Dear LPS Community,

Another school year draws to a close, and what a journey it has been! As we wrap up a year filled with electrifying events, memorable performances, and triumphant moments in the classrooms, on the stage and the field, the energy in our schools is palpable. Livonia Public Schools has once again proven itself to be a hub of activity, growth, and achievement.

In this edition of the Dialog, our spotlight shines brightly on our graduating seniors – the Class of 2024. Join us as we celebrate their accomplishments, their potential, and the bright futures that await them beyond our halls.

As I watched the Class of 2024 cross the graduation stage, I couldn’t help but feel a tremendous sense of pride. Behind every confident step lies years of dedication from our exceptional staff, who have equipped our graduates with not just academic prowess, but with the character and values essential for success in any endeavor. Thank you to our LPS parents for entrusting your children to us for their educational journey.

Cast your mind back to 2016-2017, when our current graduates were just starting their journey into upper elementary school. It was then that we embarked on our Community with Character initiative – a bold endeavor to instill in our students the values that define not just good students, but good humans. 

CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2024!

Congratulations to the nearly 1,000 graduates of Churchill, Franklin, and Stevenson high schools! This year, 214 students graduated Summa Cum Laude (3.95 GPA and above); 101 graduated Magna Cum Laude (3.75-3.94 GPA); and 104 graduated Cum Laude (3.5-3.74 GPA).

A large section of this edition of the Dialog is dedicated to the Class of 2024. We hope you enjoy reading about just a few of our many talented and accomplished students.

Class of 2024, you are Livonia Pride!

FROM SUPERINTENDENT ANDREA OQUIST

www.livoniapublicschools.org

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3
**Online Registration at a Glance**

- You must provide identification in person to complete the registration process.
- Not sure which school your child will attend? Go to the link Visit www.livoniapublicschools.org/GSRP to register. If you have any questions, please call 734-744-2715, ext. 17990.
- Specialized Early Childhood Programs have any questions, please call 734-744-2813, ext. 22902.
- For New Families: New families can begin the registration process at www.livoniapublicschools.org/registration.
- If you have any questions, please email registration@livoniapublicschools.org.

**Onsite Registration**

- Visit www.livoniapublicschools.org/registration to begin the registration process as early as possible.
- Complete the registration forms online, and upload all the required documents. If you are unable to load your documents, you will be required to present them in person.
- After you submit your form, you will be prompted to schedule an appointment to visit and present identification to confirm your registration.
- If you do not have access to a computer, paper packets will be available for you to complete in our office. Appointments are required.

**Specialized Early Childhood Programs**

- Contact Patty Kozlowski at 734-744-2813, ext. 22902.
- Early On developmental screenings for infants and toddlers from birth to 36 months; to request an early-on screening, call 1-800-EarlyOn.
- For New Families: Specialized Early Childhood Programs.
- Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) Michigan’s Nationally Recognized Pre-K Program GSRP is a high quality, no cost, state-funded preschool program for children who are 4 years old by September 1. The program runs four full days per week from September to June, but registrations are accepted year-round. Please ensure that children are developmentally ready across all domains and not just the traditional school readiness skills. Visit www.livoniapublicschools.org/youngfives for more information on the program.

**For New Families**

- Summer registration for students in grades 7-12 will be facilitated through the assigned school, beginning July 10. Please call the school directly to make a registration appointment.
- Summer Registration Information
  - July through September
  - Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
  - Beginning September 9, all registrations will be completed through your child’s school.

**School Tours for New Families**

- School tours for families new to the district will be offered at all K-4 schools. Tours will be held on the following dates:
  - Thursday, August 15
  - At 10 a.m. & 4 p.m.

**K-6 Students**

Centralized Registration will be offered for K-6 students during the summer months in the front lobby of Central Office (15125 Farmington Rd.). The office is available for scheduled appointments only.

**7-12 Students**

Summer registration for students in grades 7-12 will be facilitated through the assigned school, beginning July 10. Please call the school directly to make a registration appointment.

**From Superintendent Andrea Oquist**

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1**

Today, these values are woven into the very fabric of our school culture. The eight character traits of Respect, Empathy, Grit, Mindfulness, Responsibility, Integrity, Confidence, and Reflection are universal in the world and particularly attractive to future employers. Through these traits, we emphasize the overarching importance of Respectful Interactions. We believe that these tenets of being a “good human” will carry with each and every student after they leave LPS. My wish is that they shine their positive light on the world around them and proudly know that this village we call LPS has instilled the tools they need to venture out into the world and truly make a difference.

This school year, we have intertwined our focus to incorporate our long-standing work on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEIB) with our Community with Character efforts, to ensure every student feels a sense of belonging in our schools. This is embedded in our school culture here in LPS. We are a family – and every student and staff member should feel this sense of belonging as they navigate every day in Livonia Public Schools.

So, as I reflect upon the 2023-2024 school year, and on the 1,000 or so graduates in the Class of 2024, I hope that these tenets of being a “good human” will carry with each and every student after they leave LPS. My wish is that they shine their positive light on the world around them and profoundly know that this village we call LPS has instilled the tools they need to venture out into the world and truly make a difference.

With gratitude and anticipation for the bright futures ahead,

Andrea Oquist
Superintendent
Thank you LPS for the last 13 years. Livonia has given me so many valuable opportunities to grow as a student and as a person. The Churchill staff has been incredibly supportive and have gone out of their way to ensure I succeed. I am incredibly thankful for the teachers and staff who have pushed me as a person and leader. Their kindness and dedication to each student makes LPS a great place to learn and grow. Through unique academic and arts programs, career preparation opportunities, and amazing athletics, Livonia truly offers every type of student the chance to shine. Thank you, LPS, for supplying me and many others with the tools to be a part of this incredible school district.

- Lillian Ulmer

“I am extremely grateful and proud to call myself a LPS student. My 11 years in the district have been filled with amazing memories and people that I’ll never forget. I am incredibly thankful for the teachers and staff who have pushed me as a person and leader. Their kindness and dedication to each student makes LPS a great place to learn and grow. Through unique academic and arts programs, career preparation opportunities, and amazing athletics, Livonia truly offers every type of student the chance to shine. Thank you, LPS, for supplying me and many others with the tools for a bright future.”

- Julia Griese

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- Julie Griese

“I have been a part of LPS from kindergarten through my senior year. No district can compare to the amount of support and opportunities given by the staff and faculty throughout all of the schools. Students are provided with ways to be involved, stay connected, and make the most of life while also being shown how important education is. I am forever grateful to have been able to be a part of this incredible school district.

- Madeline Shiner

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- Jon Jasionowski
“At Stevenson I can say that I have grown the most. I was able to evolve as a student, leader, athlete, and person because of the environment and opportunities that met me at the doors of Stevenson High School. I am proud to have been affected by and contributed to the culture of being a Spartan, and honored to receive the Formsma award.”

-Marissa Rushlow, Jay W. Formsma Award recipient

“Throughout my four years at Stevenson I have been successful in and out of the classroom, which can be attributed to my incredible educators and peers that inspired and supported me on my journey. I am fortunate to be a part of this amazing community and to help build it into what it is today. I am honored to receive the Formsma award and I will forever look fondly upon my time as a Spartan.”

-Szymon Wasztyl, Jay W. Formsma Award recipient

**SPORTS HIGHLIGHTS**

**Girls Swim & Dive**
City Champs
KLAA East Division Champs

**Girls Volleyball**
City Champs
KLAA East Division Champs

**Girls Golf**
City Tournament Champs

**Boys Soccer**
City Champs
KLAA East Division Champs

**Girls Gymnastics**
City Champs

**Girls Basketball**
City Champs

**Hockey**
City Champs
MHSAA Regional Champs

**Boys Swim & Dive**
City Champs
KLAA East Division Champs

**STUDENTS ENTERING THE MILITARY**

Szymon Wasztyl
United States Naval Academy

Cara Bishop
NROTC

**HONORS & HIGHLIGHTS**

**WXYZ Brightest and Best**
Brynnlee Hass

James P. Carli
Memorial Scholarship
Abraham Jaafar

Jay W. Formsma Award
Marissa Rushlow
Szymon Wasztyl

Gabe Award
Riley Adams
Kyle Kless

Bob Massey Award
Halle Hunter
Michael Nowell

James F. Brieske Award
Layla Krayem
John Toth

LEA Scholarship
Faith Monroe

MEA Scholarship
Michael Nowell
Program Recognitions

Math/Science/Computer (MSC) Program Graduates

The Livonia Math/Science/Computer (MSC) Program was founded in 1984 and is housed at Churchill High School. MSC is celebrating the conclusion of its 40th year. MSC graduates have completed a minimum of 23 semesters of coursework in mathematics, science, and computer science. The foundation of the MSC curriculum is the College Board Advanced Placement exams. Students apply for the MSC program during the fall of their 8th grade year, and selection is based on academic test scores, student essays, and teacher recommendations. The MSC program is open to students from all three LPS high school attendance areas. This year’s MSC graduates were collectively awarded $6.5 million in scholarships.

MSC Class of 2024

- Sophia Amann
- Morgan Brown
- Milan Ochadlo
- Benjamin Dalton
- Dimrit Dudek
- Pablo Foster
- Morgan Freely
- Mahi Garg
- Wesley Himelhoch
- Anirudh Iyer
- Saqib Karanaraj
- Jacob Koziel
- Pradhik Kuchipudi
- Nathan Lithgow
- River Lucer
- Miles Lueck
- Punu Mhatre
- Samuel Moore
- Ethan Newbery
- Christopher Ohtake
- Aryan Patel
- Jaden Reji
- Laya Satish
- Nickolas Shain
- Elizabeth Sullivan
- Samantha Sullivan
- Atticus Townley
- Emma Vucelic
- Ben Zurawski

Creative & Performing Arts Program (CAPA)

The CAPA program builds the skills, passion, creativity, and supportive artistic community that performers need in order to continue their formal education in the creative arts. CAPA provides a safe, imaginative, and caring place for young people to land and learn. The program includes intense studies in the areas of acting, dance, and vocal music. For any questions, or to set up an audition for the program, please email gwiklans@livoniapublicschools.org.

CAPA Program Award of Excellence Recipients 2024

- Callum Johnston - Excellence in Acting
- Brandon White - Excellence in Vocal
- Alex Cynczewicz - Excellence in Dance

CAREER TECHNICAL CENTER TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION AWARDs

The Livonia Career Technical Center offers career and technical training in all of the career pathways established by the Michigan Department of Career Development. LCTC honorees were selected based on their academic achievement in their LCTC program; their responsibility as it relates to attendance and completing all assignments with exceptional ability; their leadership skills as they relate to working with peers; and their interest in pursuing a career in the field they have selected. The following students were honored in the 2023-24 school year:

Stevenson

- Skylar Szymanski - Criminal Justice
- Advanced Sports Medicine
- Riley Long - Fashion Merchandising II
- Marissa Rushlow - Criminal Justice
- Mia Shaw - Advanced Medicine

Franklin

- Charlotte Adkins - Advanced Graphic Design
- Madison Irey-Aioni - Advanced Medicine
- Lilliana Alcala - Advanced Sports Medicine
- Aubree Allie - Hospitality Management

Churchill

- Cole Booth - Game Design
- Zachary Reid - Animation/Web Design
- Jaylen Knight - Game Design

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CAPA Program Award of Excellence Recipients 2024

- Callum Johnston - Excellence in Acting
- Brandon White - Excellence in Vocal
- Alex Cynczewicz - Excellence in Dance

Career Technical Center Technology Education Awards

The Livonia Career Technical Center offers career and technical training in all of the career pathways established by the Michigan Department of Career Development. LCTC honorees were selected based on their academic achievement in their LCTC program; their responsibility as it relates to attendance and completing all assignments with exceptional ability; their leadership skills as they relate to working with peers; and their interest in pursuing a career in the field they have selected. The following students were honored in the 2023-24 school year:

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- Madison Irey-Aioni - Advanced Medicine
- Lilliana Alcala - Advanced Sports Medicine
- Aubree Allie - Hospitality Management

Churchill

- Cole Booth - Game Design
- Zachary Reid - Animation/Web Design
- Jaylen Knight - Game Design

New LPS Early Childhood Center - ‘A World of Exploration’

A joyful and engaging place for young children to learn and grow. That’s the idea and the dream behind the Livonia Early Childhood Center.

Rising from the 55-year-old former Dickinson school site on Newburgh, north of Six Mile, the ECC will open this fall as an all inclusive, state-of-the-art facility that will house early childhood programs including childcare and preschool as well as multiple special education programs for preschool-aged children.

“Every element of the design is child- and family-focused,” said Superintendent Andrea Oquist. “From the ‘mud room’ areas at each entry, designed for ease of families during arrival and pickup, to the demonstration kitchen where children can develop their culinary curiosities, the new ECC will be a beautiful world of exploration for our youngest learners.”

The 72,000-square-foot facility, designed by TMP Architects, has 28 classrooms for instruction, a library area, large motor skills area, a demonstration kitchen, mud rooms with cubbies and benches, built-in visual and sensory features throughout the building, four entry points, conference spaces for parents and staff meetings and, of course, outdoor play areas.

“This is a vision that our district has had for quite some time,” said Superintendent Andrea Oquist. “To see it come to fruition is just amazing and truly exciting for us. We know that this is a significant investment in our community, our school district and most of all, the children we serve.”

The ECC is made possible through the 2021 bond issue that was approved by voters in May 2021. It is the first new-build in Livonia Public Schools in more than five decades.

As a “thank you” to the community, we invite residents to come and explore the new center during a Community Open House on Monday, July 15 between the hours of 10 - 11:30 a.m. or 5 - 6:30 p.m. Self-guided tours between these open house times.

Current programming housed at the Jackson Early Childhood Center will move to the new facility and the district will maintain the Jackson Center for other purposes.
Congratulations to the students who received their Certificate of Completion from the Livonia Transition Program! The following students wrapped up their LTP experience at their listed community business or organization. We thank all of our community partners!

- Dylan Brandt - Embassy Suites
- Michael Chuey - Cedarbrook Senior Living
- Brian Gilbert - Cantoro Italian Market
- Kaylie Johnson - Trinity Health
- Rolando Kennedy - Embassy Suites
- Vasilios Billy Kuffner - Cantoro Italian Market
- Gavin La Forest - MOD Pizza
- Joseph Rays - Cantoro Italian Market
- Phillip Sewell - Embassy Suites
- Allissa Werk - Livonia Civic Library
- James Wilson III - Brookdale Senior Living

**FRANKLIN TRANSITION PROGRAM**

Congratulations to the students who received their Certificate of Completion from the Franklin Transition Program! The following students wrapped up their LTP experience at their listed community business or organization. We thank all of our community partners!

- Jane Gordon
- Kevin Haynes
- Joshua Lenze
- Hannah Owens
- Alexis Polk
- Kaylee Stillwagon

**GARFIELD SKILL CENTER**

Congratulations to the following students who have achieved their Certificate of Completion from the Western Wayne Skill Center at Garfield Community School!

We are so proud of you!

- Yazan Al-Dasouqi
- Bryan Amin
- Dallys Anderzak
- Kylee Aurand
- Shannon Babcock
- Alexandria Barnes
- Ruben Carrillo
- Christopher de Lorme
- Zoe Farr
- Romon Johnson
- Darrion Lyas
- Margret Serda
- Mario Silversti
- London Ussey
- Donlan Valley

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Serving the Community

Livonia Public Schools Board of Education is one of few in the State of Michigan to be named an Honor Board – meaning that all seven members are certified through the Michigan Association of School Boards. Our Board has received this high distinction for several years in a row. This is indicative of their willingness to go far above and beyond in their own professional learning and development as Board members.

Beyond being certified, our board members have continued their education and training through the MABP to achieve the following designations, based on the level of course work they have completed:

- Board President Karen Bradford and Trustee Tammy Bonifield have achieved the level of Master Board Member.
- Board Vice President Mark Johnson and Board Trustee Colleen Burton have achieved the level of Master Diamond Board Member status, while Board Trustee Crystal Frank has earned the Award of Merit; and Secretary Madeline Acosta and Trustee Liz Jarvis have earned the Award of Distinction. Mrs. Jarvis also earned the Data Skills Specialty Award.

The result of their dedication to continuing these certification levels is school district oversight which focuses on strong fiscal stewardship, high expectations for student achievement and a deep commitment to the safety and well being of our students and staff.

We would like to thank each of our Board members for their truly dedicated volunteer service to our students, staff, and the community!
MORE THAN 1,000 STUDENTS MADE A DIFFERENCE!

There’s nothing quite like seeing young students reach into their big hearts to help others in need.

The annual Livonia PTSA Council’s Youth Making a Difference program enables hundreds of LPS students to do just that! This year, more than 1,000 students, on their own time, committed to a project that would help others -- whether it was raising funds for a local charity, making soft blankets for children who are in the hospital, or simply creating homemade greeting cards for local senior citizens. All of the projects were amazing and impactful throughout our community!

A big Thank You to the PTSA Council, for keeping this tradition alive and well in Livonia Public Schools!
2023-2024 FOUNDATION CORPORATE DONORS

- Alpha USA
- Bartos Distributing
- Bill Brown Ford, Inc.
- Blue Line Investigations
- Chase Fidelity Holdings/John Rogin Buck — Livonia, Inc.
- Clark Hill PLC
- Community Financial Credit Union
- Community Choice Credit Union
- Debbie Felton’s Academy of Dance
- DFCU Financial
- Feldman Chevrolet of Livonia
- Financial & Portfolio Advisors
- Feldman Financial Advisors
- Flagstar Bank
- Foresite Designs, Inc.
- French Associates
- Henry Ford Health Systems
- Interior Environments
- Lake Michigan Credit Union
- Lanny’s Foodland
- Livonia-Westland Chamber of Commerce
- Livonia Rotary Charitable Foundation
- LPS Employees and Retirees
- LPS PTAs/PTSAs
- Lutz Roofing Co. Inc.
- MacFarland and Co. Home Sales
- MacFarland Painting
- McGlinch & Sons
- Miller Johnson
- NTH Consultants
- Perfexion Ventures
- Plante Moran Reapoint
- Robin M. Percovich, PC
- Roofing Technology Associates
- Rotary Club of Livonia – AM
- Roush Industries
- Scherz Insurance Group
- Selling Associates
- Simone Companies
- TMP Architecture
- True Community Credit Union
- Unified Building Systems Engineering, LLC
- UPS Store #3011
- Urgent Care 365

The mission of the LPS Education Foundation is to enlarge the resources available to the school district, which will foster and expand educational opportunities for programs impacting students by building effective collaborations.

STAR AWARDS!
A great fundraising idea has quickly become a new tradition in Livonia Public Schools! The Star Awards program allows anyone to make a $25 donation to issue a custom-made Star Award to someone who they appreciate at their school or office. The certificates are personally delivered by Foundation members, and photos are circulated on social media for all to see and share in the appreciation!

It has been so much fun, watching the excitement and feeling the joy that a Star Award can bring to brighten someone’s day! The best part? All proceeds go toward the Foundation’s Grant Program, so funds go directly to enhance learning in LPS!

www.livoniapublicschools.org

2ND ANNUAL GOLF OUTING
Saturday, July 13
Fox Creek, Livonia
SPOTS FILLING FAST — REGISTER NOW!

Scan for info & reg form

How to Volunteer with LPS Education Foundation

We’d love to have you join our team of wonderful volunteers! Please scan QR code or use link below to fill out this short form. https://bit.ly/LPSFVolunteer

BUY OR LEASE A VEHICLE AND $200 WILL BE DONATED TO THE LPS EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Bill Brown Ford 734-621-7000
Feldman Chevrolet of Livonia 734-423-0500

Bring this coupon to Bill Brown Ford or Feldman Chevrolet of Livonia when purchasing or leasing a new or used vehicle. Does not include prior sales. Driver must be present at time of purchase.

For more information, call the LPS Education Foundation at 734-744-2010
We have a spot for you!

JOIN OUR LPS TEAM!

LPS has openings for multiple positions, including:

- Childcare
- Transportation
- Food Service
- Skilled Trades (Plumber, Electrician)
- And more!

Apply online via the QR code:

WWW.LIVONIAPUBLICSCHOOLS.ORG