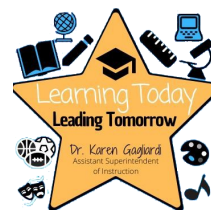




Lakeland's Latest on Curriculum and Instruction



June 2021 Edition

A Note From Karen Gagliardi

As I reflect on this year, it is hard to capture the ups and downs, triumphs and challenges and acknowledgments that need to be shared. Thank you one and all for your work, we are just about at the end of this most tumultuous year. I found that through good ole teamwork and collaboration, we have been able to come through an epic event, for the most part intact and hopeful.

Everyone has had to adapt, be flexible and because of that we have witnessed what is possible. As I listen to those who have commented about the students and how they have been remarkable, I know that behind every story is a dedicated faculty or staff member. YOU have managed the unknown and worked with students through what one can only describe as the unimaginable.

A quick look back....

"Lakeland's Latest on Curriculum and Instruction". It is very exciting to see continued enthusiasm for teaching and learning throughout our district in this past year. We were able to highlight all of the work in academics, sports, the arts, support services and in every edition we saw children learning! The importance of our work is to educate our students K-12, we have and we will!

What's next?.....

Summertime, a time to reset, reflect and rejuvenate. I hope you spend time with your loved ones, read, relax, do what brings you joy and remain optimistic about the school year to come. Over the summer, there will be curriculum work, summer programs and engagement in preparing for the next school year. A heartfelt note of thanks to all and especially to my team of DOCs, Technology, Coordinators, Instructional Coaches, and Clerical Staff at District who make my work meaningful, interesting, and worthwhile!

In closing out this edition of Lakeland's Latest, I remain honored and proud to serve our community and work alongside some of the most dedicated individuals in the field. We have proven that innovation, relationships and connection have prevailed. Those qualities have carried us through these most curious of times. As we come to this year's end, I am reminded of the words from basketball coach, Jim Valvano, "Don't give up. Don't ever give up."

Fondly,
Karen Gagliardi

hello



DEPARTMENT HAPPENINGS

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

As we reach the finish line of this unique year, our elementary classes will be completing the first year with our Benchmark resource. They have worked on reader's and writers workshop model. Our teachers have demonstrated their skills and flexibility as we moved from a virtual to a hybrid and an in class model of teaching. Our Instructional coaches have been valuable supports as we implemented Benchmark. We also thank our AIS Reading teachers for supporting our students throughout the year.

SCIENCE

Assessments

Our 4th and 8th grade students took the State Science assessments on June 7th. This year the state only required the written portion of the exam. Next year we move back to adding the performance assessments back in. As we implement the New Science Standards, the new Science Assessments will be in 2024 when the new elementary assessment moves to Grade 5 and the grade 8 students will take the new intermediate level assessment.

The Living Environment Regents will be administered on Tuesday, June 22. The Earth Science Regents will be administered on Thursday, June 24th.

The Science Research students have prepared a virtual Science Symposium, which will be shared on the district website soon. We congratulate our seniors who have each created a video presentation of their research. It is wonderful to see and hear the high level skills that these students have developed. The underclassmen will be listed with the titles and topics of their research. We are very proud of the work our students have done this year despite the many obstacles. We also want to thank their teachers: Frank Tamweber, Stephanie Massey, Kyle Baldus, and Rhona Castellano who have helped guide these students throughout the year. We will also be welcoming 34 new students to the program as they join the program as freshmen in September. We look forward to a very positive and exciting year for all of our research students.



CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION

In the middle school: Computer Applications students have been learning about the world of tech bit by bit! Students did a fantastic job at working through Digital Citizenship and exploring how technology relates to their lives. As the school year comes to a close, 6th and 7th graders are continuing to build their skills in coding! Students have chosen their own coding projects and are working in Scratch. They are creating games, musical coding projects, animating their names, fashion designs and much more. As we close out the school year, we want to wish everyone a wonderful and safe summer. We look forward to rebooting and returning in the new school year ready to code, problem solve and so much more!

In the high school: Students are working on finishing projects and assignments in all college level courses.

FBLA national competitions are occurring in June and students have been studying and preparing for tests.

The Lakeland FBLA would like to thank Domenick and Theresa of the Cortlandt Farm Market for donating the Impatiens for Earth Day.

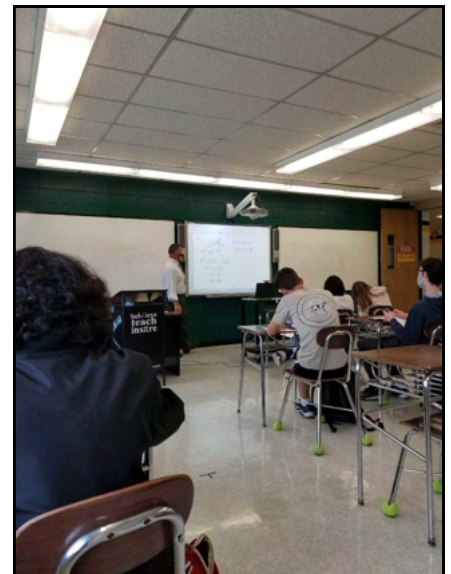
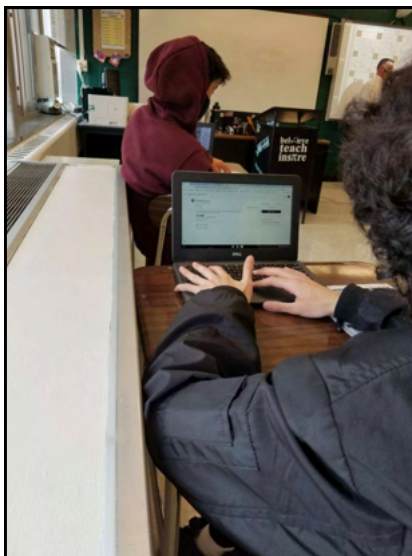
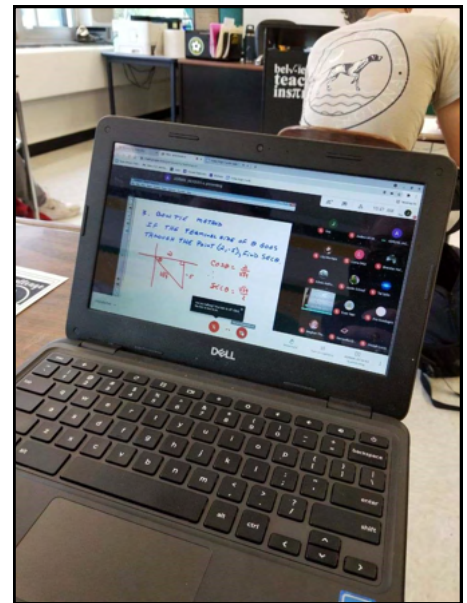
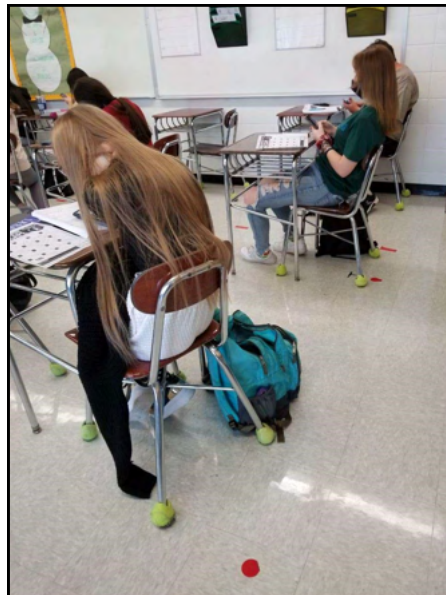
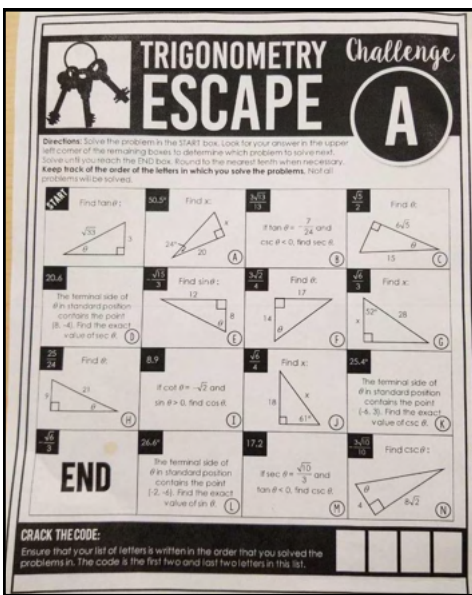
Members spent the afternoon, policing the school grounds and planting the flowers under the entrance sign to share with the community.



MATH

While many students and staff are simply trying to “escape” this unusual school year, students in Mr. Jacques’ Algebra 2/Trigonometry Honors classes at Lakeland High School were trying to escape in a different way.

In May, the natural excitement associated with trigonometry grew even greater, as solutions to a series of exercises were connected to an Escape Room (i.e., the “Trigonometry Escape Challenge”). Numerical clues provided a pathway through myriad problems, which, in turn, led to a secret code. That code represented the key to success and mathematical satisfaction. And it also meant that you finished the assignment. Thanks to Mr. Jacques for infusing some novel excitement into the best subject ever. And thanks to all for helping get us through the year!



SOCIAL STUDIES

"The more you know about the past, the better prepared you are for the future." -Theodore Roosevelt

Social Studies Happenings

As the school year winds down, Social Studies classes are busier than ever. AP classes (Human Geography, Macroeconomics, Psychology, US History, and World History) completed final preparations for their digital exams and students successfully tested during the first 2 weeks of June. Social Studies classes are now wrapping up content, focusing on skills and preparing for 4th quarter assessments.

Before our seniors graduate, many are receiving financial literacy lessons in their economics classes. Through project based learning, students are gaining important knowledge about budgeting and living on their own (jobs, apartments, utilities, groceries, etc). They are also learning about credit (student loans, car loans, credit cards, etc.). Students in AP Macroeconomics classes are learning about investing through their participation in a stock market simulation.

Historical celebrations in June

June is Pride Month. Pride month is a celebration to honor the 1969 Stonewall Uprising in Manhattan. The Stonewall Uprising was a tipping point for the movement to outlaw discriminatory laws and practices against LGBTQ+ Americans. Today, celebrations of love, diversity, acceptance and pride occur around the globe. Pride month celebrates the impact that LGBTQ+ individuals have on history in the United States and around the world.

Resources to celebrate Pride Month in social studies classrooms.

[American Federation of Teachers- Share My Lesson](#)

[Anti-Defamation League](#)

[Library of Congress](#)

Flag Day (June 14) Flag Day is a celebration of the official adoption of the American flag. Celebrations and ceremonies promote the history, traditions and respect for our nation's symbol.

Resources to celebrate Flag Day in social studies classrooms.

[National Endowment for the Humanities \(K-5\)](#)

[Nearpod \(K-5\)](#)

[National Constitution Center \(6-12\)](#)

Juneteenth (June 19) Juneteenth, a combination of "June" and "nineteenth," celebrates the end of slavery in the United States. After the Civil War ended, Union Maj. Gen. Gordon Granger traveled to Galveston, Texas and issued an order stating that all enslaved people were free. This occurred almost 2.5 years after the Emancipation Proclamation was signed by President Lincoln. While celebrating freedom, Juneteenth also emphasizes education, recognizes a time in our history that continues to shape our society and advocates for change.

Resources to celebrate Juneteenth in social studies classrooms.

[NCTE Read Write Think](#)

[Learning for Justice](#)

[Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture](#)

PNWBOCES Social Studies Professional Learning Opportunities

Current Professional Learning Opportunities (CTLE):

[Preparing Students for Success on the New US History and Government Regents](#)

Recorded Webinars:

[Facing History: Civics, Equity, & SEL: Tools for Your Classroom](#)

[Facing History NY Civic Readiness Resources](#)

historical context).

Registration is available until May 1, 2021. For more details, click [here](#).

WORLD LANGUAGE

Ms. Fatima Elmoutchari and Ms. Diana Palumbo created a virtual multicultural project with their Spanish and Italian Honors Society students. The project promotes multicultural knowledge and diversity at WPHS. Please click on the link below to take a trip around the world. Hopefully you will learn something new!

<https://wakelet.com/wake/LG74yH3QFkJjUEICJr2YZ>



On April 28th, Lakeland High School and Walter Panas High School held ceremonies for students who were inducted into the Spanish and Italian Honors Societies. The ceremonies were held in person for students, and were live streamed for families, friends and faculty to view.

Lakeland High School:

Società Onoraria Italica		
Inductees 2021: Angelina Ameneiros Samantha Bossio Samantha Bybel Roseanna Delulio Christa Denet Daniella Gerbasi		Francesca Gerbasi Lauren Groccia Daniella Hart Nydelin Idrovo Kira Malaspina
Faculty Advisor: Maria Dolgetta-Ward		

La Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica Membership	
Sayani Aggarwal Aisha T. Bhakta Caitlin M. Brady Jonathan Cardona Leah D. Clarke* Emily L. Cleary Amanda E. Cole Kelly A. Corklin Mary K. Cuomo Jesse D. Dimarzo Toni Ann Esposito* Steven A. Fitzgerald Alana Fishbach Blake E. Franklin Krystabella N. Gad Elias M. Gonzalez Michelle A. Grissales Nicole A. Haughney Kevin T. Keegan Adamo N. Labriola Daniel T. Libretti Kayla M. Lillo	Marissa C. Lucia Skylar M. Lund Kevin E. Mantell Alonso J. Manzueta Hannah J. Matusiak Alexandria N. Mavila* Emily H. Milano Jennifer M. Mitchell Juliana M. Moscati Laura G. Marrocho Gianna M. Muniz Robert J. Nardelli Sidney A. Nivar Kieran J. O'Connor Kristen A. O'Shea Kenny S. Pasato Sarah J. Pinkowsky* Matthew T. Roessel* Izabella A. Rosado Melody R. Rubino Chloe Rice
Emma M. Ryan Samuel J. Sanchez Samrags Sen Jaskaran Singh* Samantha T. Spies Reed M. Thompson Emily A. Tommasiello Victoria Tsai* Donna M. Villa* Eduarda A. Vivanco Erin W. Waters*	

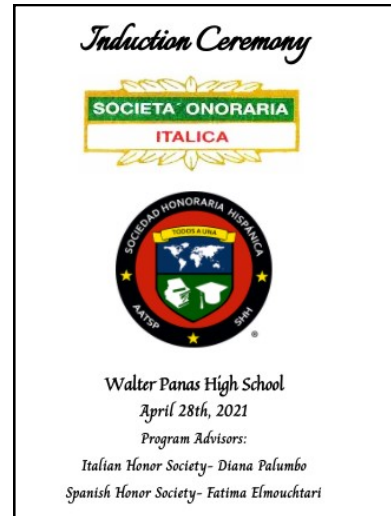


WORLD LANGUAGE

Walter Panas High School: Please click on the links below to view the slideshow and induction program from the ceremony at WPHS.



https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1k3w3MGNPU3Ct4_Z5_ZNUJC3J8xAl9y3kffY4oHgeykc/edit#slide=id.p



<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1PXsvEO9uwgsD-abCUR3G00ImK3Xc3cp-CIVzukKFWwU8/edit>

As part of their Celebrations unit, Dr. Bernstein's 8th grade students are learning about little-known holidays from different Spanish-speaking countries. Did you know there's a holiday where people throw tomatoes at each other? (La Tomatina in Spain), a parade of Jeeps? (El Desfile del Yipao in Colombia), and a celebration of the sun? (Inti Raymi in Peru) At the end of their unit, the students will vote to determine which celebration they find most eccentric.



MUSIC

Chorus Students at Lakeland Copper Beech Middle School recently released their Spring 2021 Virtual Performance Video. Each student recorded themselves independently, singing their vocal part using Soundtrap. Footage of LCBMS' competitive dancers and gymnasts in the Choral program were then edited using Final Cut Pro, which beautifully complimented students' singing of ***Better When I'm Dancin'***. *Students are excited to share this work with the community and are looking forward to returning to live performances next year.*

The video can be accessed using this link: [Better When I'm Dancin'](#)

Congratulations to all of the Band students at LCBMS that participated in the New York State Music Association Evaluation Festival (NYSSMA). These students prepared solos and submitted recordings that were evaluated by judges. All of the students received outstanding ratings, and some even received perfect scores. We are very proud of the following participants:

Grade 6: Lily Russo (Clarinet)

Ronan O'Connor (Trumpet)

Nicholas Witkowich (Trumpet)

Grade 7: Alex Erenberg (Percussion)

Justine Tang (Flute)

Grade 8: Ann Catechis (Clarinet)

Alex Chang (Piano)

Lara Villard (Piano)

The performance groups at LCBMS recently gathered in the gym to record pieces that they have learned. The audio and video are being masterfully combined by Mr. Russo to create an awesome presentation that we can share with everyone. Be on the lookout for it on the school website soon. It was so great to finally perform together again!

At LHS, the AP Music Theory students successfully sat for their exam on May 21. Post-exam, they have studied 12-bar blues song format and are currently working on writing lyrics and composing blues melodies.



Lakeland Drama will present *Jukebox Rewind*, an original musical revue in which students perform numbers from their LHS and LCBMS shows: *Chicago: High School Edition* (spring 2020 if the pandemic had not shut down production); *Nunsense: The Mega Musical*; *Seussical the Musical*; *The Music Man* (all LHS); *Hairspray*; *Footloose*; and *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* (all LCBMS). The graduating seniors in the show also perform "When I Grow Up," from *Matilda the Musical* as a special feature.



"Cell Block Tango," from *Chicago: High School Edition*

The LHS Mixed Chorus has learned a 4-part arrangement of *The Star-Spangled Banner*, to be recorded and submitted for potential performances at local sports venues.

STEAM

We are moving FULL STEAM AHEAD! STEAM Team members have already participated in two of three training sessions from the Boston Museum of Science and will be finishing up with our last session on June 23rd. The last session had everyone building a tower with index cards and just like our students, everyone continued working even when time was up! This summer we will start developing the STEAM Program by integrating a Design Thinking and PBL approach into all the quality work that is already happening in the district across grade levels and content areas.



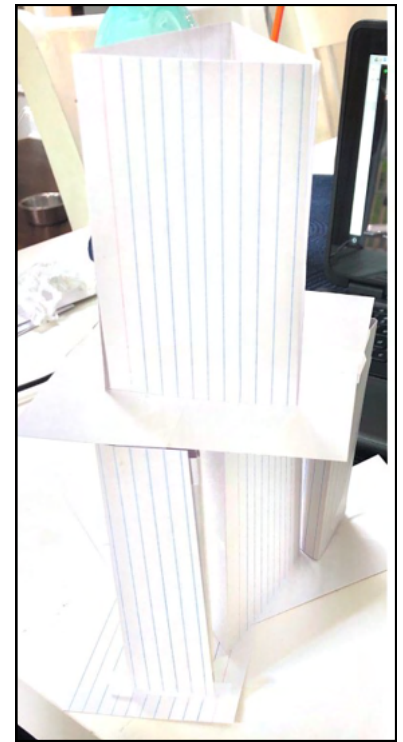
Members of the STEAM Team creating their prototypes using only index cards and 12" of tape.



Nicole Emanuele's (VC Gr. 3) Tower: "I wish I had more time! I was JUST getting into it!"



Inspired by his prior observations of architecture, Mike Barbieri (BF Gr. 4) focused on the structural integrity, as well as the aesthetic elements of his pedestal, by incorporating a twisted design.



Christina Visconti's (LCBMS Gr. 7) layered prototype.

ART

As summer approaches lots of Elementary artists are creating with bright colors, exploring the works of Georgia O'Keeffe, drawing outside and even creating nature prints. Students at Lincoln Titus are working on their annual school wide perseverance project. This year's topic is mosaics. Each student is making their own mosaic out of paper as well as contributing to a collaborative glass mosaic. The Fifth Graders at Thomas Jefferson Elementary just completed the "T.J. Strong" rainbow tree. T.J. Third graders are creating Agamographs about the butterfly life cycle while kindergarteners are making clay ladybugs.



Artists in the 3rd grade at BFES were inspired by Winslow Homer's seascapes when creating their silhouette paintings in the tropics. While Fifth graders "Minoned" themselves in these unique self portraits.

6th and 7th grade artists analyzed the painting "Juneteenth" by Edward Santana White.

Edo was excited to create this work, commissioned by the White Sox, to disseminate his message to "heal society and love infinitely" to an even greater audience. Students searched for hidden symbols and words and discovered how they related to the theme of his painting. Then middle school artists chose their own theme and created a painting using washable markers and watercolor paint.

As we wrap up the end of the school year, each class is a flurry of activity as students paint, color, draw, write and continue to think creatively and critically.



"Students taking advantage of the beautiful weather in the LCBMS courtyard while working on their art projects"

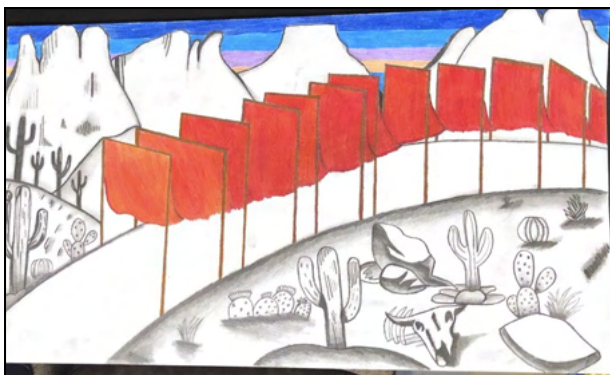
ART

The students in the Lakeland High School painting Class have been working on large scale paintings. They stretched their very own custom canvases and had to work in a more physical way. Some worked while standing up to be more expressive while others stretched their bodies across the canvas to reach certain areas. The sense of accomplishment and joy with their creations has left them feeling satisfaction as they reached a new level in their artistic pursuits.



LHS Drawing Class final project was all about radial symmetry and themes. Showcased all the skills they learned this year.

At Walter Panas High School Drawing students learned about the life and art of Jean Claude and Christo. They were then asked to create an installation



LIBRARY

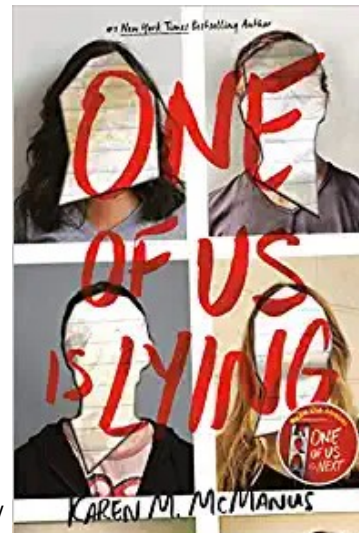
Secondary:

Walter Panas High School

Mrs. Cerone, Mrs. Erin Anderson, and the Mystery, Horror, and Suspense English 12 Elective Class read the thriller *One of Us is Lying* by Karen M. McManus together. For several weeks, the class would listen to the audiobook version of the novel, one chapter per day, while following along in the book. They filled in suspect boards, character profiles, answered short answer questions, and engaged in many class discussions to try to guess who the killer was. It was a great experience for the students as they showed an interest in developing a love of reading!

Elementary:

K-2 students have enjoyed the unit on Folktales from around the world. This month we highlighted variations of *Little Red Riding Hood*, *Jack and the Beanstalk* and *The Little Red Hen*. Children also enjoyed a Caldecott Celebration. They learned about this prestigious award and heard Caldecott winning stories. There were many lively conversations about illustrator styles.



Students in grades 2 - 5 sharpened their critical thinking and problem solving skills through the basic computer science activities in Code.org.

As we end this school year, students in grades 3 - 5 were introduced to several fun and offbeat stories. They enjoyed the wordplay in the stories by Roald Dahl and Sid Fleischman; and were captivated and engrossed with the short stories by Vivian Vande Velde. Also, African folk tales were a big hit, especially Anansi stories. Everyone loves a trickster! At last count, *Abiyoyo* sung/told by Pete Seeger was by far the favorite!

GUIDANCE

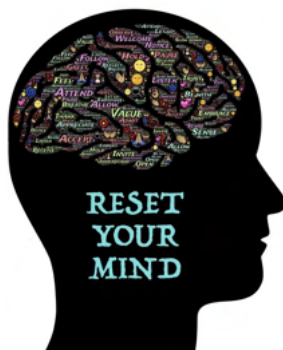
As we are nearing the end of the school year, the high school counselors have been finalizing post high school plans with the seniors. Surveys, the national deposit deadline for colleges, vocational programs, and connecting students to employment opportunities are just some of the ongoing end of year follow-up.

10th grade and 6th grade students are now on Naviance! The 10th and 6th grade students are the newest groups that are now up and running with their Naviance accounts. With access to this program, they will begin to learn about how they can conduct college and career research as part of their goal setting!

Lakeland High School now has a Breathing Room! A repurposed computer lab is now a space where people can relax, regroup and refocus during the day with the goal of alleviating stress and improving one's mindset. Mrs. Scharff, high school counselor, spearheaded the project by way of the generous support given by the Lakeland Education Foundation's grant. All of the Lakeland counselors, social workers, school psychologists and student assistance counselor have been integral in making the Breathing Room's opening a success. A special thank you to the ACE students in Engineering class for their help in assembling all of the furniture!

At Copper Beech, the middle school counselors are all in with transition work. The 8th grade counselors are meeting with the high schools and the elementary schools as well as 6th and 7th grade counselors preparing students for their upcoming years such as counselor-led tours of the 7th grade area for 6th grade students.

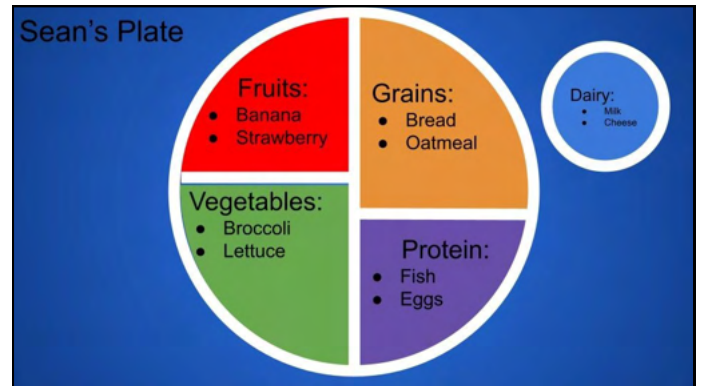
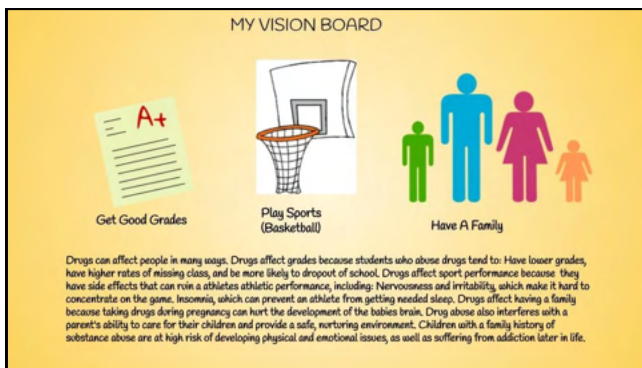
We are so proud and excited to celebrate our graduates at Lakeland HS and Walter Panas HS as well as our students graduating from Lakeland Copper Beech Middle School who are getting ready to join the high schools next year.



HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Health Highlight:

Ms. Barone's eighth grade students have been learning about the dangers of substance abuse. Students created vision boards to look at how their future could be impacted by substance abuse. They are now learning about communicable diseases. Seventh graders finished their alcohol unit where they discussed decision making and the dangers of alcohol use and are now learning about nutrition and will be setting goals in order to improve their eating habits. Students created their own version of the myplate. Check out some examples of student work below!



Elementary PE Highlight:

George Washington Scooter City is up and running! The students have been so excited to finish off the year with one of their favorite units. Scooter City is a citizenship and community based unit where students earn money through their fitness efforts. With that money they are able to play fun activities such as arcade basketball, Just Dance, air hockey, ping pong, rope swing, and so much more! Students also earn money by working certain jobs that are needed to keep our city running smoothly. During this unit they learn the importance of hard work, community, budgeting money, cooperation and many other values that will carry them through life! Check out our instagram @lcsdgpwe to see what this unit is all about!



HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

At **Benjamin Franklin**, they have recently finished up an outdoor challenge course unit with students in grades 3-5. The challenge course is a series of stations that tests a student's balance, flexibility, coordination and muscular strength. Students travel through the course using various obstacles such as rope and tire swings, as well as a balance beam. All students participating in the unit gained valuable experience collaborating in groups using skills such as communication, teamwork, cooperation, support, safety and respect.

K-2 students have recently completed an obstacle course unit. This is a new unit for the students at Benjamin Franklin. Coach Auerbach and Coach Janik wanted to expose their students to the challenges posed by an obstacle course since this will be one of the stations they complete during their upcoming Field Day. The K-2 obstacle course featured many athletic and fitness related challenges such as an agility ladder, hurdles, a balance beam, a mat wall, a balance board walk and an army crawl.



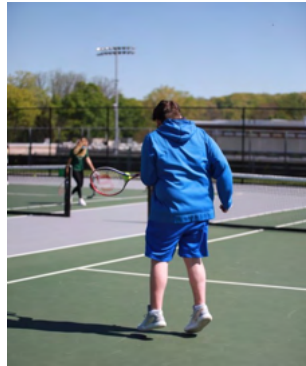
In **Lakeland Copper Beech Middle School (Gym A)**, they just completed a three week unit in Recreational or Back Yard Games. Students participated in four different activities over the first two weeks which included Can Jam, Bocce, Cornhole and Ultimate Frisbee. Each class rotated once through each activity for four PE classes. During the last two classes of the unit, students were given the choice of which game they wanted to play during PE, allowing them to pick the game they liked most to play with their friends/ classmates. The final week of the Rec Games unit was a four day capture the flag competition. These games were typically played class versus class to see which PE class could gain the most points in a period.

The **Walter Panas High School** Physical Education program now offers archery! Students had a great time challenging themselves while trying something new and exciting. We would like to thank the Lakeland Education Foundation for helping us make this new unit possible!



HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The **Lakeland High School** PE department has incorporated golf, a lifetime sport, into their program this year. The students have really been enjoying this unit in addition to an outdoor volleyball unit that has been taking place on the turf. Students were excited to have volleyball back this year, as it is a unit they love and look forward to every year. In addition to both of these, the Lakeland HS PE teachers also offered tennis and pickleball to their students. It was great to get everyone outside, enjoying some lifetime activities!



ENL

The ENL Department completed NYSESLAT testing for grades K-12 on June 9, getting all but one remote student in for all three in-person testing sessions. Kudos to the ENL team and building administrators for their flexibility in scheduling and room accommodations. And thank you to our ENL parents for getting their students to the testing sessions. A true team effort! The testing sessions were critical since last year's NYSESLAT was cancelled due to COVID, preventing students from showing their progress in the four modalities of English--speaking, listening, reading, and writing--and keeping them at their 2019 levels of service this school year.



The ENL team is also thrilled to offer in-person summer school for 20 of our neediest ENL students. The three-week program focuses on the four language modalities, with a combination of both social and academic English. The program is funded by our state Title III grant and is designed to help our ELLs maintain their language progress over the summer and prepare them for the upcoming school year.



Please remember we are a member district of the Teacher Center. These courses and workshops are open to all of our teachers district wide.

Upcoming Opportunities

- Certificate of Advanced Study in Bilingual Education - [Information Session](#)
- [Using Applied Behavior Analysis in Classrooms](#)
- [Living History Courses](#)
- [DASA](#)

Expanded professional learning opportunities to support remote and hybrid learning are available for New York's educators. The expanded opportunities are being facilitated by the Department's Teaching in Remote/Hybrid Learning Environments (TRLE) program and through a partnership with the New York State Association for Computers and Technologies in Education (NYSCATE). A calendar of these opportunities is available here <http://www.nysed.gov/trle/calendar-and-events>

Registration information is available by clicking on the links on this calendar.

Thank You to This Month's Contributors: Elaine Alden, Rebecca DiSisto-Leslie, Marcy Davidson, Tiffany Dyckman, Karen Gagliardi, Frank Gizzo, Candie Lorenz, Sue Lozinski, Kathy Mills-Hastings, Kate O'Connor, Kelly Rampola, Chris Ruggiero, Rick Russo, Mike Schaper, Scott Staub, Jaime Stroffolino, Carol Verrino, & Patty Viggiano

