SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

November 2026



Student Enrollment
October 2026

SCHOOL	ENROLLMENT	ATTENDANCE
Mill Pond Elementary School	639	93%
Cedar Creek Elementary School	452	96%
Forked River Elementary School	449	94%
Lanoka Harbor Elementary School	435	96%
Lacey Township Middle School	816	95%
Lacey Township High School	1,018	93%
Special Education (Out-of-District)	32	
*OCVTS – M.A.T.E.S.	29	
*OCVTS – Performing Arts Academy	22	
*OCVTS – Academy Law & Public Safety	16	
TOTAL	3,908	

November 2026

Seniors of the Month

ADDISON E. PAPA

IAN R. BRUECKMANN

Vocational Senior of the Month

SASHA C. AGUIRRE

Unsung Hero

ABIGAIL ZEHNER

Mill Pond News

Morning Announcements

Our kindergarten and preschool classes have taken on our morning announcements! Each week, we welcome one class into the main office. They lead the building everyday in the The Pledge of Allegiance. The students end the announcements wishing everyone a great day!



Mrs. Tsarnas' Class



Mrs. Curko's Class

Pawsome Citizen

The good character committee along with our climate and culture committee continue to work toward making our school PBIS initiative possible. We began last year discussing what positive behavioral supports were needed for our students.

During the first few weeks of school, teachers introduced our building expectations: Be Kind, Be Responsible, and Be Respectful. Teachers recognize these traits and celebrate them with wristbands so they can go home and share with their families. Every few weeks, students have the opportunity to earn a cubby coin to use at the book vending machine.

Congratulations to our Mill Pond Pawsome Citizens!









Mill Pond's Book Vending Machine

A HUGE shout out to our PTA for continuing to purchase our books for our vending machine! The PTA understood and supported our vision. They have committed to helping provide books to support our PBIS initiative, Pawsome Citizen once again!

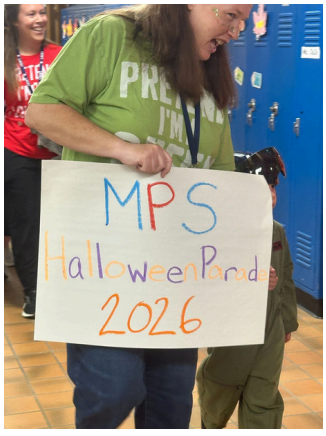


Halloween Fun

Students had so much fun seeing each other's costumes as they traveled the halls in a grand display of creativity! Our own WLTS came over to assist in making a video to share with our parents. The day was followed by individual classroom parties. Parents volunteered their time to assist with some wonderful crafts and sharing of snacks. There is no sweeter place than Mill Pond!













Election Day at Mill Pond

Our Kindergarten classes learned about the importance of voting! They voted on what they thought was the best pet to have and their favorite book, Grace for President or Duck for President. Mrs. Garcia's class decided that the majority of students liked Duck for President.





Lion Murals

Last year, the LTHS art students used their talents to help paint lion murals labeling the Mill Pond hallways. The students came back to finish their work. Our hallways are beautiful with their art work!











Cedar Creek News

Students of the Month - October 2026

Lane Corbett	**Lucas Jackowski**	**Jett Pepe-DePue**	**Lily Slaughter**
Lorelei Dimsey	**Roman LoBosco**	**Autumn Perrini**	**Santino Sossa**
Mason Dos Santos	**Luke McDonald**	**Liliana Pompei**	**Kennedy Weiner**
Sebastian Dos Santos	**Leslie Pacheco**	**Valentina Ponce**	**Zachary Wilson**
Elliot Ginsberg	**Kayden Paspe**	**Abimael Camacho Quidgley**	
Madilynn Ginsberg	**Riley Pedicini**	**Cooper Simas**	



Halloween

Things have been going great at Cedar Creek! October was filled with excitement, school spirit, and opportunities to celebrate our students and staff. Red Ribbon Week was a huge success, and our Halloween celebration was an absolute blast! It was wonderful to see our students and staff embrace the spirit of the season and participate in all the festivities.



CCS PTA

I would like to extend a huge thank-you to all of the students and teachers who helped make these events so successful, our PTA for generously purchasing Halloween stickers for every student, and a special thank-you to our high school band for taking the time to perform and create such an exciting start to the school day. It was truly an amazing day and a great example of the school community coming together to create memorable experiences for our students.

Perfect Attendance

We also took time to recognize our October Perfect Attendance Raffle winners, our Students of the Month, and congratulate First Grade for winning October's Grade-Level Attendance Challenge with 96.06% attendance!

In addition, we celebrated our very first Surprise Attendance Day, which turned out to be an incredible experience for everyone involved. Students who arrived at school that morning were greeted with Halloween stickers, music, and a special performance by our high school band during morning arrival. The excitement and smiles on our students' faces made it a day to remember!









We are looking forward to another great month at Cedar Creek. Keep reaching for the P.E.A.K!

Happy Thanksgiving

Forked River News

Special Area Students of the Month

Art - Adeline Strawder
Music - Marcelo Koza
PE - Nicole Van De Water
Library - Adeline Strawder
Health - Lucas Smida

Halloween

On Friday, October 30th, the Forked River School staff hosted many fun and educational Halloween-themed activities. Thank you to our classroom teachers for arranging celebrations, our special area teachers, Mr. Boedigheimer, Dr. Faille, Mrs. McAndrew, Mrs. Paris, and Mrs. Sharkey, for hosting their annual Spooktacular, and all staff who assisted with the festivities! We would also like to thank our PTA for all of their support and Mrs. Van De Water for setting up the balloon arch for the Spooktacular!



What's Happening

Mrs. Nachman and her Heroes Club students organized a school-wide food drive for donation to the Lacey Food Bank for the families in our community who are in need for the Thanksgiving holiday.

The FRS Helping Hands Committee is also coordinating and preparing food baskets for our Forked River School families in need for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Mrs. Tyhanic's Intergenerational Club students organized a school-wide paper-goods drive for donation to the Lacey Food Bank for the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday as well.

Our students and staff also participated in a coin drive to benefit the Tyler Webb Memorial Scholarship that will provide a group of our graduating 2027 LTHS seniors with scholarships for attending a trade school after graduation in Tyler's honor. Thank you, Mrs. Lavorgna, for organizing this school-wide coin drive.

Red Ribbon Week

During the last week of October, we celebrated Red Ribbon Week. Students promoted a healthy lifestyle with daily spirit wear themes. Our staff also provided various developmentally-appropriate activities designed to raise our students' awareness of the importance of making healthy choices in all aspects of their lives.

Veterans Day

In honor of Veterans Day, our students and staff at the Forked River School completed a school-wide display honoring family members and friends who have served or are serving in the military. Students recorded each veteran's name and military branch on red, white, and blue stars which were then displayed in our front foyer for all to see. The display also included flags and posters from the various branches of the military.

On Tuesday, November 10th, the Forked River School's fourth and fifth grade students had the opportunity to meet with and recognize veterans who served in the United States Armed Services. Our special guests discussed their duties, experiences, and the importance of serving our great country. We would like to thank our special guests for taking the time to visit with our students and for sharing their experiences.





On behalf of the Forked River School family, we would like to wish everyone in our great community of Lacey Township, an enjoyable Thanksgiving Holiday with family and friends!



Forked River School
Superstar Citizens of the Month
OCTOBER

Teacher	Student	Teacher	Student
Mrs. Bergman	**Dean Carter Lancelot**	Mrs. Latwis	**Oliver Mantilla**
Mrs. Camaligan	**Vienna Provaznik**	Mrs. Lavorgna	**Zoey Nepper**
Mrs. Coller	**Sophia Duncan**	Mrs. Mooney	**Olivia Turowski**
Mrs. Crepezzi	**Dominic Duncan**	Mrs. Mulligan	**Brian Matilde Velazquez**
Mrs. DeNigris	**Mateo Matilde Torres**	Mrs. Nachman	**Nolan Clemens**
Mrs. Doherty	**Vincent Brannick**	Mrs. Schubiger	**Nico David**
Mrs. Flynn	**Xola Turner**	Mrs. Tilton	**Avery Coogan**
Mrs. Halliday	**Elizabeth Katsianis**	Mrs. Weaver	**Jack Winterfield**

Safety Patrol Students of the Month
OCTOBER

Olive Wright
Beynlee Sprofera
Lilliana Ernst
Evan Duong
Layla Myres
Chloe Diaz
Emilia DiMaria
Emma Femiano
Nolan Clemens
Jaxon Velez
Patrick Santiago
Noah Edwards



Morning Announcers
OCTOBER

Marcelo Koza
Sydney Breitenbach

Lanoka Harbor News

Students of the Month
October 2026

Isabella Aguilar
Kenneth Carlson
Emma Keelen

Fire Prevention Week

Under the guidance of the Lanoka Harbor Volunteer Fire Company, Lanoka Harbor School students learned about fire safety during October. Fourth and fifth-grade students participated in a fire safety poster contest and attended an assembly led by Fire Prevention Officer John Szafranski. Winners were selected from participants who created posters utilizing the theme: "Charge into Fire Safety, Safe Charging is a Super Power!"





Our poster winners are:

5th Grade
1st place: Isabella Aguilar
2nd place: Ella Andrews

4th Grade
1st place: Kyla Manuwald
2nd place: Lily Wise

Red Ribbon Week

During the week of October 26th, Lanoka Harbor School celebrated Red Ribbon Week; the annual celebration of living a drug-free life. To spread the positive message and awareness of living drug-free, students participated in red ribbon-themed spirit days all week. This year's theme was "Make a difference. Be a Hero. Stay drug free!."



PTO Color Run

On October 27th, the Lanoka Harbor School PTO hosted our school color run. In this fundraiser event, students collected donations from family and friends to participate in the run/walk which ended in a joyous blast of color! It certainly was a colorful and awesome time. The highlight of the event was when the 10 students who raised the most funds were able to “COLOR BLAST" Mrs. Kilmurray and Mrs. Conigliario!

Top 10 fundraising students: **Gavin Ruane, Ryan Laverty, Mason Delaney, Nevaeh Wilson, Zachary Pipher, Blake Tavares, Riley Caswell, Carson Coghlan, Harper Gray, and Penelope Quesada.**

It was really great to see so many of our students attend with family and friends. We are looking forward to next year’s event!





The Great Pumpkin!

Lanoka Harbor School's cafeteria staff treated the students to a special contest, holiday music, and a showing of “ It's the Great Pumpkin Charlie Brown" during their lunch break. On October 19th the "Great Pumpkin" arrived in the cafeteria and was displayed on the stage for all to see. Every student was given the chance to guess the weight to win a prize, with one winner being chosen from each class. All class winners were then put into a drawing for the grand prize. The weight of the Great Pumpkin came in at 66.8 pounds and was announced on October 29th!



The Great Pumpkin Grand Prize Winner: **Ryleigh Osmond**



Middle School News

National Junior Honor Society (NJHS)

Our NJHS members continue to find meaningful ways to give back and make a difference in our community. On Saturday, October 24, students participated in a beach cleanup in Seaside Heights in partnership with Clean Action Ocean. Members also generously volunteered their time to help with Mother & Son Bingo at the high school and a babysitting event at Mill Pond School.

NJHS is currently hosting a food collection drive to benefit Starve Poverty, which will continue through Friday, November 13. In addition, students continue their yearlong collection of aluminum can tabs to support the Ronald McDonald House.

We are so proud of our NJHS members for the kindness, generosity, and commitment to service they demonstrate through these efforts. Their willingness to give their time and support to others truly reflects the spirit of our school community!

Engineering and Design

Eighth Grade Engineering students wrapped up their study of simple machines with a hands-on exploration of catapults, using leftover Halloween pumpkins as their projectiles! Students enjoyed launching pumpkins skyward while investigating the concepts of potential and kinetic energy and how these forces are applied in catapult design. This engaging activity brought engineering concepts to life through hands-on learning and a little seasonal fun!





Student Council

The Student Council has had a busy and exciting few months! In October, we planned and hosted the LTMS Fall Bash, which was a tremendous success, with over 300 students in attendance! In November, we are organizing a Turkey Trot to benefit the Lacey Food Bank. Students are encouraged to donate $1 per turkey, and the grade level that raises the most money will earn a sweet celebration hosted by our very own Student Council DJ!

We have also begun preparations for our second annual Battle of the Classes, scheduled for February. In addition, the Student Council continues to plan our monthly spirit weeks, the 8th Grade Dance, and various fundraising initiatives to support our community. We look forward to another exciting year filled with school spirit, fun, and giving back!



Music and Performing Arts

Chorus

Our Chorus students have been busy preparing for the upcoming winter concert, working hard during class and individual lessons to bring this year's performance to life. This year's concert, “Lights and Holiday Magic,” will take place on Thursday, December 3, at 6:00 p.m. We hope you will join us for a special evening filled with music, holiday spirit, and plenty of seasonal cheer!

Drama Club

There is lots of excitement in Drama Club as students move forward with preparations for this year's production! Following the audition and callback process, the cast list was finalized last week. Students have already begun read-throughs and vocal rehearsals as they work together to bring the production to life. We are excited to watch their talents shine and look forward to sharing their hard work with our school community!

Yearbook

Our Yearbook staff has been busy getting this year's edition underway! Students recently finalized the cover design and theme, an exciting first step in creating a collection of memories from this school year. Next, they will explore advertising and marketing strategies while developing ideas for yearbook sections and photo spreads. We look forward to seeing their creativity and hard work come together in this year's edition!

Athletics

Cheerleading

Excitement is building as our LTMS Winter Cheer program prepares for the upcoming season! Cheer clinics will take place on November 10 and 11, with tryouts scheduled for November 12, 2026.

In addition to preparing for the season, the team is finding ways to build friendships and strengthen team spirit through activities such as a Secret Santa exchange. Students are also organizing a snack stand for game days and enjoying opportunities to work alongside the LTHS Varsity Cheerleaders. We look forward to a fun and successful season filled with teamwork, school spirit, and lots of enthusiasm!

Field Hockey

Congratulations to our field hockey team on a wonderful season! The team wrapped up play on October 29 with an impressive record of 7-3-3, finishing second in the conference. We are so proud of the hard work, dedication, and teamwork demonstrated by our student-athletes throughout the season.

We are also excited to recognize Graysen Johnson and Maggie Kiernan, who represented Lacey in the OCIAL Field Hockey All-Star Game on November 10, 2026. Congratulations to both girls on this well-deserved honor!

Boys Soccer

Our boys soccer team finished the season with a record of 4-5-2. Congratulations to our players and coaches on their hard work, perseverance, and dedication throughout the season! We are especially proud to recognize Christopher Maloney and Kennan Bukowinski, who were selected to represent Lacey in the OCIAL All-Star Game. Congratulations to Christopher and Kennan on this exciting accomplishment!

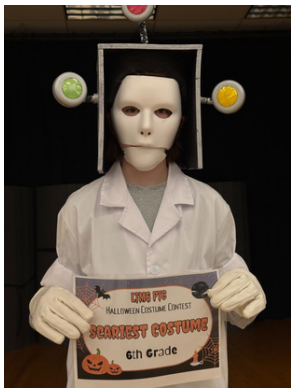


Parent-Teacher Council (PTC)

A big thank-you to our PTC for hosting the annual Walk-a-Thon and Halloween Costume Contest on Halloween! These events brought plenty of excitement, fun, and Halloween spirit to our school community. We appreciate the time and effort our PTC puts into creating these special experiences for our students. Congratulations to all of our costume contest winners!

Our students and staff continue to make LTMS a wonderful place to learn, grow, and be involved. From the arts and athletics to community service and school activities, it is wonderful to see our students embracing new opportunities, supporting one another, and making a positive impact. Thank you to our staff, families, and volunteers who help make these experiences possible. We are proud of all that our school community continues to accomplish!

























8th Grade Student of the Month November

Autumn McCombie

Autumn is a hardworking, conscientious, and dedicated student who consistently demonstrates a strong work ethic, perseverance, and a commitment to learning. As a member of our STEM program, she is always willing to ask questions, seek help when needed, and serve as a positive role model for her peers.

Autumn is an active member of our school community, participating in Drama Club, Student Council as a student leader, and Junior National Honor Society. Outside of school, she enjoys flag football, basketball, and dance.

What truly makes Autumn deserving of this recognition is her kind and caring heart. She always greets others with a smile, willingly offers help, and treats students and staff with kindness, sincerity, and respect. Her positive attitude and genuine care for others make her a wonderful role model and a valued member of our school community.

Congratulations to Autumn on this well-deserved recognition!



8th Grade Student of the Month November

Kyle Heraclio-Flores

Kyle joined the Lacey Middle School community in sixth grade and quickly became a valued member of our school. He is a compassionate, kind, and respectful young man who consistently goes out of his way to help both students and staff. Kyle is an intelligent, hardworking student who demonstrates a strong commitment to his education through his involvement in our STEM program and accelerated math class.

Kyle has also demonstrated dedication and perseverance through his extracurricular activities. He has played clarinet since fourth grade and has been a member of the Lacey Middle School Band since sixth grade. Additionally, he has participated in soccer since sixth grade.

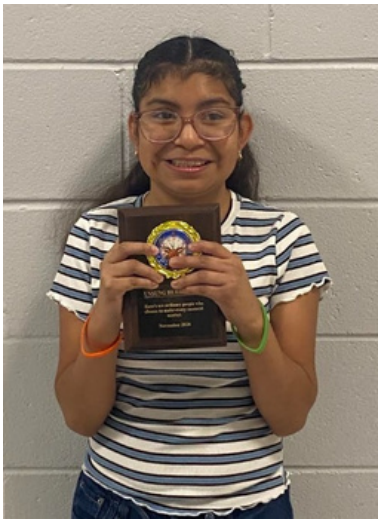
Kyle is a positive addition to our school community, and we are proud to recognize him for his academic achievements, talents, and, most importantly, the kindness, respect, and character he demonstrates each day.

Congratulations to Kyle on this well-deserved recognition!



Unsung Hero - November 2026
Joselyn Jimenez Xelhua - 7th Grade

It is our pleasure to recognize Joselyn as our Middle School Unsung Hero!



Joselyn is such a positive young lady, and her smile truly lights up a room! She is a hard worker who consistently strives to do her best and accomplish great things. Joselyn is a true breath of fresh air, bringing positivity, kindness, and encouragement to our school each and every day.

She approaches challenges with determination, celebrates the successes of others, and inspires those around her through her uplifting attitude and strong work ethic. Although she may not always seek the spotlight, her kindness, perseverance, and dedication do not go unnoticed.

Joselyn reminds us that being a hero isn't always about grand gestures or being in the spotlight. Sometimes, it's about showing up each day with a positive attitude, working hard, and making others feel valued and supported.

Congratulations, Joselyn! We are so proud of you and grateful for the positive difference you make in our school community. Keep shining your light and being the wonderful person you are! You are truly deserving of this recognition!



High School News

Visit to Ocean County Courthouse

Our Criminology students recently visited the Ocean County Courthouse for a Criminal Court Observation. Students had the opportunity to meet with Judge Ryan, defense attorneys, and state prosecutors to learn about their careers, professional experiences, and paths to the legal field. Students also observed criminal court hearings and sentencing proceedings, providing them with a firsthand look at the criminal justice system in action.



Surfrider Club Gives Back with Beach Cleanup

Our LTHS Surfrider Club recently hit the beach to help keep our local shoreline clean! Students worked together to collect litter and debris, helping protect our beaches and marine environment. Thank you to our Surfrider Club members for making a difference in our community and showing what it means to be environmental stewards!





Veterans Day at the Navy Lakehurst Historical Society

The LTHS STEPS class spent Veterans Day visiting the Navy Lakehurst Historical Society, where students had the opportunity to learn about our nation's military history and the important role Naval Air Station Lakehurst has played throughout the years. It was a meaningful way to recognize Veterans Day while honoring those who have served our country.



WOBM/Gateway Toyota Student of the Week



Congratulations to senior
Dalton Johnson
for being named WOBM/Gateway Toyota Student of the Week.
Please use this LINK to hear Dalton's interview.



SENIOR OF THE MONTH
ADDISON E. PAPA

Addison is an outstanding example of what it means to be a student of character, compassion, and commitment. She is a genuine, kindhearted, and outgoing young woman who consistently demonstrates a willingness to give back to others and make a positive impact on those around her. Whether she is volunteering her time, tutoring fellow students, babysitting, or serving as a mentor to younger children, Addison goes above and beyond to support and encourage others. She has a natural ability to connect with people, and her kindness, patience, and willingness to help make her a wonderful role model.

Beyond her involvement in the community, Addison demonstrates an impressive level of motivation and responsibility in her own life. She is a dedicated student who takes great pride in her academics and understands the importance of prioritizing her education while balancing the demands of being a student-athlete. Her determination, strong work ethic, and ability to stay focused on her goals speak volumes about the young woman she is becoming.

As she prepares to continue both her academic and athletic careers at Caldwell University, Addison serves as a reminder that success is about so much more than personal accomplishments. It is also about how we treat others, the time we give, and the difference we make in our communities. Addison leads with kindness, works with purpose, and gives of herself without hesitation. We are incredibly proud of her and are excited to see all that she will accomplish. She is truly deserving of Senior Student of the Month!

SENIOR OF THE MONTH
IAN R. BRUECKMANN

The administration and faculty of Lacey Township High School have enthusiastically awarded Ian Brueckmann as our Senior of the Month for November, 2026. Ian is an outstanding student who exemplifies leadership, dedication, academic achievement, and a strong commitment to his school and community.

Throughout his high school career, Ian has demonstrated exceptional leadership both in and out of the classroom. As captain of the cross-country team this year and captain of the winter and spring track distance teams since his sophomore year, Ian has shown perseverance, teamwork, and a determination to succeed. His commitment as a varsity athlete in all three seasons reflects his strong work ethic and willingness to lead by example.

Ian's involvement extends well beyond athletics. During his junior and senior years, he served as treasurer of the Student Government Association, Robotics Club, and Fishing Club. These leadership roles demonstrate the trust his peers place in him and his ability to take responsibility and contribute meaningfully to the organizations he serves. He also participated in Boys State, further developing his leadership skills and civic awareness.

Academically, Ian continues to challenge himself through the STEM Academy, National Honor Society, and Advanced Placement courses. He has also made significant contributions to our music program, performing as first trumpet in Concert Band and playing both first and second trumpet parts in Jazz Band. In addition, earning a black belt in karate speaks to his discipline, patience, and dedication to personal growth.

Ian's commitment to service and achievement are equally impressive. He has participated in charity runs benefiting organizations such as the Philadelphia Zoo and the American Cancer Society. He has also earned the Presidential Award from freshman through junior year, recognizing his continued dedication to academic success. Beyond his school activities, Ian has demonstrated initiative and creativity as a co-founder of 82 New Gen Racing, pursuing his interests and exploring opportunities outside the traditional classroom.

What makes Ian especially deserving of this recognition is his ability to balance so many commitments while maintaining a strong sense of responsibility and purpose. Whether he is competing on the track, contributing to a club, performing with the band, or challenging himself academically, Ian consistently demonstrates the qualities of a well-rounded student and a positive role model for his peers.

As Ian prepares for the next chapter of his life, we are confident that the discipline, leadership, and determination he has demonstrated throughout high school will continue to serve him well. He has made valuable contributions to our school community, and we are proud to celebrate his accomplishments. Please join me in congratulating Ian Brueckmann, our November Senior of the Month!

VOCATIONAL SENIOR OF THE MONTH
SASHA C. AGUIRRE

I am proud to nominate Sasha Aguirre for November Vocational Student of the Month. Sasha is a bright, hardworking, and dedicated student who consistently demonstrates a strong work ethic and a commitment to achieving her goals.

Sasha is currently enrolled in the pre-nursing program at vocational school, where she is working toward her goal of becoming a sonographer. She approaches her vocational training with enthusiasm and dedication, showing a genuine interest in learning and preparing for her future career in the medical field.

What makes Sasha especially deserving of this recognition is her ability to balance her responsibilities and excel in many areas of her life. In addition to her vocational studies, she works hard in the classroom, demonstrates commitment and perseverance on the track field, and maintains a job at ShopRite. Managing these responsibilities takes discipline, determination, and excellent time-management skills, all of which Sasha displays.

Sasha is a wonderful example of what it means to be a dedicated student and a hardworking young adult. Her positive attitude, strong work ethic, and commitment to her future make her an excellent candidate for November Vocational Student of the Month.

We are proud of Sasha and all that she continues to accomplish. We believe she is very deserving of this recognition and look forward to seeing her achieve her goal of becoming a sonographer.
Congratulations Sasha Aguirre on being Senior Vocational Student of the Month!

UNSUNG HERO
ABIGAIL ZEHNER

Each month, the Student Government Association picks one student who is creating a positive impact on LTHS as our Unsung Hero.

The student selected for November is an exceptional example, as a person who is driven and dependable, Abigail Zehner brings incredible energy to everything she does. She is a dedicated member of the varsity volleyball team, serves as Sergeant at Arms in Interact Club, and also plays club volleyball outside of school. She has maintained a high honor roll status at LTHS for the last two years, demonstrating her commitment to excellence and academic drive.

Lastly, Abigail remains supportive and passionate, demonstrating her positive influence on the school environment. So for all of these reasons, the Student Government Association of LTHS congratulates Abby Zehner as our November Unsung Hero.