



Superintendent

# Know Your Schools

Important Information for the Residents of Lower Dauphin School District

## Robert K. Schultz, Ed.D. *Message*

Lower Dauphin has long taken safety and security very seriously. It is our belief that a student cannot learn in the classroom if they don't feel safe in their surroundings.

I can assure you that we continue to work toward maintaining a safe and secure school environment. It's important that these efforts tap into the expertise of state, county and local emergency officials. We are blessed to have strong relationships with these emergency partners and truly appreciate their willingness to share their expertise with us. These relationships are part of why Lower Dauphin is so special. Our entire community comes together to help us keep our schools safe and secure for the benefit of our students.

You can get involved too. With the winter season rapidly approaching, we will invite the community to our schools to concerts and sporting events. Believe me, your attendance at school events is noticed by our students and they appreciate your support.

Sincerely,

Robert K. Schultz, Ed.D.  
Superintendent

*Inside  
This Issue*



## School Safety continues to be a priority

During the district's October 5 in-service day, all staff were trained in the procedures for dealing with a violent intruder in a school building. Over the summer the district adopted the federal Department of Homeland Security's procedures of "Run, Hide, Fight" to deal with an intruder. The change was communicated to staff before the start of the school year and students were made aware of the changes at the start of school.

"The district felt it was important to change our procedures because, sadly, this is something our students will need to know beyond graduation," said Superintendent Robert Schultz. "It would be a disservice to teach them one set of procedures and then have them attend college or enter the workplace where the 'Run, Hide, Fight' language is used."

In addition to the training being mandatory for all Lower Dauphin staff, the district provided the opportunity for cafeteria workers, other contracted service providers and substitutes to attend. After the classroom portion of the day was complete, staff returned to their buildings.

Working in partnership with Hummelstown Police, the district then held spontaneous and unannounced drills in all school buildings for staff. An officer simulated being the intruder and fired blank rounds inside the building so staff could hear



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## School Safety: Drills are one way to ensure the safety of LD students

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what gunfire might sound like. Then other officers stormed the building to practice their tactics for neutralizing an armed intruder.

“This training was difficult, but it was very well-received by our staff,” Dr. Schultz said. “Hearing the sounds of gunfire and shouting in our schools was very unnerving but it gave them a sense of urgency to apply the ‘Run, Hide Fight’ principles based on their situation.”

School safety has long been a priority in Lower Dauphin. The district has an extensive all-hazards plan which incorporates principles of preparedness, prevention/mitigation, response and recovery. From that plan, the district developed action plans for classroom teachers to implement in the event of an emergency.

At the start of every school year, the district administration and staff review these action plans to ensure everyone knows how to evacuate the building if a fire alarm sounds, if there is an intruder in the building, if there is severe weather or a host of other emergency situations.

The district’s safe schools planning doesn’t occur in isolation. As with the live drill in October, the district relies on partnerships with police, fire and emergency medical services and emergency management professionals. For example, in 2017, LD administrators met with various emergency responders to conduct assessments of the district’s buildings.

Based on recommendations from those assessments, the district has implemented a visitor registration system which scans driver’s licenses and prints a visitor badge for guests to LD schools. Exterior doors at the high school have alarms and only



four doors are accessible for students to enter/exit during the day. All other schools in the district have alarmed exterior doors and one point of entry during the school day.

The district received grant funding from Dauphin County last year to implement the visitor registration system. This year LD received funding from the county to purchase a radio which will allow district personnel to communicate directly with emergency responders in the event of an incident.

Lower Dauphin also received \$25,000 in state funds under the Act 44 School Safety and Security Grant Program to purchase surveillance cameras for the high school. At press time, the district’s request for an additional \$32,000 in state funds for more emergency radios and ladders to help with emergency exits from second story classrooms was still being reviewed.

The district also has a committee of staff members to discuss safe school topics and anyone with questions about school safety can contact Jim Hazen, district school safety and security coordinator, at 717-566-5307.

## Automated External Defibrillator notice to LD residents

Lower Dauphin School District is required to provide notice that Automated External Defibrillators are available in every building within the district.

At the high school, there is an AED located near the gymnasium. The AED is also located near the gymnasium at Lower Dauphin Middle School. In the district’s elementary schools, the AED is located inside the gym at each school building except Nye Elementary School where it is located between the cafeteria and the gym. At the Price School it is located in the transportation office. At the district administrative office, the AED

is located in the hall outside the board meeting room. There is also an AED at the fieldhouse at the Falcon Fields Sports Complex on the wall beside the locker rooms. In the winter, that AED is moved into the multipurpose room.

In addition to the AEDs at each building, the athletic trainers have an AED on the sidelines of athletic contests. The district also sends an AED along with students to Camp Hebron during Lower Dauphin’s outdoor education program.

The AED is used to treat victims experiencing sudden cardiac arrest, a condition that occurs when the electrical

impulses of the heart malfunction causing a disturbance in the heart’s electrical rhythm called ventricular fibrillation. This erratic and ineffective electrical heart rhythm causes complete cessation of the heart’s normal function, resulting in sudden death.

The most effective treatment for this is to administer an electrical current to the heart by a defibrillator. The AED analyzes the heart rhythm and determines if a shockable rhythm is detected. The AED determines the appropriate energy level and then advises the operator to deliver a shock.

Lower Dauphin has had AEDs in service since 2003.



*Lower Dauphin celebrated Homecoming with football, the crowning of the Queen and her court and the alumni cheerleaders.*



## King, Queen crowned during LDHS Homecoming activities

On Friday, October 26, Avery Krot was crowned Homecoming Queen at halftime of Lower Dauphin's football game against Mechanicsburg. The next night at the dance at the high school, Ryan Kutz was crowned Homecoming King.

Avery is the daughter of Megan and Harry Krot. She is editor of the yearbook and captain of the cheerleading team. She is a member of the National English Honor Society,

Science National Honor Society, and National Honor Society. She participates in LD Communities That Care's Study Buddies program and is a volunteer with Special Olympics and TOPS Soccer. She plans to attend the University of Pittsburgh and major in neuroscience. Joining her on the Homecoming Court were Grace Day, Ashleigh Kenney, McKenna Lennox and Maria Prymak.

Ryan is the son of Eric and Meg Kutz.

He is a varsity member of the football team where he plays quarterback and the baseball team where he is a pitcher and first baseman. He is an executive director for Mini-THON and is a member of Best Buddies. He also participates in TOPS soccer and is a volunteer with Special Olympics. He plans to attend Davidson College to major in biology and play baseball. His fellow Court members included Miles Book, Luke Hedrick, Wulfgar Ramsey and Jake Snyder.

## *Bus Drivers Needed!*

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## Juniors at high school plan a year of service, leadership

A team of 32 high school juniors will participate in the third Chick Fil-A Leader Academy this school year.

The leadership program, sponsored by the restaurant chain, seeks to develop leadership traits in students participating in the monthly lessons. In addition to these lessons on topics like teamwork, innovation, communication and servant leadership, the students plan service projects in the community and a large impact project for the spring.

In the first two years of the program, students planned and hosted a picnic for veterans and first-responders and a field day for students in life skills classrooms in the school district. They also visited nursing homes and painted the gymnasium at the high school.

Participating in this year's program are Morgan Chiara, Ryan Klingensmith, Mitchell Kleman, Ethan Westerberg, Phillip Peters, Brandelynn Heinbaugh, Janessa Swartz, Clayton Ulrey, Sienna Pegram, Ainsley Yatsko, Elijah Durantine, Drew Rhodes, Alexandra Sierer, Anna Given, Ashleigh Cake, Emily Ball, Madison Karcesky, Morgan Mosco, Olivia Sharrow, Rebecca



*Thirty-two high school juniors are participating in a leadership academy.*

Yeager, Kira Wertz, Isabelle Johnson, Claudia Rutledge, Eva Pumo, Eva Stoessel, Juliana Bramley, Caroline Mehl, Rachel Walker, Sofia Pendolino, Mauricette Musser, Kaleigh Kindall, and Kevin Perales.

The students plan to fill Christmas stockings and provide a meal at the Ronald McDonald House in Hershey. They are still discussing ideas for their community impact project.



## Orsini brothers recognized by LD Alumni Association

On Saturday, October 13, the Lower Dauphin Alumni Association honored the four Orsini brothers as the distinguished alumni of 2018. The brothers, Michael (Class of 1970), Thomas (Class of 1972), Steven (Class of 1974) and Ronald (Class of 1982) distinguished themselves in the halls of Lower Dauphin and beyond.

Dr. Michael Orsini played football at Penn State and played in three bowl games for the Nittany Lions. He then graduated from the Penn State College of Medicine and specializes in allergy and immunology.

Thomas Orsini earned a degree in journalism and public relations from Temple University where he lettered in football for three seasons. He is president and chief executive officer of Lake Taylor Transitional Care Hospital in Virginia.

Steven Orsini set a school rushing record of 1,410 yards on 234 carries in a single season and ended his Lower Dauphin career

with 1,712 yards. He went on to play football and serve as a captain at Notre Dame. He served in several sports management positions, including the Dallas Cowboys, the Naval Academy, University of Central Florida and Southern Methodist University. He is now employed as vice president and chief financial officer for Bays Exploration in Oklahoma.

Ronald Orsini was valedictorian and class president at Lower Dauphin, captaining the football and track teams and starring in the musical. He attended the University of Pennsylvania and earned his masters from the Wharton School. He is a managing director with Alvarez and Marsal, where he serves as leader of the firm's corporate transformation and strategy practices.

In addition to recognizing the brothers, the LDAA honored the 50th anniversary of the 1968 championship baseball team, of which Michael was a part. That Falcon baseball squad had two players selected in the Major League Baseball draft and another three were Division I football players.

# MASS BAND & NIGHT 2018



Lower Dauphin students in grades 5-12 participated in the district's annual Mass Band Night at Hersheypark Stadium on October 5. The combined fifth-grade bands performed followed by the combined middle school and high school bands. After the event, the Big Blue Band from Falconland performed selections from their halftime show, "Spartacus."



*A multi-disciplinary team of teachers created a greenhouse project with students at the high school to emphasize STEAM principles.*

## High school's greenhouse showcases project-based learning

Lower Dauphin High School teachers from five different disciplines combined to create a project-based learning activity with a STEAM focus. STEAM stands for science, technology, engineering, art, and math. For the high school project last year, science, art, math, technology education and family & consumer science teachers used their expertise to create a learning environment for their students.

Each teacher participating took a part of the building process and utilized it in their classroom. In math, students designed a layout figuring the volume and area needed to grow the plants to their specifications. Science students completed soil testing and worked with different properties to see which seeds grew best. Technology education students built the tables and the greenhouse structure. Students in art made field guides and took photos to document the experience and the growth of the plants. Family & consumer science students created the list of plants that could be used in their kitchens to create dishes made with the ingredients the students grew.

"We believe that utilizing cross-curricular projects will allow students to see more 'real-world' applications of the content," said science teacher Rebecca Cassel. "Outside of school, different projects and tasks involve combining what you've learned in multiple content areas at once. If we can give students that type of experience in school with teachers from the different content areas as support, we hope that students will be more prepared after school."

"We have some fine tuning, but I think this is a great project!" said art teacher Dana Attivo. "I love the way that teachers and students used their talents and specialties to make this happen."

Moving forward, the teachers plan to involve students more in all aspects of the project from planning through execution of the activity. The project was funded with a \$1,800 grant from the Lower Dauphin Falcon Foundation. Eight high school teachers who contributed their expertise to make the collaborative project an interactive learning experience for more than 400 students.

**Web** <http://www.ldsd.org>

Your first source for school closings and school news



# Lower Dauphin welcomes new staff members

**John Achille Jr.**

***Math  
High School***



Mr. Achille earned his bachelor's degree from Millersville University and he has served as a boys' varsity assistant basketball coach at Ephrata High School. He says he hopes to "make math more enjoyable and get involved in extracurricular activities at some point."

**Stephanie Balak**

***Learning Support  
South Hanover***



Mrs. Balak was recently a long-term substitute for Lower Dauphin and has also worked as a long-term substitute in three school districts. She earned her bachelor's degree in elementary and special education from Millersville University. She says she hopes to "continue to build positive relationships with the students and parents I am working with."

**Amanda Bessette**

***Grade 5  
East Hanover***



Miss Bessette is a long-term substitute in fifth grade and has served as a substitute teacher before joining Lower Dauphin's staff. She earned her bachelor's degree from Messiah College in elementary education with a math concentration. She says she hopes that her students can see that "math can be fun."

**Johnathon Breininger**

***Assistant Principal  
Middle School***



Prior to being hired as assistant principal, Mr. Breininger worked at Conewago Elementary School as an emotional support teacher for seven years. He also taught in the Harrisburg School District before coming to Lower Dauphin. He earned his bachelor's degree from Slippery Rock University and his master's degree from Cabrini College.

**Jacqueline DeWitt**

***Autism Support  
High School***



Mrs. Dewitt comes to Lower Dauphin after working as a lead special education teacher for five years at a private school. She holds a bachelor's and master's degree from California University of Pennsylvania. She says she hopes to "create a positive learning environment and create a love of learning."

**Katie Garver**

***Health/Physical Ed.  
Londonderry/Nye***



Mrs. Garver will serve as a long-term substitute and was a long-term substitute at East Hanover Elementary last year. She was a health and physical education teacher in the Susquenita High School for seven years. A Lower Dauphin graduate, she holds a bachelor's degree from Ursinus College and a master's degree from Penn State University.

**Kristin Gibbs**

***Autistic Support  
Middle School***



Mrs. Gibbs is a long-time substitute for Lower Dauphin. She also served as a teacher in the Lebanon-Lancaster Intermediate Unit and in Fredericksburg, Va. She holds a bachelor's degree from Cairn University. As an intensive autistic support teacher, she said she hopes to "instill a love of learning in my students."

**Garrett Harner**

***Kindergarten  
Nye***



Mr. Harner is a Lower Dauphin graduate and earned his bachelor's degree from Penn State in elementary education. Last year, he served as a long-term substitute in kindergarten at South Hanover. He says he hopes to "impact the lives of my students and give them a similar experience to what I had when I was a student at LD."

**Kristian Haver**

***Grade 2  
Londonderry***



Mrs. Haver has served as a long-term substitute and day-to-day substitute for Lower Dauphin. She earned her bachelor's degree from Penn State and her master's degree from Concordia University. She says she hopes to "continue building strong relationships with students and staff and integrate new methods of learning with current methods."

**Justine Hilbert**

***Learning Support  
Nye***



Miss Hilbert is a Lower Dauphin graduate and earned her bachelor's degree from Millersville University. Last year, she was a long-term substitute at Nye Elementary School. She says she hopes to "help my students grow academically, socially and emotionally, through a positive learning environment."

**Jason Irvin**

***Music  
Nye***



Mr. Irvin joins the staff full-time after serving last year in the same position as a long-term substitute. Prior to coming to Lower Dauphin, he was an elementary music teacher in the West Shore School District for six years. He earned his bachelor's degree in music education from West Chester University.

**Amy James**

***Grade 3  
East Hanover***



Mrs. James returns as a long-term substitute at East Hanover Elementary, having taught fourth-grade last year. She earned her bachelor's degree in education with a behavioral management concentration from Elizabethtown College. She says she hopes "that my students will become excited about learning and follow their dreams."

**Morgan King**

***English  
High School***



Miss King returns to the high school as a long-term substitute in English again this year and she also served as a student teacher at the high school. She earned her bachelor's degree from Elizabethtown College.

**Alyssa Klein**

***French  
High/Middle School***



Mrs. Klein previously taught French and Spanish in the Northern York School District and in two school districts in New York State. She earned her bachelor's degree in French and Spanish from Indiana University and holds a master's degree in foreign language education from New York University.

**Jocelyn Kreiser**

***Speech  
Middle School***



Miss Kreiser is a Lower Dauphin graduate with a bachelor's degree from the University of Pittsburgh and a master's degree from Penn State. She previously served as a speech/language pathologist at Eastern Lancaster County School District. She hopes to "contribute to an awesome community and make a tangible difference in the lives of my students."

**Brenna Longenecker**

***Kindergarten  
Conewago***



Miss Longenecker was a student teacher and a long-term substitute at East Hanover Elementary School and earned her bachelor's degree from Penn State University. She says she hopes "to create an environment for my students where they can share their ideas and are excited to come to school and learn."

**Lauren McClellan**

***Emotional Support  
Conewago***



Ms. McClellan is serving as a long-term substitute in emotional support this year and was previously an emotional support paraeducator in the Lancaster-Lebanon Intermediate Unit. She earned a bachelor's degree from Indiana University of Pennsylvania and her teaching certificate from Millersville University.

**Regan McMinn**

***Learning Support  
Nye***



Miss McMinn earned her bachelor's degree from Millersville University and was a long-term substitute in emotional and learning support in the Derry Township School District. She hopes "to create a positive learning environment for students and become a part of the community."

**Kyleigh Meyers**

***Math  
Middle School***



Miss Meyers served last year as a long-term substitute at Lower Dauphin. Previously, she was a long-term substitute in the Central Bucks School District. She earned her bachelor's degree from York College.

**Megan Moffa**

***Learning Support  
High School***



Miss Moffa comes to Lower Dauphin after teaching fifth grade and special education at Lancaster County Christian School. She was also a long-term substitute at Lampeter-Strasburg High School. She has a bachelor's degree in special education from Millersville University.

**Bryan Pyle**

***Grade 3  
Conewago***



Mr. Pyle was a long-term substitute in third grade at Conewago Elementary last year. He earned his bachelor's degree from Juniata College. He says he hopes to "create a positive learning environment for my students."

**Jennifer Sayre**

***Learning Support  
South Hanover***



Miss Sayre earned her bachelor's degree in early childhood and special education from Messiah College. She was previously a resident assistant and a camp counselor at Aaron's Acres. She says she hopes to "enrich the lives of children through a nurturing and caring environment."

**April Scott**

***Special Ed. Coach  
District-wide***



Miss Scott comes to Lower Dauphin after serving for six years as a learning support and emotional support teacher at the secondary level for East Pennsboro School District. She earned a bachelor's degree in business administration and a master of education degree from Temple University along with her teaching certifications.

**Jaclyn Shoff**

***Learning Support  
Middle School***



Mrs. Shoff previously worked as a long-term substitute in the Millcreek Township School District in sixth-grade and in eighth-grade learning support and in gifted support. She earned her bachelor's degree from Millersville University. She says she hopes to "create a welcoming classroom environment that will cultivate a love for learning."

**Heather Smolnik**

***Learning Support  
Middle School***



Miss Smolnik was a middle school learning support, emotional support and autistic support teacher in the Muhlenberg School District for 11 years and at Susquehanna Township School District last year. She earned her bachelor's degree from Alvernia University and a master's from Wilkes University.

**Annalei Taylor**

***Grade 3  
Conewago***



Mrs. Taylor was a long-term substitute at Conewago Elementary School in third grade last year. She earned her bachelor's degree from Kutztown University and also previously worked as a preschool teacher at St. Joan of Arc. She says she hopes "to guide my students toward discovering their gifts and creating their own future story."





*Fire companies visited all five Lower Dauphin elementary schools during fire prevention month in October.*

## Fire companies share lessons with elementary students

The fire companies which serve Lower Dauphin's schools visited elementary schools in October as part of Fire Prevention Month.

The theme for the month was "Look. Listen. Learn. Be aware. Fire can happen anywhere." During their presentations, the firefighters talked about three basic but essential steps to take to reduce the likelihood of having a fire—and how to escape safely in the

event of one:

**LOOK** - Look for places fire could start. Take a good look around your home. Identify potential fire hazards and take care of them.

**LISTEN** - Listen for the sound of the smoke alarm. You could have only minutes to escape safely once the smoke alarm sounds. Go to your outside meeting place, which should be a safe

distance from the home and where everyone should know to meet.

**LEARN** - Learn two ways out of every room and make sure all doors and windows leading outside open easily and are free of clutter.

In addition, the volunteer firefighters demonstrated how they get dressed to fight fires and showed some of their engines and equipment.

## 'Buddy Benches' will make recess more inclusive at Londonderry



*The Bartholomew family unveils the "buddy bench" at an all-school assembly.*

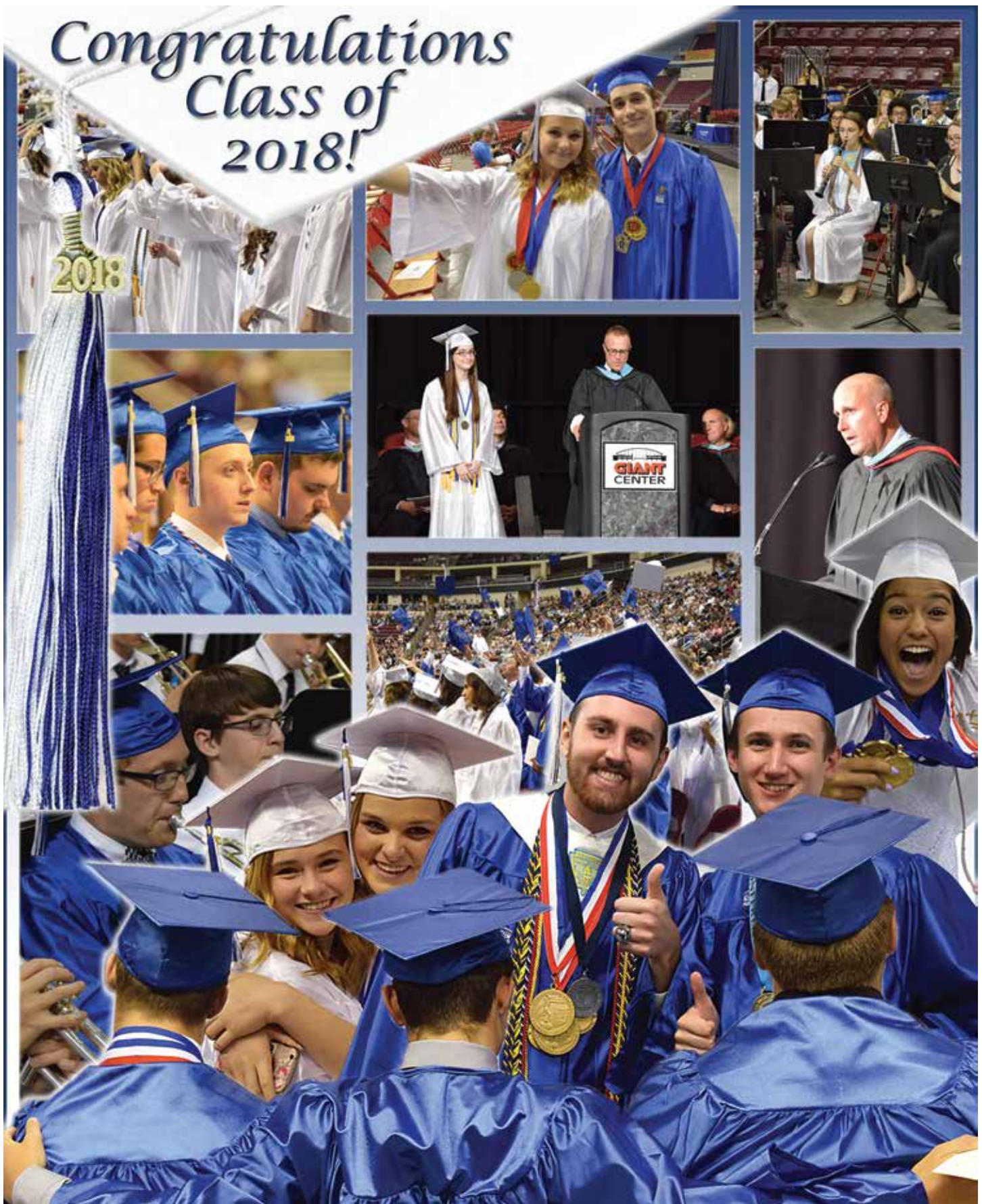
A shy fourth-grader at Londonderry Elementary School looks around the playground and sees that everyone is playing and having fun at recess. He'd really like to play soccer but the other kids don't want to. So he sits on a bench on the playground to have a friend come over and come up with a plan to do something fun together.

Now, thanks to a generous donation from the Bartholomew family in honor of their mother, Ruth, these "buddy benches" are on the playground at Londonderry Elementary School.

Londonderry Elementary School recently installed two "Buddy Benches" which provide a way for everyone to have fun at recess with their classmates. The Bartholomews lived across from the school and Mrs. Ruth Bartholomew worked at the school for 36 years until her retirement at 84. Her son, Tim, taught at Nye Elementary School for 33 years.

"The buddy bench is a simple idea to foster friendship and communication on the playground," said Lauren Gearhart, school counselor. "Whenever someone is sitting on the bench, others will come to play with them."

Once the benches were installed, all students were taught how to use them. Simple rules like "if you're sitting on the bench, play with the first classmate who invites you" and "keep playing with your new friend."



*The Lower Dauphin High School Class of 2018 included more than 300 members, of which 80 received community- or school-based scholarships to continue their education. Abigail Mauger was class valedictorian and Emily Scholfield was class salutatorian.*

**Know Your Schools** is published four times a year for the residents of Lower Dauphin School District.

|                                |                      |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| District Office                | 566-5300             |
| High School                    | 566-5330             |
| Middle School                  | 566-5310             |
| Conewago Elementary School     | 367-7233             |
| East Hanover Elementary School | 469-2686             |
| Londonderry Elementary School  | 944-9462             |
| Nye Elementary School          | 566-0300             |
| South Hanover Elementary       | 566-2564             |
| Informaline:                   | 566-5320 or 944-1668 |

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#### **Nondiscrimination Policy:**

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# Lower Dauphin School District

## *Calendar of Upcoming Events*

| DECEMBER |    |    |    |    |    |    | JANUARY |    |    |    |    |    |    | FEBRUARY |    |    |    |    |    |    | MARCH |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|---------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|-------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|          |    |    |    |    |    | 1  |         |    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  |          |    |    |    |    | 1  | 2  |       |    |    |    |    | 1  | 2  |
| 2        | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 6       | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 3        | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 3     | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  |
| 9        | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 13      | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 10       | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 10    | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 16       | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 20      | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 17       | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 17    | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 23       | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 27      | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |    | 24       | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |    |    | 24    | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 30       | 31 |    |    |    |    |    |         |    |    |    |    |    |    |          |    |    |    |    |    |    | 31    |    |    |    |    |    |    |

**24-31** Schools Closed

**1** Schools & Offices Closed

**15** Schools Closed - 1st Snow Make-up Day

**7** End of 2nd Trimester (Elementary)

**18** ½ Day for Students

**18** In-service Day

**18** In-service Day

**21** In-service Day

**29** End of 3rd Marking Period (MS/HS)

**22** End of 2nd Marking Period (MS/HS)