Academic Excellence

DISCOVER
Livingston Public Schools
Empowering all to learn, create, contribute and grow.

Featured Photo:
"Selfie With Scholars!"

New This Week

- Academic Calendars Approved
- National Merit Scholar Finalists
- Presidential Scholar Candidates
- Fencing Team State Champions
- LHS Theater to Present "Once Upon a Mattress"
- Student Art Chosen For Exhibit

Board Matters

Planning Ahead:
2019-2020 Calendar Revised

At its meeting last Monday evening, the Livingston Board of Education approved two academic calendars. The 2019-2020 calendar was amended from the original January 29, 2018 approval date, while the 2020-2021 calendar was approved for the first time.

View District Calendars

Educators to Be Honored
The Livingston Board of Education will honor the district's 2019 Teachers of the Year at its next meeting on Monday, March 11, at 7 p.m. Please note that this meeting will be held at Heritage Middle School. All are welcome to attend!

READ: 2019 Honorees

Students Matter

And the Finalists Are...

Thirteen Livingston High School students have been named finalists in the National Merit Scholarship Program!

READ: National Merit Finalists

Presidential Scholar Candidates

Livingston High School seniors Caleb Liu, Vanessa B. Hu, and Sunny Chen have been named candidates for the 2019 U.S. Presidential Scholars Program!

Presidential Scholars are selected annually based on their academic success, artistic excellence, essays, school evaluations and transcripts, as well as evidence of community service, leadership and demonstrated commitment to high ideals.

READ: Presidential Scholars

MPMS Promotes Creativity

Nicole Kaushansky proudly shows off the cute little critter she created in the Media Center Makerspace at Mt. Pleasant Middle School. The goal of a makerspace is to give students a specific area where they can focus on making, learning, exploring, and sharing their ideas. In addition to expressing their creative sides, students learn ways to keep themselves safe when using a variety of materials and tools, such as wearing eye protection and following glue gun safety rules. Students can choose to visit the makerspace to engage in self-directed design projects during their enrichment period.

Communicate and Cooperate

Eighth grade students at Heritage Middle School recently spent time learning about...
effective ways to communicate and cooperate with others, as part of a wellness unit in health education.

As part of the lesson, students engaged in a skills-based health activity during which they were tasked with putting together a puzzle with their assigned groups. The catch? At first, they had to use only non-verbal communication to work with each other as they tried to fit the pieces together. After putting their communication and cooperation skills to the test, they were allowed to go back to talking to finish up the puzzle.

When they were all done, the students reflected on the experience, how they did personally, and how their group did as a whole in completing the task.

“They had a lot of fun, while learning at the same time,” said their teacher Krista Faust.

Mt. Pleasant Elementary
Students at MPE eagerly listened for their numbers to be called at their school’s annual Bingo Night organized by the PTA’s Building Our Community Committee. Shown are Blake Tiger, Simran Soni, Gabriele Cohen, Emma Diamond and Ryan Sutton.

Harrison Elementary
Students in Mrs. Lisa Fischer’s third grade class at Harrison School are studying Native Americans. They recently participated in a Totem Pole Raising ceremony while learning about the Kwakiutl tribe that lived along the Northw est Pacific Coast. Shown with the totem poles they created are, seated, Lucas Chen, Kanav Sonawane, Thomas Bar, Sabrina Pereira, Rohan Kukreja, and Sophia Karpov. In the middle row are Charlotte Shi, Aidan Zotti, Abigale Quillen, Isaac Rakovsky, Samuel Choi, Gautam Bava, and Gelivia Zhong. Standing are Timofey Evdokimov, Rohan Anand, Hasindu Wickramasinghe, Naisha Bhagashira, Aditya Shetty, Aly Weil, Elina Brahmandam, and Parth Shukla.

Burnet Hill Elementary
When students have free time at Burnet Hill, they may choose to work on “Stick Together,” a community based mosaic project located in the media center. They begin with a poster sized coded grid. Then, students use the color key to know what color sticker to place on which square. They do not know what the picture is until...
it reveals itself after a few weeks, but they certainly enjoy guessing! Shown above, Mia Hajart, Lyla Halper, Max Pfeffer and Samay Shah (all third graders in Miss Meghan Clark’s class) pose by the first completed mosaic project. Media specialist Sharon Edelberg says that in response to popular demand, she already has another project posted!

Hillside Elementary
At Hillside School, Gianna Rodriguez, Ava Anapolle, and Jordan Krentcil spent time “hitting the books” as part of a Reading Train, where students lined the hallways in celebration of Read Across America movement. Last week and this week, LPS schools celebrated Read Across America, an annual reading motivation and awareness program that calls for every child in every community to celebrate reading, and the birthday of Dr. Seuss! Be on the lookout for more photos in the next edition of DISCOVER!

Riker Hill Elementary
Students at Riker Hill enjoyed reading the story, *The Bad Seed*, by Jory John during their Buddy Group session. Students discussed how one can learn from a bad choice and make a better choice next time. Shown are fifth grader Carly Polow and kindergartner Ryan Haft.

Collins Elementary
School nurse Susan Gould makes sure students are healthy and ready to learn at Collins! Shown, first grader Joslyn Minde gets a quick checkup.

**KNOW OF AN LHS GRAD WHO SERVED IN THE MILITARY? CLICK HERE.**

**READ: LHS School Counseling Newsletter**

**“LIKE” us on FB!**

**The Arts Matter**

**LHS Spring Musical Next Week**
Livingston High School Theater will present the musical "Once Upon A Mattress" next week. Performances will be offered on March 14, 15 at 7 p.m., and March 16 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Tickets are $12. Come out to see a great show and support the talented cast and crew!

**INFO/TICKETS: LHSTheater.com**

**Fresh Perspectives Exhibit**
A ring created by [Livingston High School](#)
sophomore Gabriel Yecko will be included in this year’s “Fresh Perspectives” show, a juried high school art exhibition at the Morris Museum. The piece, which he made in Mr. Noah Meineke’s Metal Arts class, will be on display at the museum from March 9 through June 9.

Middle School Master Class

Mt. Pleasant Middle School musicians were recently treated to a master class with retired band/orchestra teacher Mr. John Palatucci. He taught many of the sixth graders when they were in fourth grade. The students enjoyed the musical reunion, during which they learned about how an ensemble works, how to listen while playing your part, how to follow a conductor's cues, and more!

Fencers Make History

VICTORY! The LHS boys’ fencing team made school history last week by winning the state title! Go Lancers!

Kindergarten Pre-Registration

Kindergarten Pre-Registration is now open. Please note that the entire kindergarten registration process must be completed by May 15th in order for parents to be notified of their child’s school placement by June 1st. This includes families with older siblings already attending a school within the district.

Update Emergency Contacts

To ensure that you receive all school district communication messages, please make sure to update your contacts in our automated Alert System.
Please log into your Genesis Parent Portal account and under "CONTACTS" be sure that you have checked off the box for "Emergency Broadcast" for any phone numbers/email addresses at which you wish to receive these messages.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: Upcoming Parent Program List

How does LPS decide on weather-related school closings?

Niche.com Top Ten Honors

Parent Matters

Don't Miss That Call/Text:

In the case of an emergency, or weather-related school closing, or school bus transportation issues, our alert system allows us to quickly communicate with parents and staff by text, email and phone. Please make sure that your contact information is up to date. Log on to Genesis and click the "Contacts" tab at the top of the page to review the information that is currently on file. Please be sure to check the "Emergency Broadcast" box to receive Emergency Broadcast Messages. Don't forget to save all changes.

What's On Your Mind?

We're interested in hearing what's on your mind. Share a story. Ask a question. Let us know about your concerns, anything from school safety and security to budget matters. Give a shout out to a special teacher. Talk with the Superintendent or Board of Education. Email your message c/o the Communications and Community Outreach Coordinator.

Student Services Information

Click HERE to Manage Subscriptions for School Newsletters

Community Matters

A "Senior" Senior Prom!

The 2019 Intergenerational Prom will be held on Tuesday, April 9, from 5:30 to 9 p.m. at Livingston High School!

A collaborative event between Livingston Public Schools, the Township of Livingston and the LHS Key Club, this year’s prom will be a celebration of
“the red, white and blue” with a theme of: “You’re a Grand Old Flag!” For more than three decades, this special dinner/dance party has been bringing Livingston students and senior citizens together to get to know each other as members of the same community. Click HERE for information.

LACD Offers After-School Sports

The Livingston Advisory Committee for Disabilities (LACD) offers great programs, free of charge, for people with special needs and their families.

LACD After-School Sports Program

Livingston Public Library News

Library Website/Upcoming Events

*WEATHER RELATED CLOSINGS: Please note that the Livingston Public Library may be open when schools have early dismissal, however, please be advised that the Library may close according to the school dismissal schedule or may close early due to weather conditions.

Staff Matters

Substitute Nurses
Livingston Public Schools is seeking substitute school nurses. Applicants must hold current license issued by the NJ Board of Nursing as a professional registered nurse (RN) and possess or be eligible for a Substitute Nurse Certificate. CPR/AED certification is required. Interested candidates should contact Carolyn Ross at cross@livingston.org

Cafeteria/Playground Aids
Livingston Public Schools is always looking for cafeteria and playground aides. Those who are interested should download the application, or stop by the Central Office at 11 Foxcroft Drive to pick up an application!

Crossing Guards
The Township of Livingston continues to look for crossing guards for its many posts throughout town. Crossing guards provide an important service to our students, helping them navigate the streets around our schools safely each day. Click HERE for application.
DISCOVER is the e-newslsetter from Livingston Public Schools with stories about students, teachers, and programs, and news about recent accomplishments and awards.

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