norma Thompson Award for Significant Staff Contribution

West: Patricia Lyons
West: Frank Bavone

Dedication Ceremony at West Leyden

The ribbon cutting ceremony held in the new student commons at West Leyden marked a historic day for the school, district, and community. On May 7, a gathering of more than 100 staff, administrators, and community members witnessed Principal Tatiana Bonuma cut the ribbon that signaled the formal completion and dedication of the two-year construction project at the school.

Bonuma noted that the upgraded areas provide students with numerous opportunities to boost critical thinking and leadership skills, information literacy, and creative pursuits. The newly constructed spaces include the commons and cafeteria, state-of-the-art library, counselors' and deans' offices, and the re-designed inner courtyard.



Enjoyed by students and staff, West Leyden's beautifully reconfigured inner courtyard features seating areas in a picturesque environment.



Construction at East campus is scheduled for completion next year and will include a new natatorium, cafeteria, and various classrooms.

The Leyden Chamber Singers entertained guests at the ribbon cutting ceremony held at West Leyden in the new student commons area on May 7. The event marked the formal dedication of the school's recently renovated spaces.

Sports Highlights

Boys Volleyball

For the first time in more than 15 years, the team took 2nd place in conference with a 5-1 record. Jesse Federico, Jason Kemp, and Tyler Morgan earned All-Conference recognition; and JP Aguirre, Jason Kemp, Chuy Mancha, and Alex Martinez earned All-Academic designation. The team had a 20 win regular season and also went 5-0 to win the Eagle Invite competition.

Soccer

More than 100 girls participated in the girls' soccer program. All-Academic seniors include Evelyn Arzola, Areli Avila, Brooke Bernacki, Citlalli Hernandez, Liliana Herrera-Reyes, Kassandra Perez, Catherine Saponieri, Gabriela Torres, and Julia Werynski. Evelyn Abundes and Catherine Saponieri were named All-Conference, and Saponieri also earned an All-Sectional Honorable Mention.

Softball

Of the team's eight graduating seniors, seven signed to play collegiate softball, a new record for Leyden's softball program. The team was ranked as a Top-20 Team in the state reaching a state-rank of 13, and earned seven All-Academic awards. Kailey Kirkwood is the Leyden female single-sport athlete of the year.

Girls Track

The girls' track team included more than 90 participants, and accolades include five All-Sectional and six All-Conference athletes. The team also had 18 All-Conference student athletes.

Boys Track

This year the team finished in the top five or better at several meets. Patrick Sarad is the outdoor conference champion in the open 800m run and also finished 2nd at sectionals, running a personal and career best of 1:59.41. This achievement earned him the opportunity to compete downstate. The team earned several All-Conference performances and both the indoor and outdoor conference championships.

Tennis

Bob Smith, recently retired math teacher and head coach of the girls' varsity tennis team, is one of 12 recipients of the Illinois High School Association (IHSA) Distinguished Service Award. The award was established to recognize exemplary service provided by individuals associated with IHSA programs and services. Smith and the other recipients were honored at the association's annual service awards banquet held on June 10.



Bob Smith

Summer Calendar 2019

DATE	ACTIVITY	TIME
August		
7	Upperclass Book Pick Up East Campus Student Cafeteria West Campus Auditorium	11:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.
7	Freshman Parent /Student Night East Campus Student Cafeteria West Campus Auditorium	7:00 p.m.
8	Freshman Orientation & Book Pick Up East Campus Auditorium West Campus Auditorium	TBA
8	UpperClass Book Pick Up East Campus Student Cafeteria West Campus Auditorium	TBA
14	First Day of School	
15	Board of Education Meeting	7:00 p.m.
September		
2	Labor Day - No School	
3	East Open House Dinner Student Cafeteria	TBA
3	West Open House Dinner Commons Inner Court	TBA
3	Open House East Campus Auditorium West Campus Auditorium	TBA
12	Board of Education Meeting	7:00 p.m.
19	Homecoming Pep Rally West Campus Field House	6:00 p.m.
20	Homecoming Football Game West Campus Stadium Leyden vs. Willowbrook Sophomore Game Varsity Game	5:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m.
21	Homecoming Dance West Campus Field House	7:00 p.m.
October		
14	Columbus Day No School	
17	Board of Education Meeting	7:00 p.m.
17	Fall Choral East Auditorium	7:00 p.m.
18	Fall Play - <i>The Diary of Anne Frank</i> West Campus Auditorium	7:00 p.m.

DATE	ACTIVITY	TIME
October		
19	Fall Play - <i>The Diary of Anne Frank</i> West Campus Auditorium	7:00 p.m.
20	Fall Play - <i>The Diary of Anne Frank</i> West Campus Auditorium	3:00 p.m.
21	Institute Day No School	
22	Parent Teacher Conference East Campus Field House West Campus Field House	1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
30	Fall Instrumental Concert East Auditorium	7:00 p.m.
November		
6	Career Fair and Business Expo East Campus Field House	11:15 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
10	Veteran's Day Music Concert East Campus Auditorium	6:00 p.m.
14	Board of Education Meeting	7:00 p.m.
22	USO Big Band Show East Campus Auditorium	7:00 p.m.
25-29	Thanksgiving Holiday - No School	
December		
6	Yuletide Dinner East Campus Little Theater	7:00 p.m.
7	Yuletide Dinner East Campus Little Theater	7:00 p.m.
8	Yuletide Dinner East Campus Little Theater	4:00 p.m.
11	Music of the Holidays Concert East Campus Auditorium	7:00 p.m.
12	Board of Education Meeting	8:00 p.m.
13	Winter Musical - <i>A Pair of Christmas Carols</i> West Campus Auditorium	7:00 p.m.
14	Winter Musical - <i>A Pair of Christmas Carols</i> West Campus Auditorium	7:00 p.m.
15	Winter Musical - <i>A Pair of Christmas Carols</i> West Campus Auditorium	3:00 p.m.
20	End of Semester	
23	Winter Break - No School	

**Thank you to those who contributed
photos to this edition of the newsletter.**

Leyden District 212 Board of Education Board of Education meetings are in the East Campus Board Room.



Front row: James Lima, Secretary; Gregory Ignoffo, President; Gloria Murawska, Vice President; Joseph Trevino
Back row: Joseph Sanchez, Student Board Member; Lisa Anthony; Sandra Boehm; Cesar Garcia; Jacqueline Quinones,
Student Board Member

Leyden High School District 212 is an equal opportunity institution, committed to compliance with all applicable state and federal laws prohibiting discrimination. This includes prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, order of protection status, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, homelessness and marital/parental status, including pregnancy.

As required by S.B. 898, you may go to Leyden's website to view our budget at: www.leyden212.org

State law requires that we inform you of the dates when our lawn and garden areas will be fertilized. The dates to fertilize and weed and feed will be during the following week:

October 28, 2019 - Fertilize

East Campus
3400 Rose Street
Franklin Park, IL 60131

West Campus
1000 N. Wolf Road
Northlake, IL 60164