

**DID YOU KNOW?**

**JEFF HIGH SCHOOL CULINARY ARTS PROGRAM**



The FACS Department at Jefferson High School has had amazing success in providing a quality Culinary Arts program for Lafayette students. The student run labs (Pony Espresso & Branding Iron) have allowed for the extension of culinary coursework to 6 full semesters. Students are graduating with certifications such as ServSafe, ProStart 1 and ProStart 2. Culinary institutes and local restaurants actively seek and hire graduating students holding these culinary qualifications.

Since starting the student run labs from scratch just 4 short years ago.... the department has increasingly enabled students to earn post-secondary scholarships. A highlight of the program includes preparing students to perform well on tests that create the possibility of scholarships for education and training after high school.

A total of \$427,000 in culinary scholarships was earned during the 2014-2015 school year. In fact, one student earned a full-ride scholarship to study Food Science at Purdue University and will then continue with a full-ride to Johnson & Wales.

It is amazing to think that one subject area has opened the door for so many students to continue their education beyond high school and into a career field that is thriving.

**Pony Espresso and Branding Iron facts:**

- Established in the 2010-2011 school year.
- Expanded serving to the faculty through the teacher's lounge in the 2013-2014 school year.
- Meets for 2 blocks and students receive 2 credits per semester.
- The class is dual-credit and students have the opportunity to earn 6 credits through Ivy Tech Community College.
- Students have the opportunity to receive their ServSafe certification and ProStart certificate.
- Students also have the option to become an Assistant Manager during their senior year through Connie Wiese and the Work-Based Learning Program HERO. They earn a scholarship during this opportunity.
- Students have the opportunity to earn a culinary jacket letter after completion of the program if he or she meets the qualifications.
- Program is recognized by the restaurants in the community as producing topnotch students.
- Developed partnerships with several restaurants in the area.
- Students have the opportunity to produce high volume food through catering events. For example, the Branding Iron catered the Habitat for Humanity Benefit Dinner & Concert on October 8th, 2015.

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**LSC PRINCIPAL WINS NATIONAL RECOGNITION**



Mrs. Janell Uerkwitz, principal of Murdock Elementary, is one of seven principals across the nation receiving The Terrell H. Bell Award for Outstanding Leadership. In 2015, the Blue Ribbon Award was earned by 335 schools in the United States. Murdock Elementary was a recipient of the 2015 Blue Ribbon Award. The U.S. Department of Education then selects principals from the Blue Ribbons schools for additional recognition. The principal award honors the vision and leadership of administrators who have shaped the culture needed to support positive learning outcomes. Congratulations Mrs. Uerkwitz!

Scan the QR code to read more about this great honor highlighting the dedication of Mrs. Uerkwitz.



**CALENDAR**

DATE	EVENT
NOVEMBER 25-27	THANKSGIVING- Schools are closed.
DECEMBER 18	Full day of attendance
DECEMBER 21-31	WINTER BREAK – Schools are closed. Students dismissed end of day 12/18; classes resume 1/4/16
JANUARY 1-3	WINTER BREAK – Schools are closed.
JANUARY 4	Classes resume for second semester.
JANUARY 7	Elementary & Jefferson HS Report Cards
JANUARY 8	Tecumseh Jr. High School Report Cards
JANUARY 18	MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY – Schools are closed.
FEBRUARY 10-11	Elementary Parent Teacher Conferences
FEBRUARY 15	PRESIDENTS' DAY – Schools are closed.
FEBRUARY 17-18	Sunnyside Intermediate School Parent Teacher Conferences
MARCH 10	Jefferson High School Parent Teacher Conferences
MARCH 17	Tecumseh Parent Teacher Conferences
MARCH 21-25	SPRING BREAK – Schools are closed.
MAY 19	Full day attendance



**MURDOCK EARNS NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON AWARD**



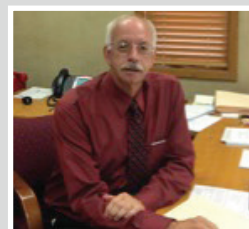
On September 29, 2015, U.S. Secretary of Education, Arne Duncan released the names of 335 schools across the nation who were recipients of the National Blue Ribbon Award. On this distinguished list, readers would find the name of Lafayette School Corporation's own Murdock Elementary School.

The National Blue Ribbon Schools Program honors public and private elementary, middle, and high schools where students either achieve very high learning standards or make notable improvements in closing the achievement gap. The award affirms the hard work of students, educators, families and communities in creating safe and welcoming schools where students master challenging content. The award flag gracing a school's building is a widely recognized symbol of exemplary teaching and learning.

The Lafayette community is rich with people who care and are willing to invest time in the children. Murdock is supported by volunteers through Read to Succeed, and Big Brothers/ Big Sisters in Schools, as well as countless others who lend a hand. Murdock's after school program, funded by a 21st Century Community Learning Center grant, extends the day with enrichment activities to support the whole child. Murdock Elementary School is a school with a heart for learning!

## SCHOOL NEWS

### MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S DESK



The start of the 2015-2016 school year has been outstanding! Students, staff, parents, and community are all contributing to this success. Schools and public education grow and thrive through collaborative efforts of the community. These collaborative efforts present themselves daily in our schools. Lafayette School Corporation benefits from this community relationship as it provides a rich experience for students and their families. This communication provides you with just a glimpse of the opportunities that help shape the lives of Lafayette. Enjoy the good news. Take pride in your contributions. Find a way to stay involved!

*Les L. Huddle*

## SUNNYSIDE TECHFIT



Sunnyside has a new afterschool program called TECHFIT. Working in teams, SIS students spend time designing fitness games infused with sensors, lights, buzzers, and animations. The TECHFIT program provides the opportunity for students to be innovative and creative through the blending of technology and physical fitness. The culminating activity of the afterschool program will be a regional showcase competition. During the competition, participating schools will demonstrate their fitness game for a panel of judges. Sunnyside's TECHFIT callout was met with such great enthusiasm from the student body (over 80 students) that two teams will be attending the showcase in December!

Stay connected and follow the team through various social media platforms:

Twitter: @SISTechFit | Instagram: SISTechFit  
Facebook: Sunnyside TechFit



Coaches:  
Chris Berg, Elizabeth Hittle, Scott McTagertt, Jason Vandewalle

Scan the QR code to learn more about this partnership between Purdue and Sunnyside.

## LEARNING AT TECUMSEH GOES BEYOND THE SURFACE



LSC is excited to announce that Tecumseh has gone to a full digital conversion. As part of the corporation curriculum plan, students and staff each have received a Surface 3 device for learning at school and home. The rationale for the digital conversion is multi-layered. A primary objective of the digital conversion is to prepare students for success in post-secondary opportunities and in the workplace. Technology skills are essential in today's world.

Academic expectations for students, teachers and schools are increasing each year. As a result, everyone must be more efficient and creative with instructional time and resources. Student learning occurs well beyond the formal school day. Extended access to technology provides students with additional instructional support, the ability to organize, submit and retrieve assignments, and the opportunity to collaborate with peers and teachers. Tecumseh joins Sunnyside Intermediate in providing a 1:1 learning environment for LSC students.

## FEATURED STAFF



### JHS Math Teacher Receives Presidential Recognition

Please help the Lafayette School Corporation congratulate one of the teachers at Jefferson High School. Recently, **Dr. Melissa Wright Colonis** was selected to receive the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST)! Ms. Colonis traveled to Washington, DC this summer where she received a citation signed by President Obama and an award from the National Science Foundation. Lafayette School Corporation continues to have some of the best kept secrets in the area! We are so very proud to have Dr. Colonis part of our LSC Family. Congrats on an amazing accomplishment!

### He doesn't just like it....he loves it!

**Mr. Chuck Herber** started his teaching career in 1966. Yes....this means he has been committed to the classroom and students for the past 50 years! His recent performance in the JHS Lip Dub demonstrates how much he loves teaching at Jefferson High School.



Mr. Herber exemplifies everything that is good about public education. He is passionate about teaching, he works tirelessly at his trade and he is a wonderful builder of relationships with students. Below is an excerpt from a correspondence he received this year from a student he had in class over 20 years ago:

"I really want to thank you, Mr. Herber, for all that you did to shape me into the man, husband, and father that I would become. I am very certain I would not be the person I am, had you not mentored me by example with such passion and conviction!"

Congratulations Mr. Herber!

Scan the QR code to see Mr. Herber's performance in Jeff High School Lip Dub 2015-I Don't Like It, I Love It

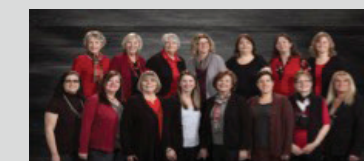


### Welcome to the Family

Partnerships play a major role in the success of Lafayette schools. One such partnership has developed with the Tippecanoe Superior Court and Probation Department. Working together, a School-based Youth Liaison has been placed at Tecumseh Jr. High School. This staffing has been made possible through the progressive efforts of the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative.

The School-based Youth Liaison works cooperatively with Tecumseh administrators and staff to provide intensive supports for developing youth. Supports are uniquely designed to support the individual child and often include activities such as: restorative practices, Juvenile Justice Jeopardy game, interactive journaling, replacement behavior training, and service leadership. Serving in this new role is **Shannon Sleighter**. Shannon has lived in the Lafayette community for 5 years and has dedicated a great deal of energy and time into the development of youth in Lafayette. Please join us in welcoming Shannon to the Lafayette family!

## LEARN MORE



### LSC Student Health Services

Each LSC school has a full time licensed nurse and a trained team of first responders. This commitment to optimal physical and mental health supports the mission of the Lafayette School Corporation. Student achievement and learning is directly impacted by the overall health of the individual.



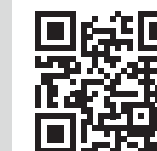
Scan the QR code to learn more about the health services offered to LSC students.

### Emergency Notifications

LSC uses School Messenger as its primary emergency notification tool. School Messenger allows LSC to send emergency messages to families as needed. Notices can be sent as voice messages (to local, cell or home phone), email messages, and text messages (cell phone).

Providing schools with current telephone numbers and email will ensure that you as a family receive any important or emergency communications. Parents can update emergency contact information by entering PowerSchool under a parent account. If you as a parent do not have a PowerSchool account, please contact your child's school today to learn more about this important family resource and obtain a student access code to create your parent account. Parents will be periodically prompted to review emergency contact information throughout the school year.

Scan the QR code to visit the LSC webpage. Under Quicklinks parents can find a Powerschool link to create an account or update contact information.



### Electronic Backpack

The Lafayette School Corporation takes great pride in communicating opportunities that nurture, inspire, and empower students and their families. To support this communication, LSC has created an Electronic Backpack. This electronic resource can be found on the LSC web page and is intended to provide information regarding community events, activities, and registration information. Events and activities are placed in the backpack to allow families 24 hour access to extended learning outside of the school day. Guidelines for posting flyers to the backpack are also outlined on the webpage.



Scan the QR code to explore the Electronic Backpack today!

### LSC, Communications, and Social Media

Media can be a powerful tool to connect schools with families. LSC uses a variety of resources and social media to highlight school events, activities, celebrations, and recognitions.

Visit: <http://www.lsc.k12.in.us>  
Follow us on: Twitter using @LSClafayette  
Listen to: **WJEF 91.9 FM**  
Tune in to: **Channel 5**

Scan the QR code to locate the 2016-2017 School Calendar.

