Long Beach Island Consolidated School District

"Riding the Waves of Excellence"

Superintendent and Principal's Report

November 2026

Dear Families, Staff, and Community Members,

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 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.

November is filled with opportunities for learning, family engagement, and community connection. Our upcoming Parent-Teacher Conferences will provide an important opportunity for families and educators to discuss student progress and strengthen our home-school partnership. As a reminder, conference dates are November 17th-19th.

Parent-teacher conferences are much more than an opportunity to discuss grades and academic progress. They are an opportunity to celebrate each child's individual journey, recognize accomplishments, identify opportunities for growth, and strengthen the partnership between home and school.

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





The Skateboarding Club event with Southern Regional was a great time and well attended!





Our first 2026-2027 Students of the Month for October from 2F and 3F!



The staff Halloween theme for 2026-2027 was Care Bears!

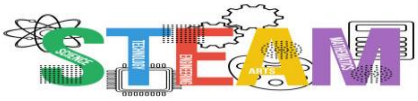


Spooky Halloween skeletons!

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! 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.

- Book Fair - November 17th-20th
- Burger 25 fundraiser - November 19th
- The next PTA meetings are November 12th at 6 p.m. at the Northside and December 17th at 4 p.m. at the LBI Elementary School. All are invited to attend.



The 6th grade scientists have been investigating the hierarchical organization of the human body and the structure and function of specialized cells and body tissues using silent discussion strategies, informational text, 3D models, and performance tasks.

The 5th grade scientists have been investigating and comparing properties of matter. Specifically, they have been investigating compressibility of air and water and using these properties to solve an engineering challenge of designing a hydraulic lift for raising a small toy car off the surface.

The 4th grade students have been investigating the structure and function of animals and plants using informational text and hands-on activities comparing and contrasting parts in different animals.

Our 3rd grade students have been reading *Balloons Over Broadway* and planning and brainstorming ideas for building balloons as part of a cross-curricular STEAM project.



PreK and Kindergarten artists will be learning about Piet Mondrian and creating collages inspired by his paintings using squares, rectangles, lines, and primary colors. First Grade is learning about Sonia and Robert Delaunay and are making drawings focusing on line, color, and circular

shapes. Second Grade is wrapping up drawings inspired by Keith Haring. Third Grade is drawing with black glue to create leaves that will be painted with watercolor for a unique effect. Fourth Grade is also creating collages, but they are using their scissors to "paint" like Henri Matisse. Fifth Grade artists are having a blast using oil pastels to create patterned hands with warm colors and cool colors for the background. Finally, Sixth Grade is working on Bauhaus inspired collages while thinking about shape and color.

Physical Education

The first few months in PE have flown by. The students have worked in team games, Soccer skills, and along with a Halloween week ending with Ghost Busters and Ghost in the Graveyard games. After a week of rest and recovery our 5/6 grade students started our Flag Football unit. We started out with simple positions and strategies. After just the first week we had students who never played before running slants and post like a pro! Students took part in flag tag as well which helped in our defensive skill set. Prek-4 grade students are working on throwing towards our target in our Dungeon Ball game. All of the students are doing a great job! As the colder months arrive please remember PE shoes and jackets for recess.

MUSIC

Our music students are doing great musical things in November. Our upper grades have been performing a Mr. C! original: "We Love Our Veterans." Our band members are getting ready for "This Magic Season," a concert in December. All the while, PK-2 grade students are preparing winter, Christmas and Hanukkah songs for our upcoming play: "Season's Greetings."

PRE-K



This month, we will be reading Balloons Over Broadway! After enjoying the story, students will choose their favorite character and create a balloon float inspired by that character. To celebrate their creativity, we will have a special parade around the school to show off our amazing balloon creations!

We are also working on many fine motor activities to help strengthen our finger muscles for handwriting. Students are using clothespins and tweezers to pick up small objects, stringing beads, and stretching rubber bands during our centers.

For literacy, we are focusing on the letters J, K, P, U, B, and R. In math, we are learning about the numbers 1–10. We are practicing how to build ten frames and how to make tally marks.

Kindergarten Crew



It is hard to believe November is already here! After recharging over Fall Break, we are refreshed, excited and ready to take on the rest of the month as we look forward to returning to our new classrooms! In Word Work and Reading, we will continue learning new sight words and exploring letters and their sounds as we begin putting them together to build words. It is so exciting to see the children take all that they are learning and apply it to their own writing! In Math, we will continue practicing counting to 10 and begin using numbers to count, organize and classify data.

In Social Studies, we will be learning about Native Americans, the Pilgrims and the first Thanksgiving. We will enjoy creating holiday themed crafts as we explore what life was like for the Native Americans and Pilgrims. We are also excited to complete our third directed drawing – a TURKEY!

As we celebrate this season of gratitude, we are a THANKFUL CREW! We will spend time talking about all the wonderful things and special people we are grateful for in our lives. We are looking forward to a fun filled November full of learning, creativity and thankfulness. We have so much to be thankful for in our lives!

First Grade

Well, here we are... in November! Wow! Where is the time going? 2026 is quickly coming to an end. We started out the year combined with both first grades and the children really grew comfortable with our routines and expectations. We are finally back in our own classrooms, and the kids are seriously not missing a beat. All the same rules apply, and the transition could not have been smoother! 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). Last week, we had a homework assignment to disguise a turkey. In previous years, students created soccer players, peacocks, football players, shark turkeys, and turkeys hiding in a mailbox. I cannot wait to see what is in store for this year's turkeys. The students will create stories to tell about their turkeys. This is a lengthy process and the children are really enjoying each step involved. We will start out describing our turkeys using adjectives, which will then turn into sentences. We will use a graphic organizer to help us lay out our thoughts to help us create magnificent beginnings, middles and endings. These writing pieces will turn 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 will make 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 will begin learning about vowel teams and the rule, "When two vowels go walking, the first one does the talking." In ELA, second graders wrote about how they would catch a turkey, utilizing the writing process to communicate their ideas. Their creative ideas are on display in the hallway outside the second grade classrooms. Be sure to check them out! In Math, students are learning how to add two-digit numbers using the traditional vertical addition method. With this strategy, students are able to decide when regrouping is necessary. In Science, second graders have been learning about properties of matter. Next, students will

create structures, focusing on the importance of choosing specific materials to build with, based on their properties. In Social Studies, second graders continue to learn about citizenship and the rights and responsibilities of all citizens. Looking ahead, students will discover how our government is organized and the services it provides for its citizens. We look forward to the upcoming LBI Garden Club Event, bringing students, family members and the community together. As we approach Thanksgiving and the holiday season, second graders are enthusiastic about all that's in store in the month to come!

Third Grade

In Math, third graders are continuing to strengthen their understanding of multiplication and basic multiplication facts. They are exploring a variety of strategies and using songs and games to help them master these skills.

During Writing, students are applying their "perfect paragraph" techniques in their gratitude journals and are also practicing how to include text evidence in their reading responses.

In Science and Social Studies, students are exploring the history and excitement of the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. They're using what they learn to design and create their very own parade balloons, combining creativity with hands-on problem-solving.

Fourth Grade

We are thankful for so much this year - and our "Turkey Top Ten" papers let us share those feelings with the ones we love! The projects will be on display in the hallway, and then 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 the Internal Structures of Animals. We are continuing our travels across the country, learning the states and capitals for each region of our great land. We have the opportunity to reach out and work with the community by participating in various contests this month. We will be sending entries in for the 'Partnership for a Drug Free America Fourth Grade Poster Contest', as well as the Ship Bottom Borough Poetry Contest, where winners will read their poems at the Tree Lighting Ceremony to be held on the 4th of December. Please join us!

Fifth Grade

The 5th Graders cannot believe they are finished with the first marking period! After a wonderful break, they have been working hard in all of their subjects. In ELA, they are continuing their novel study on Esperanza Rising (a historical fiction novel by Pam Munoz). They are starting their narrative writing this month. In Social Studies, we are going to learn about different explorers and settling North America. We are all very thankful for all we have!

Sixth Grade

In Math, students are beginning their introduction to algebra. They are identifying parts of an expression and learning how to find terms, constants, variables, and coefficients in expressions. 6th graders are also practicing how to evaluate expressions using order of operations. The sixth grade students are working on their fictional narrative this month in ELA. They are using the classic novel *Maniac Magee* as inspiration to write their own legend origin stories and doing a great job imitating Jerry Spinelli's author's craft.

Garden News

<u>The Garden's Winter Rest</u>

The garlic and tulips are tucked deep in the bed,
With straw sprinkled above where blossoms once spread.
The garden tools rest until winter is through,
And roots go to sleep, waiting for springtime with you.
- Anonymous

Garden-based learning (GBL) is closing out 2026 and already anxiously awaited longer and warmer days. Our last GBL sessions included Grades 5 & 6 planting a variety of garlic called "Music" and Grades 3 & 4 planted Red Emperor Tulips.

The garlic will be monitored over the winter with data collection and graphing in Science and Tech. The tulips will joyously be announcing Spring on the Journey North site. Journey North's tulip test garden project showcases seasonal and climate changes across the globe. Our school will be featured on the Journey North map. Follow along at: https://app.journeynorth.org/observation/1526779431

Seeing you in the Spring for the planting of the green - lettuce, spinach, snap peas and watching our faithful perennial asparagus spears emerge from the cold, cold, Earth.

Stay Warm!

Tulips

Observation: Red Emperor Tulip



11/11/26

Tulips

Red Emperor Tulip

Bulb planted

25

4th grade students planted 25 Red Emperor tulip bulbs in raised bed in the school garden prior to our first frost.



Surf City, NJ
39.65, -74.18

Full Sun: Yes