

March - April
2026

What's Inside!

- Early Childhood Team
- Reading Olympics
- Fine Arts Showcase
- PE & Winter Olympics
- MS Makerspace
- Cybersecurity Presentations
- Sting Cancer
- Spring Solo & Ensemble Fest
- Best Buddies



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Superintendent

Jo-Ellen Fairbanks

Principals

Peter Kline,
Primary School

Heather Mleziva,
Intermediate School

Todd Chandler,
Middle School

Tyson Tlachac,
High School

The Spartan Impact

“Gratitude is the healthiest of all human emotions. The more you express gratitude for what you have, the more likely you will have even more to express gratitude for.” — Zig Ziglar

As we head into the home stretch of the school year, there is so much to appreciate and be thankful for across the Luxemburg-Casco School District.

The first week of May is Staff Appreciation Week, and it provides a wonderful opportunity to recognize the incredible people who serve our students each day. I feel truly honored and grateful to work alongside such dedicated and caring professionals. Because of their commitment, our students receive a high-quality education and have access to outstanding opportunities across all of our schools.

On behalf of our students, families, and community, thank you to every member of our staff for inspiring minds, challenging students, and striving for excellence every day.

As a parent or community member, there are many meaningful ways to show your appreciation:

- Send a quick email or handwritten note recognizing a staff member’s hard work
- Share positive feedback with school administration about a staff member who has made a difference
- Donate school supplies—items like markers, tissues, and disinfecting wipes are especially helpful this time of year
- Approach questions or concerns with curiosity and partnership, knowing that staff are committed to doing what’s best for all students
- Volunteer for end-of-year events or chaperone a field trip
- Support staff by reinforcing expectations and routines with your child through the last day of school
- Join your school’s PTO
- Brighten someone’s day with coffee, snacks, or a small treat

Together, these simple gestures go a long way in showing appreciation for the people who make a lasting impact on our students each and every day.

Thank you for your continued support of our schools.

Dr. Jo-Ellen Fairbanks, Ph.D.
Superintendent

Primary School News

Early Childhood Team Presents at Statewide Conference

Individuals from our Early Childhood team recently showcased their innovative approach to supporting young learners in rural communities at the statewide Promoting Early Childhood Conference. Their presentation, “Roots at Home: Growing Early Learning in Rural Communities,” highlighted how collaboration and creativity can expand opportunities for families—even in areas with limited community resources.

The team shared with others across the state about their journey of reimagining how services and outreach could be delivered. They discussed how they shifted from traditional screening events to monthly playgroups and storytimes that bring families into a welcoming, play-based environment. These gatherings provide developmental screenings, early literacy experiences, parent education, and connections to community resources while helping young children build social and early learning skills.

In addition, the team also shared how they shifted to home-based evaluations and services, allowing professionals to work with children in their natural environments. This approach strengthens family partnerships and allows educators to better understand each child’s daily routines and needs. The collaboration across disciplines also enables the team to co-plan and co-serve students, ensuring more individualized and responsive support.

The conference was a great way for the Early Childhood team to highlight the amazing work they’ve done to support our youngest learners. If you are interested in joining in on the fun, there are several upcoming events this school year! [LINK](#)

By presenting at the conference, the Luxemburg-Casco team demonstrated innovative leadership and a commitment not only to improving opportunities for their own youngest learners, but also to supporting others working toward the same goal. Through openly sharing their journey, strategies, and lessons learned, they provided a practical example of how rural districts can build meaningful systems of support through collaboration, creativity, and a willingness to meet families where they are. Their work is helping other educators see what is possible—even in communities without traditional early childhood infrastructure—and encouraging them to take similar steps to strengthen outcomes for young learners and their families. They did a fabulous job of representing the innovative spirit of our staff at Luxemburg-Casco.



Primary School News

Reading Olympics

In an effort to foster a love of reading, Luxemburg-Casco Primary School recently hosted its very own Reading Olympics, turning pages into podium finishes and books into gold medals. The schoolwide event coincided with the start of the Milan Cortina 2026 Winter Olympics, bringing the spirit of international competition straight into the classroom.

The concept was simple, engaging, and fun: students were encouraged to read — or have someone read to them — as many books or chapters as possible during a two-week period. Each completed book or set of chapters was recorded on an official reading log, allowing students to track their progress as they raced toward their reading goals.

For every 10 books or chapters read, a classroom earned a gold medal. These medals were proudly displayed on classroom doors and hallway walls, creating a visual celebration of the students' hard work and dedication. As the medals multiplied, so did the excitement throughout the school.

At the conclusion of the Reading Olympics, the top three classes in each grade level with the highest number of celebrations in recognition of their classrooms celebrated with a pizza a special snack party, and third-place celebration. The friendly competition and school pride.



Olympics, the top three classes in each grade level with the highest number of medals were awarded classroom impressive achievements. First-place classrooms received an extra recess party. Second-place classrooms enjoyed an extra recess encouraged teamwork, perseverance,

Students were highly motivated throughout the two-week event. Many eagerly read each night at home, excited to return their completed reading logs and earn another gold medal for their classroom display. The competition between classrooms sparked an enthusiasm for reading that extended beyond the school day.

As the Reading Olympics entered its final days, the number of reading logs being turned in increased dramatically. Students were determined to help their classrooms climb the leaderboard before the final medal count. The buzz of anticipation could be felt in the hallways as classrooms calculated totals and encouraged one another to keep reading.

When the medals were officially counted, the results were remarkable. The top classroom in the entire school was a second-grade class that collected an astounding 132 gold medals. Overall, students earned a total of 1,317 gold medals during the Reading Olympics. That number represents 13,170 books or chapters read and recorded over the two-week event — an incredible accomplishment for the young readers of Luxemburg-Casco Primary School.

Beyond the impressive numbers, the true victory of the Reading Olympics was the joy and excitement students discovered through reading. By connecting the event to the international Olympic spirit, the school created an engaging way to inspire strong reading habits and help students discover new favorite stories. With over 13,000 books and chapters read, one thing is certain: reading truly earned the gold.

Intermediate School News



FINE ARTS SHOWCASE

We are thrilled to invite you to our District-Wide Fine Arts Showcase—a celebration of creativity, talent, and artistic expression from students across our entire school community!

Event Details

Opening Reception & Awards Ceremony

- Date: Tuesday, April 14th
- Time: 5:00–7:00 PM
- Location: High School Lobby
- Visual Arts Awards Presentation: 6:30 PM

Exhibition Dates: April 11–19

Viewing Hours:

- Weekdays: 7:00 AM–6:00 PM
- Weekends: 10:00 AM–2:00 PM

Why You Should Attend

This year's art show represents the incredible work of our students—from paintings and sculptures to digital media and mixed media pieces. It's a wonderful opportunity to:

- Celebrate student achievement and witness the talent flourishing in our schools
- Support the arts and demonstrate to our young artists that their work matters
- Connect with our community and see the creativity that defines our district
- Inspire the next generation by showing students that art is valued and celebrated

Whether you're an art enthusiast, a proud parent, or simply curious about what our students have created, we'd love to see you there!

Warm regards, L-C Art Department



Intermediate School News

PE and the Winter Olympics!

Written by Neil Seering

As a physical education teacher here for over 20 years, it has always been exciting to watch our students connect classroom learning to real-world events, and this winter was no exception. During physical education class, our students in grades 3–6 spent time learning about the Winter Olympics and the incredible dedication of athletes competing on the world stage, including those representing Wisconsin and Team USA. We explored several events in greater detail, including speed skating, biathlon, bobsleigh, and skeleton. Students learned about the skills, training, and perseverance required for these sports, along with the unique rules and strategies involved.

To bring the experience to life, students then had the opportunity to safely practice modified versions of these events during class using the equipment we had available. From using folded gym mats with scooters underneath to simulate bobsleigh runs, to using scooters for skeleton, speed skating on upside-down frisbees, and a biathlon experience that combined resistance ankle bands to mimic cross-country skiing with throwing dodgeballs at pins for target shooting, our gym was filled with energy, teamwork, and enthusiasm.

It was a wonderful way to combine fitness, learning, and Olympic spirit while inspiring our students to dream big and stay active.



Middle School News

Students Get Hands-On with Makerspace in School Library

The Secondary Library at the middle school and high school is expanding beyond books with a new and improved makerspace. The creative learning area, which opened mid year, gives students a place to explore technology, design projects, and collaborate on hands-on learning activities.

The new space reflects the evolving role of school libraries. While the library continues to be a place for reading and research, the makerspace encourages students to experiment, build, and create while developing problem-solving and critical thinking skills.

The makerspace includes a variety of tools and materials for students to use. Depending on the project, students may explore 3D design, robotics, video production, coding activities, craft materials, games, and puzzles. One of the makerspace goals is to connect students' learning and their personal skills and interests. Whether designing with the Cricut, 3D printing a gift, or fitting the final piece of a puzzle, students are using their interests and knowledge to create new and imaginative projects.

Some students work individually on creating digital and hands-on projects, while most collaborate in small groups to learn programs and troubleshoot potential glitches together. Through shared experiences, students benefit from social engagement that encourages teamwork and stronger communication skills.

Students are welcome to use the makerspace during lunches, study halls, and open library hours from 3:00 pm to 5:30 pm.



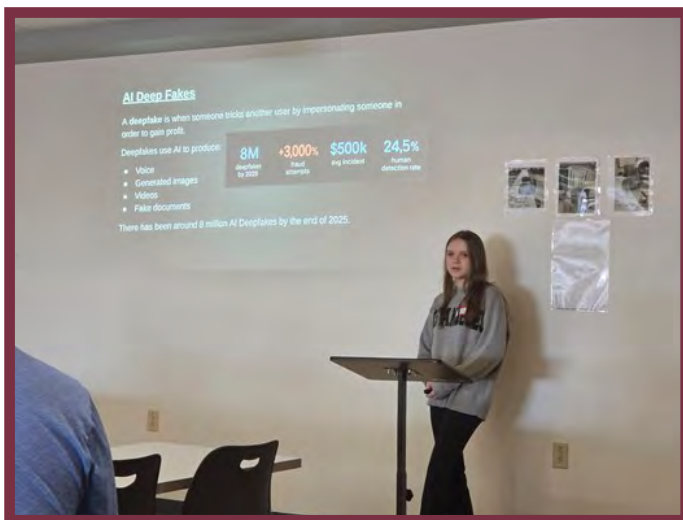
High School News

Intro to Cybersecurity Students Present to Businesses

Written by: Tracy Remschneider

We're proud to share highlights from a community partnership event where our Intro to Cybersecurity students demonstrated real-world learning and professional growth. Students from the Intro to Cybersecurity course worked together to prepare a presentation showcasing cybersecurity incident response planning and testing, risk-awareness practices, AI use in cybersecurity, cloud storage, and vulnerability patch prioritization approaches. Each student created and delivered a portion of the presentation to business representatives from Green Bay Packaging, KI, and Wipfli.

The students learned teamwork and problem-solving as they worked together to create a cohesive and aesthetically pleasing presentation. Presenting to businesses gave students authentic real-world practice communicating technical ideas to a group of people. In addition, they strengthened their soft skills of public speaking, active listening, and professional etiquette during Q&A sessions. The business representatives provided feedback, discussed local workforce needs, and encouraged students to continue improving their soft skills.



Cybersecurity is a rapidly growing, high-demand area in the Information Technology sector as employers across industries actively seek trained professionals to protect data and systems. This experience positions students well for careers and further study. Students who complete the Intro to Cybersecurity course are eligible to earn one college credit through our partner, Northeast Wisconsin Technical College, helping them get a head start on postsecondary credentials while still in high school.

We thank the participating businesses for investing time and expertise, and we applaud our students for representing the district with professionalism and curiosity. Events like this build career pathways, deepen community

ties, and prepare learners for success in technical fields.

If your business is interested in partnering with our programs by hosting presentations, offering feedback, or providing mentorship, please contact Mike Snowberry at msnowberry@luxcasco.k12.wi.us.

High School News

Luxemburg-Casco Sting Cancer Annual Yellow Night Fundraiser Success

On February 6th, Sting Cancer held its annual Yellow Night fundraiser, successfully generating funds through raffle baskets, a "mad minute," a 50/50 raffle, and luminary sales. The proceeds support individuals and families in the Luxemburg-Casco district affected by cancer, aligning with Sting Cancer's mission to provide support and comfort while raising community awareness.

Event Highlights:

- Sting Cancer members opened the event by singing the Star-Spangled Banner.
- Attendees were greeted by 71 illuminated luminaries at the entrance, each honoring or memorializing those impacted by cancer.
- A moment of silence was observed during halftime as the gym lights dimmed and the luminaries glowed, honoring individuals currently battling cancer and remembering those who have passed.
- Cancer basket recipients wore their yellow Sting Cancer shirts to show solidarity.
- Community members, LC staff, and local businesses generously donated 145 raffle baskets, along with two silent auction items from the Green Bay Packers and a special sign crafted by Mr. Hippert and a Sting Cancer member.
- The Casco Lions Club presented Sting Cancer with a generous donation.
- Earlier in January, Scotty's contributed with a generous donation from their Meat Raffle held for Sting Cancer.

An impressive total of \$14,262 was raised to aid community members affected by cancer. The funds are used to provide care packages, including a fleece blanket, a Sting Cancer t-shirt and hat, a comfort chemo bag, and a variety of gift cards for essentials like gas and groceries. In 2025, Sting Cancer provided 31 families in the L-C District with these supportive baskets.



Luxemburg-Casco Sting Cancer extends heartfelt gratitude to the remarkable community members and local businesses who supported the Yellow Night fundraiser. Your kindness and generosity reflect the compassion, strength, and unity of our community, reminding us of our motto: #NoOneFightsAlone.



High School News

WSMA Southern Bay Area Spring Solo & Ensemble Festival

The Luxemburg-Casco High School and Middle School Band and Choir recently participated in the annual WSMA District Solo & Ensemble Festival hosted by Denmark High School. Each year, music students from throughout the region prepare solo and small ensemble pieces to perform for judges, who provide a critique—essentially a mini lesson from a highly skilled professional. This process has long been valued for giving students the opportunity to deepen their study of their instrument or vocal skills. Luxemburg-Casco joined students from Denmark, Algoma, and Kewaunee in participating in the Southern Bay Area Festival.

Students choose from three levels of difficulty: Class A (highest), Class B (intermediate), and Class C (beginner). Performances are evaluated and given ratings from 1 (highest) to 4, or “Critique Only.” Students performing Class A pieces are also eligible to receive a Starred 1 (1*) which qualifies them to perform at the State Solo & Ensemble Festival on May 2, 2026, hosted at the University of Wisconsin—Green Bay Sharon J. Resch Institute of Music.

At the State Festival, a few select students earn an Exemplary Performance Award. Last year, in 2025, Mason Mather earned an Exemplary award for his snare drum solo. In some cases, these students are then asked to perform for the WSMA Music Teachers Convention in October, in Madison. Last year Mason played as the Honors Jazz band drummer at the conference in October 2025.

This year Luxemburg-Casco MS and HS had a total of 146 entries for the District Festivals. From this group the following students performed class A solos or group pieces and also received a *1 qualifying them for the State Festival:

1 Sol Trane Contemporary A Cappella (Ariel Vanlangendon, Brenden Deering, Cadence Huebner, Connor Hart, Danica Gagne, Ella Ferron, Elleana Ronsman, Esperanza Trejo, Evelyn Lange, Gabe Kudick, Gabi Engebose, Grace Turner, Isaac Gilson, Jay Kopkey, Levi Bahn, Lilly Theys, Patrick LeGrave, Quentin Massart, Rylan Locke, Sierra Storm, Taylor Dart).

1 Men’s Contemporary A Cappella (Atari Mohawk, Brenden Deering, Connor Hart, Cullen Birchmeier, Dylan Roberts, Gabe Kudick, Isaac Gilson, Jay Kopkey, Jonah Doperalski, Levi Bahn, Patrick LeGrave, Quentin Massart, Taylor Dart).

1 Classical Vocal Solo: Jakayla Steinhorst; Cullen Birchmeier; Cadence Huebner; Layna Huebner; Gabi Engebose; Patrick LeGrave; Ella Ferron; Brendon Deering; Jay Kopkey;

1 Musical Theater Vocal Solo: Grace Turner; Cadence Huebner; Patrick LeGrave; Ella Ferron; Elleana Ronsman; Carson Olson

1 Musical Theater Vocal Duet: Danica Gagne & Gabe Kudick; Patrick LeGrave & Jay Kopkey; Kyra Paul & Rachel Gregorich; Ella Ferron & Ariel VanLangendon; Carson Olson & Isaac Dart

1 Piano Solo: Elijah Mather

1 Piano Duet: Elijah & Mason Mather

1 Concert Snare Drum Solo: Mason Mather

1 Marimba Solo: Mason Mather

1 Flute Solo: Anna Koshavenko



High School News

Best Buddies



On March 4, Best Buddies club led by Charley Wilmet, Ayda Schwalen, Claire Schleis, and Skyler Kopkey made the pledge to the Spread the Word: End The Word Campaign. Spread the Word to End the Word is a global campaign that promotes respect, inclusion, and kindness for people of all abilities.

Our campaign focused on spreading kindness, encouraging others to speak up when words are hurtful, and celebrating acceptance and belonging. Inspired by the Spread the Word to End the Word movement and the message of Spread the Word: Choose Kindness, the goal was to remind students that the words we use every day have the power to uplift others and create a more inclusive school community

High school and middle school students were invited to participate and advocate for inclusion and acceptance for all individuals, including people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. At lunch, students were given the opportunity to write a kind word, encouraging message, or meaningful action on a paper link. Each link was then connected with others to form one continuous chain—symbolizing the strength of a community built on respect, empathy, and inclusion.

As the chain grew, it served as a powerful visual reminder that when each person chooses kindness, we can create a school environment where everyone feels valued, supported, and that they truly belong