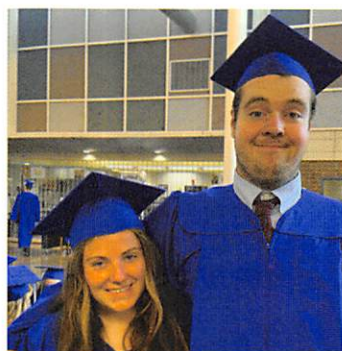


# FOCUS ON EDUCATION



Quarterly newsletter of Lyme-Old Lyme Schools  
*A private school experience in a public school setting*

Summer 2024



## Message from the Superintendent & Chair

Dear Members of the Lyme-Old Lyme Communities,

As we bring this school year to a close, we wish to thank the community for their ongoing support of our schools. This summer we continue to move forward with the planned expansion of Mile Creek School and the installation and updating of HVAC systems at Center School, Lyme School, Mile Creek School, and LOL Middle School.

Enjoy your summer and we look forward to welcoming back our students and staff in August.

Ian Neviaser  
*Superintendent of Schools*

Jason Kemp  
*Chair, Board of Education*

The latest updates on the expansion of Mile Creek School and HVAC updates can be found by visiting [www.region.18.org](http://www.region.18.org). Navigate to the "Board of Education" page and click on the "PK-8 Facilities Project" tab.

## Board of Education Meetings

Please join the Board of Education for the following meetings:

**August 7**, Regular BOE Meeting, 6:30 PM

**September 4**, Regular BOE Meeting, 6:30 PM

**October 2**, Regular BOE Meeting, 6:30 PM

**November 6**, Regular BOE Meeting, 6:30 PM

Meetings are held in the Board of Education Conference Room at Center School, 49 Lyme Street, Old Lyme. Agendas, links to live-streams of meetings, and links to recordings of previous meetings are available at [www.region18.org](http://www.region18.org) under the "District Information" tab.



*Please join us in recognizing the following retirees for their many years of service to the communities of Lyme and Old Lyme:*

**Michael Dauphinais**, Speech and Language Pathologist at LOLMS and LOLHS, 25 years

**Paula Gaudet**, Science Teacher at LOLMS, 24 years

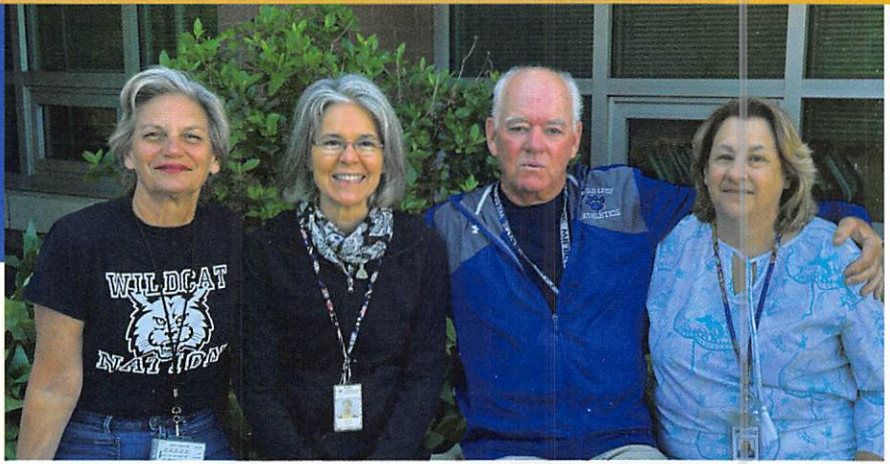
**Jackie Grady**, Family and Consumer Science Teacher at LOLMS, 39 years

**Glynis Houde**, Counseling Department Secretary at LOLHS, 18 years

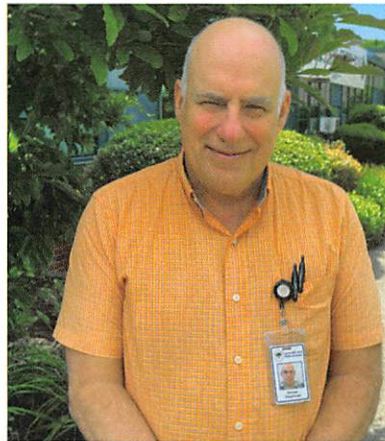
**Sue Isaacson**, Library Aide at LOLMS and LOLHS, 22 years

**Leslie O'Connor**, Special Education Teacher at LOLHS, 25 years

**Billy Rayder**, Physical Education and Health Teacher at LOLHS, 49 years



Leslie O'Connor, Glynis Houde, Billy Rayder and Sue Isaacson



Michael Dauphinais



Jackie Grady and Paula Gaudet

## Sean Kennedy Named Assistant Principal of Mile Creek Elementary School



We are happy to announce the hiring of Sean Kennedy to fill the newly-created, part-time assistant principal position at Mile Creek Elementary School. Kennedy, a resident of Niantic, previously served as the interim athletic director for Branford Public Schools where he was responsible for 37 different programs including the evaluation of 70 coaches. He also served as the elementary summer enrichment co-coordinator and the after-school enrichment coordinator. He has taught health and physical education at both the middle and elementary school levels, the latter of which was a position he held for the past six years.

Kennedy has a Sixth Year Certificate in Educational Leadership from Southern Connecticut State University, a M.S. in Teacher Leadership from Quinnipiac University, and earned his B.S. from Central Connecticut State University.



## Congratulations to this year's top graduates!

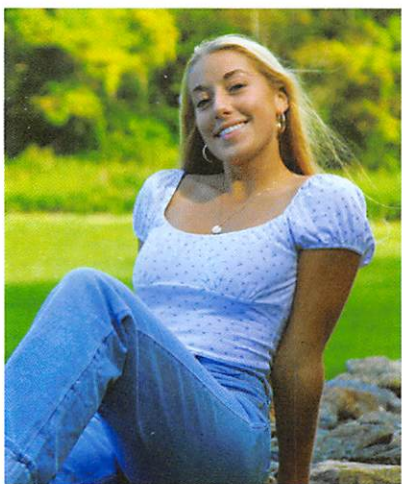


### Agatha Hunt

When valedictorian Agatha Hunt reflects on her high school years, she credits her teachers for creating a positive environment for herself and her classmates. Sports also played an important role in her high school experience. Says Hunt, "I don't think that my experience would have been remotely the same if I hadn't always had a practice, game, meet, or match after school with a positive, fun and committed team."

Hunt played soccer and tennis throughout high school, adding indoor track to the mix in her later years. She was a member of the French Club, French Honor Society, Math Team, and National Honor Society.

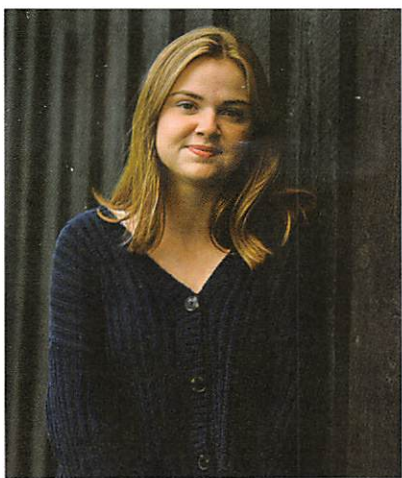
Hunt will be attending McGill University in Montreal this fall. She will be in the Faculty of Arts and is considering majoring in Anthropology and minoring in Social Studies of Medicine. She is excited to get involved with clubs on campus, whether they be athletic, academic, or musical.



### Ella Curtiss-Reardon

Salutatorian Ella Curtiss-Reardon loves both math and English, defying the stereotype that people are only good at one or the other. She credits her AP Literature teacher, Mrs. Burke, with developing her burgeoning interest in literature. Curtiss-Reardon is also a passionate lacrosse player. She began playing at 7-years-old when she was living in Oregon and transitioned easily into the Ticks program upon moving to Old Lyme.

She has been a member of the Student Council since her freshman year, serving as president her senior year. She was a member of the Athletic Leadership Council, National Spanish Honor Society, and National Honor Society. Curtiss-Reardon enjoyed volunteering at many water stations for local road races and at the annual Lions Club pancake breakfast as a member of the Community Service Club. Curtiss-Reardon will attend the Smeal College of Business at Pennsylvania State with plans to major in business administration.



### Delaney Nelson

Mock trial consumed much of Honor Essayist Delaney Nelson's time in high school where she has served as captain for the past two years. The team won the state championship for the second year in a row and attended the national competition in Wilmington, Delaware this year.

Nelson is a member of the National Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society, and served as president of the band where she played flute. An avid horseback rider for thirteen years, Nelson spends several hours a day at the horse barn most days of the week.

Nelson will be attending Georgetown University with plans to major in government and minor in music and Spanish. Nelson wishes to thank her teachers for their understanding and support. "They are what makes this district special" she says.







Lyme-Old Lyme Schools  
49 Lyme Street  
Old Lyme, Connecticut 06371

The Regional School District 18 Board of Education prohibits harassment and discrimination in educational programs, services, or employment on the basis of race, color, religion, ancestry, age, marital status, military or veteran status, national origin, sex, gender identity or expression, genetic information, sexual orientation, or past or present physical or mental disability in accordance with Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Educational Amendments Act of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1991, the ADA Amendments Act of 2008, and appropriate state laws.

## Lyme-Old Lyme Middle School Students Explore Art



Lyme-Old Lyme Middle School students took an afternoon away from the usual academics to celebrate and explore creativity and art. The afternoon kicked off with a special assembly featuring a motivational speaker and artist. Then students chose two sessions from a wide range of artistic topics taught by talented members of our community.

Sessions included acrylic pour painting, ballet, caricature drawing, ceramic hand building, Chinese calligraphy, cookie decorating, origami crafts, creating a musical, digital design, landscape painting, jazz and hip-hop dancing, printmaking, puppetry, Irish dancing, singing, water color painting, story-telling, tap dancing, photography, and sound and guitar. Braiden Sunshine, former contestant on the tv show "The Voice" also spoke to students about his experience.

Thank you to all who helped make this day a success!

