Growing Together

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

FEATURED PHOTO: "United We Stand"
Cross Cultural Program at Riker Hill

CALENDAR REMINDERS:
- ONLY elementary schools will have half-days from Monday Nov. 5 through Wednesday, Nov. 7 to allow time for teacher conferences. The middle schools and Livingston High School have full day sessions.
- All schools and offices are closed on Thursday and Friday, Nov. 8 and Nov. 9 for the annual New Jersey Education Association convention.
- To view the 2018-2019 school calendar, click HERE.

New This Week

Don't stop scrolling!
Find information on the following news, and more, in this week's DISCOVER.

- Emergency Broadcast Test Today
- "Safety and Civility" Message from Superintendent
- Halloween Photos
- Students Volunteer at Food Bank
- Cross-Cultural Program

District Matters
Emergency Broadcast Test Will Be Conducted Today

Livingston Public Schools will send out a test of our Emergency Broadcast System today, Monday, November 5, at 6:30 p.m. If you do not receive a phone, text or email notification on Monday, November 5, at 6:30 p.m., please log into the Genesis Parent Portal and click on the “Contacts” tab to update Emergency Broadcast information for each child.

If you would like to receive our automated alert messages, use the “EMERGENCY BROADCAST” checkbox next to the phone number and/or email address where you would like to receive the alerts. To receive text messages, be sure to indicate that the number is a cell phone by using the drop-down menu next to the phone number.

Superintendent's Message

This morning Livingston Public Schools’ Superintendent, Mr. Jim O’Neill, shared a message regarding “Safety and Civility” with parents and staff members. Click below to read his letter, which addresses these two very important topics as they relate to our school district.

A Letter From the Superintendent

The next Board of Education meeting will be held on Monday, November 19, at 7 p.m. Board of Education meetings are now videotaped and posted on our website. Click HERE to view past meetings.

www.facebook.com/LivSchools is the OFFICIAL Facebook page of the Livingston Public School district. Click HERE to "Like" us!

Your Vote Matters

Tomorrow is Election Day

All Livingston Public Schools will be OPEN on Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 6. (Elementary schools will have a half-day for teacher conferences).

Two local contests are on the ballot.

In Livingston, four candidates are running for two open seats on the Board of Education: incumbents Pam Chirls and Ronnie Konner, and challengers Todd Goren and Rachel Selvin.

There are five candidates running for three
Find Your Polling Location

Students Matter

Halloween 2018

Burnet Hill Elementary
On Halloween, the halls of Burnet Hill were filled with magic as Harry Potter (fifth grader, Trent Gordon) and Peter Pan (teacher assistant, Brian Bateman) shared their adventures.

Riker Hill Elementary
During their buddy groups, Riker Hill students read the book Spookley the Square Pumpkin and discussed how we are all the same yet different, and how each one of us is unique and special in our own way. Students then worked together on

Collins Elementary
Jordyn Harman, a fifth grader at Collins, walks hand-in-hand with her kindergarten buddy Alice Kiem during the school’s annual costume parade.

Mt. Pleasant Elementary
Olivia Attia, a second grader at Mt. Pleasant Elementary, brightened up the blacktop in her majestic unicorn costume!
Harrison Elementary
Mackenzie Vide, Kallie Hwang and Deandra Kurti are shown participating in Harrison's Halloween parade. All three are fifth graders in Mrs. Herrera's class.

Hillside Elementary
Making their way down the hallway at Hillside are Danny Nugent, Joe Sayas, Aiden Newton, Nick Mullin, Jimmy Bonardi, Ridhit Beri, Sean Mullen, Jack Silberman, Alex Chang, Shawn Labady, Anthony Mancino, Christian Giordano and Beau Belcuore. The fifth graders celebrated their last Halloween parade as "old friends."

There's No "I" in TEAM
Livingston High School office staff members got into the Halloween (and team) spirit with their "general manager" (a.k.a. Principal Mark Stern). Each of their jerseys featured their name and the number “13,” which is the number of support staff members at LHS.
Food, Help, Hope

Three levels of a local service organization recently came together in an act of community service. The Livingston High School Key Club and Heritage Middle School Builders’ Club took a joint field trip to the Community Food Bank of New Jersey in Hillside. They were joined by members of their umbrella organization, the Livingston Kiwanis Club. Members of the Key Club take this trip every year, but this is the first time the HMS Builders’ Club joined them. All of the participants helped sort and box up hundreds of donations. Shown at the food bank, in the front row, are Mike Ladolcetta (Key Club advisor), Bridgette Nevola, Lance Rogers, and Maureen Biss (Builders’ Club advisor). In the middle row are Linda Adelsohn (President of Kiwanis), Jon Kempner, Marianna Sassone, Katrina Pham, Avika Bansal, Giovanna McCorkell (Key Club advisor), Kathleen Zhang, and Tripta Dhaliwal. In the back row are Jeremy Zoller, Priela Safra, Anusha Bansal, Helen Cheng, Eshani Vora, and Leah Margolis. Sia Bansal also volunteered at the event.

Trash to Treasure

Mt. Pleasant Middle School students made art from recycled materials during Makerspace activities in the media center. Shown, Sofia Calderon presents her masterpiece that was created from what may otherwise have been discarded items.

Culture Matters

Cross-Cultural Connections

At Riker Hill, a display of toys from around the world provided a fun, educational way for students to learn about different cultures. The display was just one part of an engaging presentation by photojournalist J Sara Klatchko.
Parent Matters

Parent Development Programs

Mark your calendars! From special education support, to health and wellness programs and help with the college application process, Livingston Public Schools offers a wide variety of informative Parent Development programs. For a comprehensive list of programs offered during the 2018-2019 school year, click below.

Parent Program List

Livingston Education Foundation

The Livingston Education Foundation (LEF) is a non-profit organization providing school-community partnerships and shared resources to enhance educational opportunities for Livingston Public Schools.

PURCHASE A PAVER: You can support the LEF by purchasing a personalized brick paver at Livingston High School! Click HERE for order form.

SAVE THE DATE! Monday, January 14! The LEF's Community Book Club is back! This year's author and book will soon be announced. STAY TUNED! Last year the LEF hosted best-selling author and LHS grad Harlan Coben. See PHOTOS from last year's event!
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. 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.

OVER-THE-COUNTER MEDICATION PERMISSION: The online form for parents to give permission for school nurses to administer over-the-counter medications to students is now ready for parents to complete. Click HERE to log into the Genesis Parent Portal to update the form.

Teachers Matter

Always Learning

Teachers in grades K-5 attended a workshop presented by Dr. Nicki Newton on using Guided Math and the Math Workshop Model. Dr. Newton has presented programs both in the United States and internationally, and has written books on this pedagogy.

Karen Seiferheld, the school district’s PreK-6 Mathematics Supervisor, said that the Math Workshop Model is an effective way to differentiate instruction and meet students where they are academically in their study of mathematics. The district’s K-5 teachers spent the day with Dr. Newton in the Riker Hill media center learning about strategies for implementing this model and also about resources they can use to support it.

Ms. Seiferheld explained that implementing this pedagogy is now a goal in each of the
elementary schools. "Since Dr. Newton is an expert on the topic and has written several books on using the Math Workshop Model, the principals and I thought it would be best for all of our teachers to be trained by him," she noted.

Lancer Matters

Winter Sports at LHS

Fall will be over sooner than we know it! Registration for winter sports at Livingston High School is open. For more information, and to register, visit the Lancers Website. Go Lancers!

Staff Matters

Help Wanted: Lunch/Recess Aides

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

Application Information
LACD Offers Holiday Party And Sports Programs

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

The LACD and Senior Youth and Leisure Services (SYLC) will hold a HOLIDAY PARTY on Saturday, December 1, from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., at the Senior and Community Center, 204 Hillside Avenue. Celebrate with food, beverages, DJ music, and a visit from Santa! Organizers kindly ask that everyone bring a dessert.

RSVP is required. Call Alan Karpas 973-992-6411 or email alan@karpas.net to RSVP by November 20, and/or for more information. The snow date is December 8. In case of inclement weather, call 973-535-7961, ext. 231, to check on the status.

Fall Fun at the Library

The Livingston Public Library offers a variety of programs for young children, tweens, teens and adults! There is something for everyone to enjoy from reading programs, to financial workshops and musical performances! Upcoming programs include “Turning Adversity into Opportunity” by motivational speaker Bruce Freeman on Saturday, November 17, at 10:30 am. See below for more information.

"Turning Adversity into Opportunity"

Crossing Guards Needed

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. For more information about the position, including requirements, hours, and salary, click below.

Application Information
DISCOVER is the e-newsletter from Livingston Public Schools with stories about students, teachers, and programs, and news about recent accomplishments and awards.

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