



Friday, February 2, 2024

Dear Lamoille North Families and Staff,

Please note important upcoming events set forth below*:



- February 5-9, 2024, Cambridge Elementary School, 4th Grade Winter Wellness
- February 7, 2024, Cambridge School Board Meeting, 6:00 pm
- February 7, 2024, Johnson Elementary School, Parent Volunteer Group Meeting, 6:30 pm
- February 9, 2024, GMTCC Career Challenge Day for Middle School Girls
- February 13, 2024, Cambridge Elementary School, PTA Meeting, 5:30 pm
- February 14, 2024, Cambridge Elementary School, 100th Day of School for Grades 1-6
- February 16, 2024, Cambridge Elementary School, 100th Day of School for Grade K
- February 19, 2024, LNSU/LNMUUSD Special Board Meeting, 5:15 pm, followed by Annual Meeting from 6:00 – 7:30 pm at GMTCC
- February 21, 2024, Eden Central School, Community Meeting, 8:00 am

****Please make sure you check for updated changes or additions to dates of events listed on your school(s) website. Your school website is updated daily.***



In news of the season, and for people who look forward to this prediction each year, Punxsutawney Phil, the famous groundhog weather watcher, woke up and did not see his shadow Friday morning, signaling an early spring.

For historical context, each February 2nd, on Groundhog Day, the members of the Punxsutawney Groundhog Club make the pilgrimage to Gobbler’s Knob – Phil’s official home. The group waits for Phil to leave his burrow and as the legend goes, if he sees his shadow, six more weeks of winter are on the way. If he doesn’t, an early spring arrives.

Scientifically speaking, winter will end on the spring equinox on March 19th at 11:06 p.m. ET, regardless of today’s prediction; but as we know all too well, weather doesn’t always follow the timetable, and neither does Phil.

Legislative News



Our Legislature is getting involved with community members, parents and schools to work together to address problems impacting all of us. We collectively are aware that schools are seeing an increase in both the prevalence and severity of student and adult mental health needs and simultaneously experiencing a decreasing ability to meet those needs. Thoughts on the table include setting up regional hubs for services to our local communities, increasing numbers of programs available to train professionals in serving the mental health needs of our communities, and increasing the number of home-to-school services that would ideally serve entire families. We will update you as to any progress that is made in this legislative session.



In school news, last week Congresswoman Becca Balint met with a group of 20 Lamoille Union students and some of our community partners to hear students' thoughts, concerns and suggestions about what they believe to be important issues in our communities. Social media concerns, mental health and wellbeing, flooding and its impact on the community, and housing challenges emerged as significant themes for our students. Some suggestions from students included building more affordable housing, developing community centers or gathering places for teens so that they would have safe places to congregate after school, reimagining libraries as places for students to study, collaborate and rediscover the joy of reading, and thinking about some form of public transportation that would allow fluid travel throughout our communities after the school day. Congresswoman Balint was so impressed with the insights of our students that she has asked for a follow up meeting with several of them.



SAVE THE DATE! We are hosting our Annual Meeting on **February 19, 2024**, at Green Mountain Technology & Career Center in the CEC from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm.

Although the official business of the evening will not begin until 7:00 pm, we invite you to join us early for a meal! You can find our Annual Meeting Warning on our website by clicking [HERE](#). This is a school district open meeting and all community members are welcome to attend.

We will be asking you to register to attend **only** if you are seeking childcare for your children during the meeting and if you would like to have a meal with us so we know how many meals to prepare. You can register for both dinner and childcare [HERE](#).

We look forward to answering your questions at the meeting and welcoming all of our community members! The event is an opportunity to engage with school leadership, school board representatives from your community, and some of our students, to hear about all that is happening in our schools to provide the best education and support for our students! We look forward to seeing you!

As always, I continue to be so grateful for our Lamoille North community members and the strong relationships we have built together. Thank you again for your collaboration, compassion and dedication to the wellbeing of our students, staff and families.

My best to you,

Catherine Gallagher, M.Ed.
Superintendent of Schools
Lamoille North Supervisory Union