

Long Beach Island Consolidated School District

“Riding the Waves of Excellence”

Superintendent and Principal’s Report, November 2024

November



As we begin the second marking period and break for the Thanksgiving holiday, we express our heartfelt gratitude to all who help make the Long Beach Island Consolidated School District a dynamic place to engage in learning.

All staff and students celebrated the service of our U.S. military veterans, the men and women who served or still serve America in each of our armed services. Their extraordinary accomplishments, their perseverance, character, and discipline are the traits instilled as part of every man and woman within all our U.S. military services. To all of the U.S. military services protecting America.... we say thank you.

Special thanks to our Board of Education members for their dedication and volunteerism to the district. You give your time and talents so all students have opportunities to become lifelong learners.

To our district administrative team, teachers, staff and Parent Teacher Association members who all work together to plan, implement and make certain our students are safe while learning and growing. Thank you! It’s wonderful for everyone to experience the many scheduled activities and events held throughout the school year.

Many thanks to our members of surrounding towns and communities; Mayors, Councils, Fire and Police Departments and Local Organizations who support our schools throughout the year. We appreciate your commitment to our students and school community!

We are especially grateful for our dedicated parents and our creative, energetic, resourceful and kind students. Parents, thank you for entrusting us and being part of this truly special place.

This Thanksgiving is a great time for all of us to reflect on family, friends, and our school community. In the spirit of giving to others, our students have been working to give time, support, and encouragement to their peers through many activities here at the Long Beach Island School District.

Many thanks,

Dr. Peter Kopack

Veterans Day 2024

During Social Studies/Tech classes our 5th & 6th graders completed several activities & assignments related to Veterans Day. Once again, our students participated in the Manahawkin Elks Lodge Essay Contest. This year's theme is "What Does Patriotism Mean to Me?" We also collaborated with the local LBI VFW Post 3729 to create greetings that will be included in the soldiers holiday gift bags. All of the LBI School staff & students were invited to contribute to a hallway display honoring veterans who were friends or family members.

Our culminating event took place on Thursday, November 14th with a Veterans Day Celebration honoring retired Capt. Karter Larson. Capt. Larson is a former U.S. Air Force specialist and also a graduate of the LBI Grade School. During the assembly, three sixth grade moderators asked Capt. Larson several questions about his military career as well as what the LBI School was like when he was a student. Several students also read their Patriotism essay which will be entered into the Elks contest.

Thanks to Mr. Cotov, the event included two musical selections & a performance from the LBI Ukulele Band.



Veterans Day Celebration at the LBI Grade School. Special thanks to all our Veterans, and to Captain Karter Larson for being our special guest.



Parent Teacher Association

We would like to thank our PTA for their continued support. Thank you to all of the parents and teachers for their time and effort especially at the PTA Book Fair...many thanks to all for a job well done! We are looking forward to the many learning activities planned. If you haven't already done so, please make sure to sign up to become a member of the PTA.

Spirit Wear is on sale with an order deadline of **November 25**.

Going on sale soon: **FUN DAY** passes to **Thundering Surf Water Park** and **Settlers Mill Adventure Golf**.

Holiday Market: December 9-12 at EJ and LBI Schools.

The next PTA meeting is **Thursday, December 12th at 4 p.m. in the LBI Media Center**. All are invited to attend.



Happy Halloween from the EJ and LBI Staff!



The LBI School District collected socks for the Kiwanis of LBI Socktober Happy Feet Campaign. The socks were presented to the Kiwanis Club at an assembly on October 31st, and they presented our school district with a Certificate of Appreciation. This is the 9th year that we have participated in the Happy Feet Campaign.



Happy Feet Sock Donation presentation. Thank you to all for your donations!



Our sixth grade students have been figuring out the relationship between work, force, energy and power through classroom investigations involving human power as well as studies of ancient engineering and simple machines. In addition, students have been designing solutions to create a wind powered device that can lift weight in a short amount of time.

Our fifth grade students finished their Wonder Day research projects and started presenting their final products to their peers. In addition, students began investigating Earth's Systems and their interactions. In the upcoming weeks, through investigations of various systems on Earth, students will be constructing models, conducting investigations and collecting data to explain how the systems are connected.

Our fourth grade students have been investigating human body systems. We began the unit by planning and conducting an investigation to determine what systems interact during exercise. Specifically, students collaborated to measure and record their own heart rates and observed breathing rates before and after exercise. Then they compared their rates with a partner and explained how the systems interact with each other.



Music with Mr. Cotov

Our music students are doing great musical things this holiday season. The entire LBI Grade School sang "We Love Our Veterans" as select students played ukuleles and clarinets. Our band members are getting ready for our Holiday Concert in December. Chorus is also getting ready to perform at Hotel LBI on December 5th. All the while, EJ students are getting ready to send "Season's Greetings" in a holiday play next month.

HEALTH / PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Students at the LBI Grade School have completed Team Handball and Soccer in the 1st MP. Students will now begin the skills and tactics of Basketball to begin the 2nd MP.

Health office/ program presentations:

Presentation on Nutrition November 18, 2024

Atlanticare "Chefs in the Classroom" November 26th. Demo of Edamame Salad

Atlanticare presentation-Help vs. Harm: Technology and Your Wellbeing

PRE-K NOVEMBER 2024

This month, we will be learning about Space. We will learn about all of the other planets. We will talk about what we see in the sky during the day and night. We will explore astronauts and what their jobs are. Our dramatic play area will be a Space Area where we can pretend to be an astronaut, explore space, and control a rocketship. Before we can play in the dramatic play area, we will do an Astronaut Training Course where we will do gross motor activities. Every student will receive a certificate, ID badge, and boarding pass.



We are doing a lot of fine motor activities to help build our finger muscles for our handwriting. We use clothespins and tweezers to pick up items. We are stringing beads on a string and putting rubber bands on things. For our literacy lessons, we are learning the letters (J, K, P, U, B, and R) In math, we are learning about the numbers 1-10. We will learn how to make ten frames and tally marks.

Kindergarten Crew November Happenings

It's hard to believe that it is November already. After recharging during Fall Break, we are ready to take on the rest of this month. In Word Work and Reading, we will continue to learn new sight words and work on learning letters and their sounds to build words. It is so exciting to put all of our knowledge into our writing! In math, we will continue to work on counting to 10 and begin to use numbers to count and classify data. In social studies, we will be learning about Native Americans, Pilgrims and the first Thanksgiving. We will be creating crafts to coincide with the holiday as we learn about Native American and Pilgrim lives. We are excited to complete our third Kindergarten Directed Drawing of a turkey! We are a thankful Crew and will be talking about all of the things we have to be grateful for in our lives!

First Grade

Well, here we are... In the middle of November! Wow! Where is the time going? 2024 is quickly coming to an end. We started out the year with a new seating arrangement and the children have really grown comfortable with our routines and expectations. We are really rocking and rolling in here-literally! In the beginning of the month, we were introduced to blending letters to form new sounds. We started out with -r blends (ex. drip), then we moved onto more complex -r blends (throb), and now we are moving on to other blends to include the letter "l" (ex. flip, slip, blob). We recently had a homework assignment to disguise a turkey. We had students create soccer players, peacocks, football players, shark turkeys, and turkeys hiding in a mailbox. The students are now in the process of creating stories to tell about their turkeys. This is a lengthy process and the children are really enjoying each step involved. We started out describing our turkeys using adjectives, which we then turned into sentences. We are now using a different graphic organizer to help us lay out our thoughts to help us create magnificent beginnings, middles and endings. These writing pieces are turning into beautiful masterpieces!

In Math, we have learned various ways to add and subtract. We are now using these techniques to help us with our subtraction facts to 20. We made cute turkey 10-frames to help us with this!

Our focus in Science has been on space. We are learning that the universe is a vast place which includes our galaxy (The Milky Way) and within our galaxy you can find our solar system. We are learning that because of the Sun and the Earth we have patterns: day and night and our four seasons. We also learned that it takes the Earth one full day to rotate and a year to orbit the sun. This unit has been a lot of fun! Be on the lookout for our Planet projects! The children are really enjoying themselves.

In Social Studies, we are studying the Pilgrims and the Wampanoags. Here are some of the important things we are learning about:

- Why we celebrate people and events from long ago
- Who the Pilgrims were and how they lived
- Who the Native Americans were, specifically the Wampanoag, and why they are important
- The history of Thanksgiving
- How people celebrate Thanksgiving today

And with Christmas just around the corner, we decided to take the kids around the world. First grade will be "traveling" around the world to various countries to learn what holidays are celebrated and how they are celebrated. We are really having a magnificent time here in first grade. Don't you wish you could fly back in time to be a first grader again...?

SECOND GRADE

Second graders are back from break and ready to take on their work and responsibilities. In Spelling, students are learning about the vowel teams "ee" and "ea." and the rule. "When two vowels go walking, the first one does the talking." In ELA, second graders are reading informational texts about how families work together to meet their needs. Students will learn how to use text features and evidence to identify the central idea and the author's opinion. Students will then go on to write an expository essay, utilizing the writing process to communicate their ideas.

In Math, second graders created pumpkin seed arrays, which are on display this month in the showcase by the Main Office and Library at EJ. Through this activity, students were excited to learn the relationship between repeated addition and multiplication. Now second graders are learning to add two-digit numbers using the traditional vertical addition method. With this strategy, students are learning how and when to regroup. In Science, as second graders continue their matter investigation, they will create apple towers to learn about assembling and disassembling structures.

In Social Studies, students have been learning about how our country declared its independence from England, and the establishment of our U.S. government. Students are learning about the importance of the Constitution and Bill of Rights, which protects the rights and freedoms of all citizens.

THIRD GRADE

In Math, third graders are continuing to master the concept of multiplication and basic multiplication facts. They are finding their favorite strategy using songs and games to help. During Writing, they are applying their "perfect" paragraph skills to write about what they are thankful for. In Science, the students continue to learn about the different types of force and are putting their knowledge into action by creating their versions of the game *Mouse Trap*. In Reading, they have been improving their reading skills by practicing reading and writing about Historical Fiction. In Social Studies, they are learning what it means to immigrate and why people do it.

Fourth Grade

We are thankful for so much this year - and our "Turkey Top Ten" papers let us share our grateful feelings! The projects will be on display in our hallway, and will be sent home in time for the holiday. November is an exciting month for us as we work on multi-digit multiplication and the beginning steps to the division process. In Science, we are learning about Body Systems.

We are continuing our travels across the country, learning the States and Capitals for each region of our great land. We are thankful to be able to use our Chromebooks daily in the classroom, for so many purposes. Students use them each week to develop their vocabulary lists, publish their writing, work on iReady, and complete many other assigned projects through our Google Classrooms.

Finally, we have entered a poetry contest, and all finalists will get the honor of reading their winning entries at the Ship Bottom Tree Lighting Ceremony to be held at the end of this month. What wonderful opportunities we have for our students here at the LBI Grade School!

Fifth Grade

The 5th Graders cannot believe they are almost finished with the first marking period! They have been working hard in all of their subjects. In ELA they are starting their novel study on *Esperanza Rising* (a historical fiction novel by Pam Muñoz). They are starting their narrative writing this month. In Social Studies, they finished the Native American unit and now are going to learn about different explorers. We had a wonderful Veterans Day celebration. We are all very thankful for all we have!

Sixth Grade

The 6th grade students are wrapping up the first marking period and have been working hard to practice time management in preparation for middle school. In ELA, they completed a fictional narrative which included a chase scene inspired by one in our current novel, *Maniac Magee*. We will continue to read and discuss the novel together and use the author as a mentor for our writing in the second marking period.

In Science, the students just finished a unit on the engineering process. They really enjoyed constructing bridges on a budget to gain experience engineering with specific criteria and constraints. Next, the students will explore types of energy transfers and learn to calculate work and power.

GARDEN NEWS

[All Star News Letter - "Cream of the Crop" and "Top Tomato," winner, Maria Rivera](#)