



LCS News



Volume 50

Budget Issue

May 2022

THE WORLD COMES TO LETCHWORTH

This year, Letchworth CSD is host to 2 AFS exchange students from across the globe. They have quickly become participants in our school and communities. Although learning better English is on their agenda, they both agree, it's the people that have made this a special year. If it weren't for families being willing to open their homes, this extraordinary experience would never happen.



Chiara Palumbo is sharing her hosting year with the Weaver and Crane family. She has thoroughly enjoyed her cheer experience in both the cold outdoors and the warm gymnasium. One of her best memories so far is the costume parade put on by the drama department and being part of this year's musical. She has really enjoyed her classes in physics, statistics and art.

Benjamin Correa is being hosted by the Shearing family. Winter is a new experience for Benji and he enjoyed ski club and snowmobiling. Benji has participated in soccer and basketball and hopes to find a spot on the track team. Cheeseburgers have become his favorite U.S. food. English and Psychology are at the top of his class list.

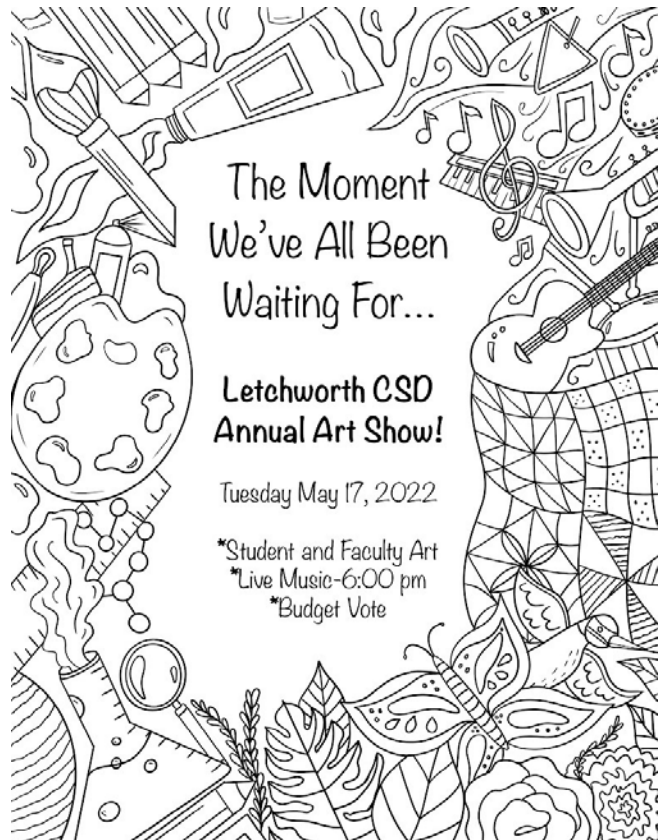
***AFS is already looking for host families for next year. Anyone interested in hosting can visit the website at www.afsusa.org



CONGRATULATIONS, MR. BEAN!

On behalf of the entire District we want to thank Mr. Bean for his many years of service to Lockwood Elementary School. He has led the way by example on a daily basis.

He treated all students and families with great respect and dignity. His sacrifice and servant leadership set the tone for his staff and students. He will be remembered most for his efforts in the area of LEAP (PBIS). His assemblies, songs and videos will be a legacy for years to come. Principal Webster said it well; "Mr. Bean was an amazing leader, teacher, and friend for many years. Many of us, myself included, would not be the people we are today without his constant support, encouragement, and ability to challenge. While it will be odd, and at times difficult, in the building without him, the foundation he has laid is solid. We will continue to grow and build upon what he has started." We wish you joy and blessings in retirement Mr. Bean!



Superintendent's Message



Dear Letchworth Community,

This year continues to bring unique circumstances we adapt to on a monthly basis. We have seen COVID subside recently and hopefully will not make another surge. The economy is showing signs of inflation and is very unstable at times.

Despite these challenges, the climate here at school continues to be positive and student focused. Our students have been resilient and adapted back to normalcy in the classroom. Staff are dedicated and committed to finish the year with a positive attitude and optimism for next year. Our SENIORS are enjoying their final two months of High School and preparing for their Senior Trip, Graduation and plans for their future. The Prom was well attended and students had a fabulous time. As many of you know, Mr. Billy Bean has retired after over 20 years of dedicated service to Letchworth as Principal. Mrs. Rachel Webster will be leading the way for the building as the journey continues.

The proposed 2022-23 school budget is fiscally responsible and will once again bring our students a high quality education with many diverse opportunities. This budget proposal maintains our Full-time School Resource Officer, all our course electives (check out the robust list included on the back page of this newsletter), a rich choice of extra-curricular activities, current staffing levels and manageable class sizes for all grade levels. In addition, we are excited to bring back an additional Technology Teacher at the MS/HS level. This addition will replace a Technology Teacher position that was not filled two years ago. As we re-energize our Technology and Agriculture Program here at Letchworth we will be discussing how these programs must adapt to the changing industry and modernization of the AG field. This year we completed the building of a new AG Barn that will be in full use September of 2022.

On April 13, the Board of Education passed a budget proposal for the 2022-23 school year in the

amount of \$22,483,944.00. This balanced budget will require a 1.9% increase in the local tax levy. Despite this slight increase, Letchworth CSD will remain the lowest property tax rate in the GV BOCES at approx \$12.22 per thousand. Over the past five years this is only the second time we have looked to increase the tax levy. The increase will close the gap to accommodate a 12% increase in Health care costs, 7% inflation rate, contractual obligations and increasing transportation costs. We are fortunate that we will receive a 3% increase in Foundation Aid from NYS. This will help to meet our financial increases as well.

Even though the world news may seem uncertain at times, we are confident that LCS will continue to be a supportive and safe place for your children. Our facilities, staff and programming are some of the best in Western NY. What makes us unique is the attention we place on each individual child. We continually strive to offer a learning environment that meets your child's needs and pushes them to achieve at their highest potential. Your support is never taken for granted. We realize that education begins at home. Your trust ignites the spark that helps dreams become reality. We are so proud of the rich tradition of excellence that is nurtured within these walls. When students leave us we strive for them to be skilled, kind, hard working, trainable for the workforce, inspired to enter the armed forces or ready for higher education. In addition, becoming a contributing member of their local community in humble service is still important here at LCS. We value the ability to give back expecting nothing in return. Thank you for supporting these ideals at home as well.

It is a privilege and honor to serve the people of Letchworth. May we be diligent and joyous as we fulfill this noble mission with all our students.

Together...WE are Letchworth!

Sincerely,

Todd Campbell, Superintendent

Please come out and vote on May 17, 2022.

The following provides the proposed revenue and expenditure plan for the 2022-2023 school-year in a summarized format. The tri-part format and the District Report Card are available in the District Office, on the District website at <https://www.letchworth.k12.ny.us> or by calling 585-493-5450.

Revenues

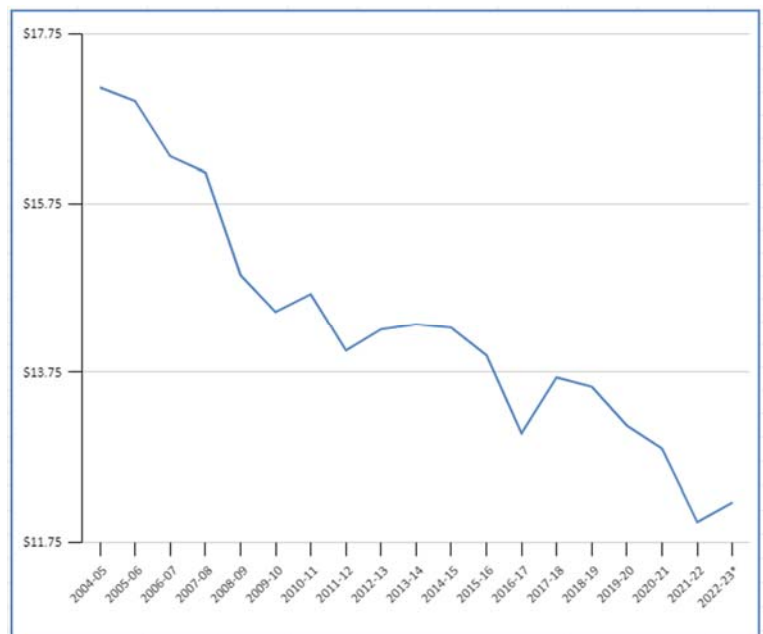
	Budget 2021-22	Proposed 2022-23	Percent Change
State Sources			
Foundation Aid & Excess Cost Aids	11,355,254	11,744,207	+3.43%
State Expense Based Aids	3,644,678	3,630,343	-0.39%
Instructional Materials Aids	83,195	83,622	+0.51%
Total for State Sources	15,083,127	15,458,172	+2.49%
Property Tax & Star Payments	4,583,021	4,670,098	1.90%
Appropriated Fund Balance	300,000	300,000	-0.00%
Appropriated Unemployment Reserve	10,000	0	-100.00%
Local Sources			
Payment in lieu of tax	202,914	215,945	+6.42%
Transportation for other districts	893,055	924,312	+3.50%
Miscellaneous/Other revenues	428,100	545,000	+27.31%
Total Local Sources	1,524,069	1,685,257	+10.58%
Other Revenues			
Interfund transfer - debt service	115,000	115,000	0.00%
Interfund transfer – capitalized interest		175,417	
Federal aid - Medicaid	100,000	80,000	-20.00%
Total Other Revenues	215,000	370,417	+72.29%
TOTAL REVENUES	21,715,217	22,483,944	+3.54%

The School Budget and the New York State Tax Levy Limit (Tax Cap)

New York State has instituted a tax levy limit, commonly referred to as a “cap”, that provides a state formula to establish a levy limit that determines if a simple majority or a super (60%) majority will be required for passage. The levy limit for Letchworth this year was calculated to be 3.48%. Since the proposed levy increase for this year is 1.9% (or \$72,387 below the cap), a simple majority will be required for passage.

Tax Levy

The proposed expenditure plan of \$22,483,944 is partially funded by a tax levy of \$4,670,098. **This is a 1.9 percent increase in the levy from last year.** To calculate the tax rate for each of the nine towns within the District, both the assessed values and the equalization rates are used. Final assessments and equalization rates will not be available until August. The graph to the right displays historical information on the true value tax rate in the district with a projected rate for 2022-23. Under this proposed budget the tax rate on true value is estimated to increase to \$12.22 per thousand.



*estimated

Proposed Expenditures

	Budget 2021-22	Proposed 2022-23	
<u>GENERAL SUPPORT</u>			
Board of Education	14,313.00	28,439.00	
District Meeting	2,314.00	3,517.00	
Chief School Administrator	212,841.30	219,494.50	
Business Administration	233,313.06	250,173.86	
Auditing	24,261.00	23,000.00	
Treasurer	56,851.00	60,316.00	
Tax Collector	9,971.00	10,132.00	
Purchasing	5,658.00	5,829.31	
Fiscal Agent Fees	3,500.00	3,500.00	
Legal	45,127.00	45,850.00	
Personnel	7,669.00	13,725.00	
Public Information	8,960.00	8,960.00	
Operation of Plant	1,064,301.20	1,126,563.60	
Maintenance of Plant	662,701.21	722,681.45	
Security of Plant	78,900.00	82,056.00	
Central Storeroom	1,500.00	1,500.00	
Central Printing & Mailing	59,569.37	61,865.50	
Central Data Processing	282,112.24	288,551.93	
Unallocated Insurance	95,000.00	98,000.00	
School Association Dues	6,676.00	6,787.00	
Refund on Real Property Taxes	5,000.00	5,000.00	
BOCES Administrative Costs	258,744.00	244,989.00	
Total General Support	3,139,282.38	3,310,931.15	% Change +5.47%
<u>INSTRUCTION</u>			
Curriculum Development	174,484.73	169,054.46	
Supervision, Regular School	487,641.45	396,208.95	
In-Service Training Instruction	21,350.00	0.00	
Teaching, Regular School	4,849,052.84	4,930,520.01	
Programs for Students w/Dis.	2,381,623.42	2,650,620.81	
Programs for Eng. Lang. Learn. (ELL)	12,281.41	12,881.55	
Occupational Education	519,230.70	581,292.30	
Teaching, Special Schools	16,465.00	17,277.00	
School Library	188,901.16	196,473.01	
Computer Assisted Instruction	491,954.06	519,524.95	
Attendance	8,800.00	8,800.00	
Guidance	172,195.90	177,840.70	
Health Services	91,418.00	95,215.00	
Psychological Services	158,579.70	172,333.70	
Social Work Services	17,280.00	0.00	
Co-Curricular Activities	35,443.00	37,217.00	
Interscholastic Athletics	292,557.23	304,373.30	
Total Instruction	9,919,258.60	10,269,632.74	% Change +3.53%
<u>TRANSPORTATION</u>			
District Transportation	1,884,099.17	2,104,093.59	
Garage Building	65,612.00	69,891.00	
Transportation from BOCES	6,964.20	7,244.04	
Total Transportation	1,956,675.37	2,181,228.63	% Change +11.48%

CAPITAL OUTLAY PROJECT

The 2022-23 general fund proposed budget includes a capital outlay project that would be completed during the upcoming school year. This project includes HVAC and building automation improvements. The total cost of the project will not exceed \$100,000 and is aided through state building aid. By completing this work as a capital outlay project, the District will receive the state building aid in the following year.

Pulled Pork Dinner

(Prepared and served by Decisions Catering)

May 17, 2022 4-7pm

Auditorium Entrance

The Class of 2023 are selling tickets from April 25 – May 9.

Cost: \$13.00

Meal includes:

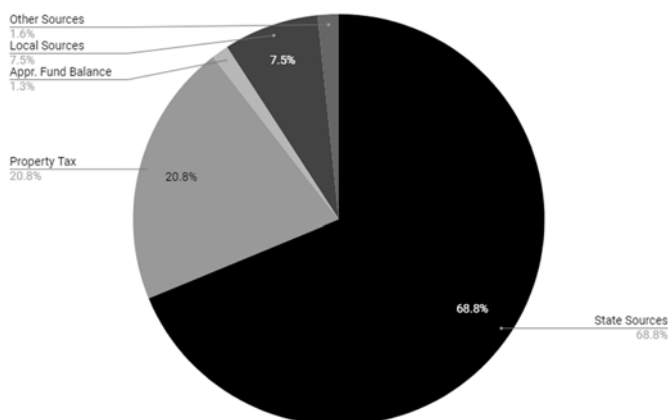
- Smoked Pulled Pork
- Creole Corn
- Coleslaw
- Roll and Butter



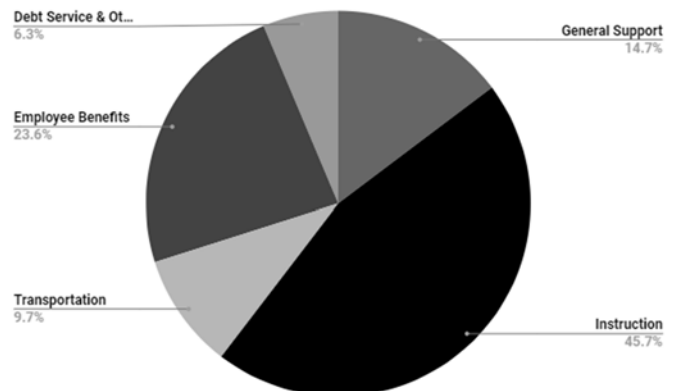
Get your ticket before they sell out!

	Budget 2021-22	Proposed 2022-23	
<u>COMMUNITY SERVICE</u>			
Adult Education & Recreation	7,500.00	6,565.20	
			% Change
Total Community Service	7,500.00	6,565.20	-12.46%
<u>EMPLOYEE BENEFITS</u>			
State Retirement	440,477.59	495,839.69	
Teachers' Retirement	704,110.76	739,124.59	
Social Security	762,907.56	786,568.40	
Workers' Compensation	110,000.00	100,000.00	
Unemployment Insurance	10,000.00	5,000.00	
Health Insurance	2,739,734.74	3,073,880.60	
Other - Incentives	98,364.00	95,300.00	
			% Change
Total Employee Benefits	4,865,594.65	5,295,713.28	+8.84%
<u>DEBT SERVICE</u>			
Serial Bonds - Principal	825,000.00	600,000.00	
Serial Bonds - Interest	366,506.00	318,456.00	
BAN – Interest	0.00	175,417.00	
			% Change
Total Debt Service	1,191,506.00	1,093,873.00	-8.19%
<u>INTERFUND TRANSFER</u>			
Transfer to School Lunch	1,000.00	1,000.00	
Transfer to Special Aid Fund	225,000.00	225,000.00	
Transfer to Capital Fund	409,400.00	100,000.00	
			% Change
Total Interfund Transfers	635,400.00	326,000.00	-48.69%
			% Change
Total General Fund	21,715,217.00	22,483,944.00	+3.54%

Revenues



Expenditures



2022 CANDIDATES FOR BOARD OF EDUCATION

(In alphabetical order by last name)

MERRITT (PETE) BROUGHTON IV



I am seeking re-election to the School Board as I feel it is important to be involved with the community you live in. I am a lifelong resident of Silver Springs, a 1990 graduate of LCS and I have four children attending school here. I am motivated to keep this a great

school district as education is such a big part of a child's future. My involvement with community service over the past years has been extensive including Wyoming County 4H and the Wyoming County Fair Board. I served on the Wyoming County Farm Bureau for many years, some as president, and I have held many positions on the New York State Beef Producers Associations. I feel my experience as a business owner and employer, along with my involvement in the community, has given me invaluable knowledge. Serving on the School Board has been a great experience and I look forward to continuing to serve the residents of this district for another term. Thank you.

SCOTT KEMP



I am looking forward to continuing to serve on the Board of Education here at Letchworth Central School. I am a lifelong resident of the district and a Class of 1997 graduate. My wife, Dana, and I currently have four children attending Letchworth

Central. That alone gives me a vested interest in what is happening in our school, the district and the state where education is concerned. I believe that my experience on the Board as well as in the agricultural industry are helpful to the district as we continue to develop and refine our agricultural programs. I will continue to work with the other members of the board to keep Letchworth the great school it is and to provide our students with a solid education. I hope you will support my re-election to the Letchworth Central School Board of Education.

SHANE SCOTT



I am a lifelong resident of Castile. I graduated from LCS in 1998, then I continued my education in veterinary science at Alfred State College. After college I decided to learn a trade where I became a project manager for a large company in Buffalo. In 2010 I

decided to start my own business and serve and assist the community. My wife Ricci and I have three children and three nieces that currently attend LCS. With being a project manager for over eight years and owning my own business for over ten years, I have obtained many life skills. Things like productivity, leadership, team-building, communication, negotiation skills, strategic planning, general management, financial management, and time management are all skills that I feel would be a great asset to LCS. I am passionate about education and the future of our children. I believe that there is a huge disconnect between the school and the community, and I would like to work with both groups to bring people together and also to help the school district, faculty, parents, and students resolve the hurdles set before the board to the best of my ability. Also to ensure a safe and positive learning environment, help with the everyday life skills needed for success in adulthood for the students and to ensure positive use of tax dollars at LCS. I am involved in: currently coaching the 12u youth Letchworth baseball team, currently coaching youth wrestlers from Letchworth, help with 4H, have helped with our church feeding the homeless. I would greatly appreciate your support.

NICK YOUNGERS



I would appreciate your vote to continue my service as a member of the Board of Education for the Letchworth Central School District. A Board of Education is in the unique position to help create an innovative educational experience for the school in

which it serves. I consider being part of this Board a valuable opportunity. My hope is to continue the traditions of our district, while seeking ways to be progressive as the environment around us changes. I am a graduate of Letchworth Central and work locally within the agriculture industry as a Certified Crop Consultant. As a father of two, I feel a responsibility to be knowledgeable of the decisions that will impact their education and the school district. The school district is the foundation of a child's future and will be one of the most important influences on every child. I look forward to an opportunity to continue to serve the Letchworth Central School District.

BOARD OF EDUCATION - YOU MAY VOTE FOR ANY THREE (3) CANDIDATES

There are three vacancies for the Board for three year terms (July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2025). The candidates who receive a plurality of the votes cast respectively for the three offices are to be declared elected. Candidates are listed in the order they will appear on the ballot.

1) Nick Youngers 2) Scott Kemp 3) Merritt Broughton IV 4) Shane Scott

PROPOSED ANNUAL SCHOOL BUDGET FOR 2022-2023

Proposition 1 - Budget \$22,483,944.00

The Board of Education of the Letchworth Central School District shall be authorized to expend the sum set forth in the proposed budget for the 2022-23 school year in the amount of \$22,483,944.00 and to levy the necessary tax therefore.

Proposition 2 – Establish a Capital Reserve Fund

Be it resolved that the Board of Education of the Letchworth Central School District is hereby authorized to establish a Capital Reserve Fund pursuant to Section 3651 of the Education Law (to be known as the “2022 Building Capital Reserve Fund”), with the purpose of such fund being to finance site work, construction or reconstruction and equipping of school buildings and facilities that would be eligible for financing under the Local Finance Law, and costs incidental thereto, the ultimate amount of such fund to be \$4,000,000, plus earnings thereon, the probable term of such fund to be 10 years, but such fund shall continue in existence until liquidated in accordance with the Education Law or until the funds are exhausted, and the sources from which the funds shall be obtained for such Reserve are (i) amounts from budgetary appropriations from time to time, and (ii) unappropriated fund balance made available by the Board of Education from time to time, and (iii) New York State Aid received and made available by the Board of Education from time to time, all as permitted by law.

Proposition 3 - Library Funding (*as received from the libraries*)

Shall the amount of funds raised by taxation to support the four public libraries in the Letchworth Central School District be increased from \$208,442.58 to \$212,611.43 the increased amount to be distributed as followed: \$34,018.00 to the Eagle Free Library, Bliss; \$72,287.20 to the Cordelia A. Greene Library, Castile; \$63,783.74 to the Gainesville Public Library, Silver Springs; and \$42,522.49 to the Pike Library Association, Pike?

Qualifications of a voter: ♦United States Citizen ♦Eighteen years of age or older ♦Resident of the School District for 30 days prior to voting

ABSENTEE BALLOTS The option of using an absentee ballot is available for the school district annual budget vote. To obtain an absentee ballot, you must be a qualified voter of the school district and be unable to personally appear to vote. One of the following qualifications must apply:

- a) a patient in a hospital, or unable due to illness or physical disability;
- b) out of town because of duties, occupation, business or studies - you must provide a description of duties or special circumstances;
- c) on vacation outside the district - you must provide dates of beginning & ending of vacation, where you will be, name & address of employer, or statement of self-employment, or a statement of retirement;
- d) in jail - affidavit must state if detained awaiting action of grand jury or confined after conviction for a non-felony. Qualified voter spouse, parent, or child is also entitled to vote as absentee if expected to be absent from the district accompanying an absentee ballot applicant upon personally making and signing an application based on the above reasons.
- e) voters who do not wish to appear at the polling place due to the potential of contracting or spreading COVID-19.

The application must be received by the clerk at least 7 days before the election if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or the day before the election if it is to be delivered personally to the voter. All completed absentee ballots must

be received no later than 5:00 PM on the day of the election. (Tuesday, May 17, 2022)
Qualified voters may pick up applications at the District Office at Letchworth Central School during regular business hours. You may request an application be sent to you by contacting the District Clerk, in writing at 5550 School Rd., Gainesville, NY 14066, or by phone at 493-5450.

PUBLIC HEARING

Monday, May 9, 2022 @ 7:30 PM

The annual school district Public Hearing will be held at Letchworth Central School in Room 304 at 7:30 PM for the purpose of reviewing the 2022-2023 school budget and to meet the candidates.



VOTE/ELECT BOARD MEMBERS

Tuesday, May 17, 2022 Noon to 9:00 PM

The polls will be open in the Auditorium lobby, between the hours of 12:00 Noon and 9:00 PM to vote on the 2022-2023 budget, propositions and to elect three members of the Board of Education.

Player of the Year



Congratulations to Letchworth Senior Soccer player, Nik Eustace. Nik was named as the 2021 LCAA At Large ADPRO "Player of the Year". Eustace led the Letchworth-Warsaw Soccer team with 11 goals and 6 assists. He was

also a Division 1 All Star, an Exceptional Senior, and the 2021 Class B2 All Tournament Team. In December, Nik was also named to the All New York State third team. Way to GO Nik!!!

Letchworth Kids Come Through Again!!!



Once again, students in the second, third, and fourth grades participated in the "Kids Heart Challenge" in support of the American Heart Association. The students collected funds to help the AHA with research and educational programs to develop healthy hearts. They then participated in several fun

activities in their P.E. classes which promote healthy and strong hearts. Overall Lockwood Elementary collected \$3,241.42, this year's top participant was third grader, Levi Case. Levi collected \$1,030.00. Coach Eustace and Coach Tallman would like to thank all the kids and families who donated to the great cause. Great Job Kids!!!

Letchworth Alumni News



2019 graduate Ashley Covert recently received the SUNY Cobleskill Excellence in Student Leadership Award. This award recognizes those students who demonstrate an aptitude for and commitment to educational growth and provide leadership that is impactful, effective, motivational, and consistent. Ashley is currently a senior, captain of the women's softball team, Student Athletic Committee Vice President, and majoring in Ag Business.

Letchworth HS Elective Courses for 2022-23

Science: Chemistry 100, AP Biology, AP Chemistry

Math: Algebra A-2, Pre-Calculus & Statistics, Calculus

History: Honors Psychology

Agriculture: Animal Husbandry, Veterinary Science, Dairy/Equine Science, Forensics/Environmental Science, Greenhouse/Soil Science, Animal and Plant Ag. Academy, Mechanical Ag. Academy, Woodlot Management, Small Engines 1 and 2, Basic/Advanced Transportation

Art: Ceramics, Drawing and Painting, Graphic Art, Senior Portfolio

FACS: Clothing and Textiles 1 & 2, Food and Nutrition 1 & 2, Fiber to Fab/Bake Shop, Senior Survival/Bake Shop, Farm to Table, Gourmet Foods 1 & 2, Child Development and Parenting, Housing and Your Environment

Foreign Language: French 2, 3, Honors, 5, Spanish 2, 3, 4, 5

Misc: Yearbook, Leadership, Honors Keyboarding

Music: Intro to Music Theory/Music Appreciation

Technology: DDP, Welding & Advanced Welding, Computer Integrated Manufacturing Systems, Coding and Game Design

See all course offerings on our website at this link: <https://www.letchworth.k12.ny.us/Page/5455>