

## Livingston Board of Education Votes to Make Up Snow Days by Adding Extra Year to High School

By Samantha Spencer '15 and Oriana Tang '15

In a unanimous decision last Friday, the Livingston Board of Education voted to make up the extra snow days taken this year by adding a fifth year to high school.

Seniors will be returning in the fall for another round of twelfth grade classes, deferring their college attendance for a year; other grade levels will also be expected to spend an extra year at LHS. Fourth year students will be renamed "junior-seniors"; fifth years will be known as "senior-seniors."

A report released by board president, Mr. Barry Funt, declared that an extra year is the only proper solution to the conundrum of unprecedentedly losing three days of school to the weather. The report noted that an extra year provided the best compromise to the debate over whether or not to cut spring break.

"An extra school year will provide security for any future years when we have to make up snow

days," explained Board Student Representative Jeremy Knopf.

Most parents agreed.

"I mean, with this crazy winter, it's only right," said Charles

repealed."

Lacey Altman, mother of first-grader Brian, noted that six-year high schools are currently 'in vogue.' "I heard that Beyoncé's hav-



Senior Amanda Goldstein laments her postponed graduation and subsequent descent into the kitchens of McDonald's. Image source: campuscalm.com.

Lee, father of fifth-grade student Hannah, in support of the vote. He added, "Anyway, it doesn't matter because by the time Hannah's in high school, they'll probably have it

ing Blue Ivy do five years," she whispered. "If Blue Ivy's doing it, then obviously we should too."

But teachers expressed their concerns with the change.

Social studies teacher Mr. Daniel Ippolito lamented, "If both junior-seniors and senior-seniors leave [campus] at the same time, it will be even harder to get into Chipotle."

Others were disgusted that they would have to deal with the same students for an additional year.

"To imagine another year with my senioritis seniors would be like entering Dante's *Inferno*," bemoaned English teacher Maryann Anderson, "where I, as a teacher, would 'abandon all hope' because its occupants never learn their lesson, are lifeless, and are a helluva challenge." She added thoughtfully, "By the way, Dante's is a world of ice, so is school cancelled anyway?"

Seniors were observed throwing their hands up in frustration and tossing textbooks out the windows and into the courtyard, where a large pile of torn papers and broken spines have accumulated.

"I'm so happy to be here for another year," said a student concussed by a copy of Brinkley's *American History: A Survey*.

## A.M. Wired Finally Canceled After 24 Seasons

By Samantha Spencer '15 and Oriana Tang '15

As a result of low ratings and poor reviews, Livingston Television has announced that "A.M. Wired" will be canceled after this season. The lowest ratings have been at 7:50 A.M., when the show airs each weekday.

"Extreme A.M. Wired," a brief stunt of the show featuring cast members performing "intense" feats, such as spinning rapidly on their chairs, was the tipping point. After a week of plummeting ratings, the school administration decided that it would be best for both students' and faculty's mental health if the show were canceled.

Television teacher Mr. Steven Milano championed the movement, saying, "I think canceling 'A.M. Wired' outright is the only way to stop their propaganda and their one-sided control of our school. The Liberal Media Must Be Silenced!"

The cast and crew members of "A.M. Wired" are indifferent about the show's cancellation.

"It sucks, so I don't really care," "A.M. Wired" student Sam Thor exclaimed. The majority of the students are relieved that they will no longer have to wake up early to put on a production that no one views.

When Television Club President, Rachael Richard, was asked to comment, she responded, "What's 'A.M. Wired?'"

Teachers have decided to utilize the first ten minutes of the school day to read *The Lance* instead of watching "A.M. Wired." A new rule has been instituted in most classrooms decreeing that students who ask that "A.M. Wired" be turned on will be castigated and thrown out of class.

The lone dissenter to the cancellation was Brett Weiser-Schlesinger, who claimed that the highlight of his school career has been "learning all of the fascinating facts of the day." "They're just so enlightening," he said morosely, lamenting that he will now have to resort to legitimate sources for his extensive knowledge of trivia.

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## Livingston Alumnus Claims that "Calculus Really Helped Me in My Adult Life"

By Crystal Song '14

Describing it as "the most valuable experience, by far, of my high school career," an unnamed LHS alumnus credited their AP Calculus BC coursework with his overwhelming success in adult life.

"Kids are going to disagree, I know," the anonymous graduate told *Lance* reporters after extracting an oath that his identity would remain confidential, as "my stance is extremely controversial. But it's the truth." He ranked AP Calculus BC, a fast-paced course that covers two semesters of college-level mathematics, above all other classes in terms of long-term importance.

Far from being the painful and ultimately useless course that many students make it out to be, the former Lancer confided, high-school calculus can play an integral—no pun intended—role in daily life. "Just yesterday, I used derivatives to find the rate of change as my coffee filtered through the paper into the pot."

As news broke of this un-

usual revelation, some current LHS students expressed wholehearted agreement. "Math is actually important. In comparison, some of our required classes are just pointless. Like personal finance. Why would we need to know how to spend and save money? Or driver's ed. I mean, learning how to drive a car? Who's ever going to need to do that?" said one student, whose girlfriend promptly broke up with him.

Another agreed: "Math and science are so important. We need to keep up with the Soviets."

Other opinions were more lukewarm, particularly those of seniors currently enrolled in Calculus BC. "It's not too bad. It gives me some perspective," one said. "Whenever I'm sitting around feeling sorry for myself in another class, I think, 'At least I'm not in calc right now.'" A classmate's response was outright derisive: "What, like this class is useful at all in the long run? Next you're going to tell me that APUSH was the most important class I ever took. It's not like it repeats itself or anything."

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The *Lance* is a newspaper publication for the reading pleasure of the Livingston District. We encourage readers to submit their ideas and opinions. We reserve the right to edit all pieces for length concerns, libelous content, and material which may cause disruption of the school and/or the district.

If you have any comments or suggestions, e-mail us at:  
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## High School Student Claims She Has Fun

By Oriana Tang ‘15

LHS junior Amanda Glatt claims that despite her heavy course load and current status as a high school student, she still has fun.

“I can’t believe it,” said one English teacher. “We’ve tried so hard to give enough homework so that students barely have time to sleep, much less have fun.”

“Clearly we have to revise the way we teach,” said another. “We can’t make things too easy.”

Allegedly, Glatt is not only able to find the time to get sufficient rest while keeping up on assignments and extracurricular activities, but also manages to make occasional forays to the movie theater, the mall, and other venues.

Students seem desperate to learn Glatt’s secrets to happiness in high school, mobbing Glatt in the hallways with questions. When asked, Glatt only shrugged. “I don’t think there’s a secret, exactly,” she said. “It’s more like a personal thing to be able to juggle all these activities, to be honest. I mean... I think I’m just that great.”

## From the Desk of the Editors-in-Chief

Recently, the students at Livingston High School have been buzzing with excitement. A cloud of relief and happiness has descended over the school resulting in students studying harder, sleeping more, and earning grades that break record highs.

The reason for all of these miraculous improvements? Gym class has been permanently banned from LHS.

While it may appear insignificant, this minute difference in the lives of students has fostered significant changes in the overall disposition of the school’s

inhabitants.

No longer are students dragging drawstring bags stuffed with sneakers and sweatpants through full classrooms. The dread of facing arctic weather on the walk to the Fitness and Wellness Center has been eliminated. Warm ups and pacer tests are a worry of the past.

As a result of this much desired reform, the good mood that it has created has motivated students to increase their effort in academics. Due to the exponential increase in academic performance, the administration has predicted that by 2050, 30% of graduates will attend an Ivy

League university—solely as a result of the elimination of gym class. Now, it is estimated that due to the banning of gym class, LHS students as a whole are happier and healthier, both mentally and physically. There will be no more rushing to class, sweaty and flustered, unable to focus. No more failing tests the period after gym due to overheating and claustrophobia.

An LHS senior comments on this welcome change saying, “I never thought this day would come, it’s a miracle.”

**Crystal and Rachel**

# features

## Ten Steps to Getting into the College of Your Dreams

By Chloe Seltzer ‘14

Everyone knows that colleges nowadays look for the best of the best. How can you make sure that you meet their lofty expectations? The graduating members of the 2014-15 *Lance* staff compiled a list of their top ten tips for getting into your dream school. Rising

seniors, take note.

1. Cure cancer.
2. Run a marathon barefoot.
3. Become the president of every honors society.
4. Create peace in the Middle East.
5. Have your own Ted talk.
6. Win a Nobel Prize.
7. Take your interview in a tuxedo.

8. Learn every language possible and come up with your own language.
9. Resurrect dinosaurs.
10. Read *The Lance*.

With these ten steps, a 5.0 GPA, a 2400 SAT score and a 36 ACT score, you may have a chance of getting into the college of your dreams!

## A.M. Wired, page 1

With 24 seasons under its belt, Livingston High School will say goodbye to “A.M. Wired” in June. Its loss is highly anticipated.

“A.M. Wired” will be replaced by “Teacher Swap,” an all-new reality series featuring the mishaps that occur when LHS teachers switch classes.

## LHS Teacher Announces Bid for Presidency



From left to right: vice presidential candidate Maryann Anderson, presidential candidate Joseph Trad, and First Lady hopeful Jennifer Johnson. Image credit: Rachel Geffner.

By Morgan Levy ‘15

Livingston High School English teacher and Voice of Reason, Joseph Trad, has announced his candidacy for the 2016 presidential election. Trad will be running with the Party of Reason; the party’s platform is abolishing “Pure Selfishness” in our selfish society.

Future First Lady and English teacher Jennifer Johnson is thrilled about the campaign. “Selfishness has become a growing epidemic in our country. No one is more selfless and more equipped to take our country from the shackles of narcissism than Mr. Trad.”

Trad will be running with Vice President Maryann Anderson. Anderson, also an English teacher, looks forward to working with “the voice of all reason—I mean, the voice of all reason.”

The candidate has also announced that if elected, he will appoint English teacher Amanda Buys Chief of Staff. While honored to be appointed, Buys expressed some

concerns “after Trad forced me to bow down in front of him and memorize the ‘Constitution of Trad.’”

Avid political enthusiast and history teacher Daniel Ippolito will be appointed Head of the CIA; math teacher Melissa Eisen, Secretary of State; and math teacher and wrestling coach Daniel Brill, Secretary of Defense. Brill feels that “Trad will make for an unbelievable leader.”

Serving as Head of the Department of the Treasury will be business teacher Thomas Garzon, who feels that “I never understand a word he [Trad] is saying, so I can just do anything I want.”

Running against Trad in the Namaste Party will be English teacher Leon Alirangues. Alirangues feels no threat as “invertebrates have more backbone. Do we really want a commander-in-chief who prefers asparagus over steak? I think not.” Alirangues’ running mate is environmental science teacher Nuni-Lyn Walsh.

## The Lance Readership Increases to Record High of Three

By Brett Weiser-Schlesinger ‘14

In an achievement referred to as “unprecedented” by advisor Joseph Trad, Livingston High School readership of *The Lance* reached a record high of three readers after the successful release of the newspaper’s March edition.

According to reports, enticing and relatable headlines such as “Civil Unrest in Sultanate of Brunei” and “Further Violations of Transgender Rights in North Dakota” brought readership to its all-time peak level.

“This time around, we tried to put in an effort to appeal to the average Livingston High School student’s interests, and are glad that we’re finally catching on with the trends,” said *Lance* editor Jordan Spector.

The previous highest readership mark was two, set after the publication of the Summer 2013 edition, following the massive uproar in reaction to the newspaper’s new logo.

# features

## LHS Health Babies: Where Are They Now?

By Brianna Bachner '14

Each senior at Livingston High School is given the responsibility of caring for a mechanical baby for twenty-four hours. The students must take them home, feed, change, and give them attention; the next morning, the babies are returned to their home atop the radiator, never to be heard from again.

So where are these babies now? What happened to those babies LHS seniors once loved so dearly for a day? I decided to find out. After months of phone calls, missing persons reports, e-mails, and meetings with a private investigator, I managed to track down a few of the long-lost babies. Three of them asked that I keep their names and information confidential—they've had some trouble with past parent stalkers—but one, a Mr. Gustavus Posner, the former health baby and estranged son of Randy Posner, gave



LHS seniors Randy Posner, Jason Shaiman, and Jake Karp with their respective babies. Image credit: Randy Posner.

Lance reporters a chance to interview him. Mr. Posner was dressed casually in long jean shorts and a plain white tee, accompanied by two gold chains around his neck and a dark beard.

**Reporter:** So, Mr. Posner, where have you been for all these years?

**GP:** I tried my best to stay under

the radar. But I've been here, just living life. By the way, call me Stav.

**Reporter:** Okay, Stav. Where do you work? Are you married?

**GP:** I had a brief career as a social worker, but it didn't work out. So now I'm a traveling salesman. I sell some great Tupperware. You want?

**Reporter:** No, thank you. So are

you married?

**GP:** I was married once or twice—didn't last long. I'm seeing someone, though. Mannie Quin. She works at a Macy's. You know, one of those girls who always stands in the windows. We're planning a trip to the beach this weekend. She could use a tan.

**Reporter:** Sounds fun. I'm glad to hear you're doing so well. Thank you for your time, Stav.

**GP:** No problem, I'm not busy.

Two weeks after this interview, I learned that Stav proposed to his girlfriend at the beach. They are to be married in June. His father will not be attending the wedding. When we reached out to Randy for a comment on his decision not to attend, he replied only with, "I do not approve of Stav's relationship. I mean, c'mon, the girl is completely lifeless!"

So, future LHS seniors, remember: treat your baby right. You never know where they may end up!

## Second-Semester Senior Caught Completing Schoolwork

By Rachel Geffner '14

In the weeks following the start of the second semester, seniors throughout Livingston High School have been diligently working to fulfill their role in the school community. In any given classroom, they can be found scribbling in Disney-themed coloring books, texting their friends for after-school plans, and studiously daydreaming through

calculus and Spanish classes.

However, the administration recently reported that one unnamed student from the 2014 senior class was caught red-handed completing his schoolwork.

"It is very unfortunate," says a member of the Livingston Board of Education. "We were so proud of all of the seniors and their ability to blatantly ignore their educational

responsibilities until we discovered one of them enthralled in the task of writing an English essay."

Teachers and administrators alike felt widespread disappointment upon hearing the shocking news. The teacher who caught the senior felt extremely disrespected as a result of the student's focus and diligence. "I told him to stop writing immediately and take out

his coloring book. His motivation to actually complete schoolwork was offensively astonishing."

Currently, the school administration is deciding on a punishment for the delinquent; ideas range from a short suspension to complete expulsion. For more news on this pending case, visit the Livingston High School home page.

# opinion

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editors-in-Chief,

I am writing to you today to express my growing discontent with the state of your newspaper. I am a happy father of four sons, and have made every effort to enlighten them on the history of our glorious nation, most particularly on our continued crusade against those who have threatened American freedom: the successes of the KKK, the proud era of slavery, and the containment of the American Indians.

I have been a loyal reader of *The Lance* for over 30 years, and have seen before my eyes the painfully clear degradation in quality of this once-beloved publication.

I remember the good days of the late 70's and early 80's. Headlines from "Livingston Woman Arrested for Leaving Kitchen" to "Proud Father Makes Honest Living and Supports Family" promoted the key family values we have treasured in this community for 200 years. But this year, every issue—yes, every one, I've checked—has published articles promoting the

rights of women and homosexuals. Having articles celebrating these blasphemous ideas will rot the brains of Livingston High School students and corrupt this country into communism as the future generation rises to power.

What you are doing with headlines about "offensive" popular songs and supposed "discrimination" against the homosexuals (even though their very existence goes against nature) is far more dangerous than you young souls may realize. The downfall of this great nation will be in no small part thanks to "progressive" students like those on this editorial staff, and I find it absolutely disgusting that you and this school's administration allow this "gay shit" to continue.

I urge Ms. Geffner and Ms. Song, to stop this endless abuse, and bring the greatness of America back to *The Lance*.

Sincerely,  
*A True American*

## Bicentennial Statues Return to Livingston

By Rachel Roth '14

Remember those realistic statues scattered around town in celebration of Livingston's bicentennial? The ones that made you hit the brakes because you were scared they'd dart across the street at any moment? The ones you were once happy disappeared?



LHS students bring the bicentennial statues back to life. Image credit: Rachel Geffner.



The statues are back, and almost as lifelike as they were the first time around. Students who now long to see the friendly faces have been spotted attempting to resurrect them. Frightening? Absurd? Absolutely. But then again, who doesn't miss the elderly woman struggling to hold her groceries in front of Kings?



# lance lite

## Following 2014 Sochi Olympics, Livingston Adds Varsity Curling to Athletics Program

By Brett Weiser-Schlesinger '14

Beginning in the 2014-15 winter sports season, Livingston High School will organize a yearly varsity curling team, as the school's athletics department reported last Sunday.

The school will organize two squads of five members each, with respective girls' and boys' teams. Each team will be led by two captains, as per curling tradition.

"I know I can speak for everyone here at Livingston High School when I say that life since this year's Olympics ended just hasn't been the same," said Livingston curling enthusiast and possible team captain Morgan Levy. "We're hoping to fill that void by bringing the thrill of curling to every winter sports season from here on out at LHS."

Curling is a sport played with 44-pound discs called "stones," which are slid across an icy



USA curler John Landsteiner makes his Olympic Curling debut in Sochi; this year's Olympics have inspired students to take up curling. Image source: nbcolympics.com

surface. The goal is to reach the center of a painted target, in order to accumulate as many points as possible at the end of the round. The game is won by winning the most points over an opposing team.

"I get this incredible, invigorating adrenaline rush just from hearing the clacking of the stone against the slick, smooth surface of the ice," said consensus future captain Oriana Tang. "The blood-pump-

ing feeling you get from the rapid, frantic sweeping of the broom? Try getting *that* kind of competitive experience from football."

"To be honest, I don't even know what curling is," stated hopeful assistant team captain Samantha Spencer, "but I am looking forward to helping to bring a new sport to the LHS Athletics Program. I'm getting sick of watching the typical high school sports season after season. As the first ever USA high school curling team, Livingston High School is a trendsetter for all other schools to follow."

Although LHS currently has no opponents within the continental United States, students will take frequent trips to Norway for interscholastic matches.

"It will be quite a cultural experience. I can't wait to explore such a thrilling new sport," said future team member Gabby Watson.

## ROVING REPORTER: "Can I say something crazy? Will you go to prom with me?"

By Joan Shira '14

"Stop hitting on me."

Sam Brown

[Laughs out loud]

Omaf Latiff

"I've been waiting for your proposal."

Sarah Hui

"Chrome?" "Prom." "What?!"

Helen Chen

"Oh . . . wait, really?"

Kevin Kwok

"No."

Stephen Fung

"Oh. Okay."

Yinka Fasehun

[Blank expression]

Brett Weiser-Schlesinger

[Bewildered look] "Of course!"

Joseph Trad

## Greek Life Comes to Livingston High School

By Randy Posner '14

In order to broaden the Lancer community and help create more brotherhood and sisterhood between students, the guidance department has decided to add Greek life to the Livingston High School repertoire of clubs. Construction has already begun around the turf area and in "the pit" by the town pool as fraternity and sorority row will be erect in the fall of 2014.

Requirements to rush, or pursue joining a fraternity or sorority, are extremely strict in order to keep student integrity high in the

classroom. GPA standards are still being worked, out and a cost to join will be voted on at the next LBOE meeting.

The physical education department is excited to add the "Greek Life Olympics," a similar event to Senior Games that will take place on the turf the week before graduation starting in the summer of 2015, along with other fraternity-sorority mixers throughout the year.

So far, here are the fraternities and sororities coming to campus next year:

- Sigma Phi Pi:** Members must measure at least 72" tall
- Chi Mu Beta:** Give me an X! Give me an M! Give me a B!  
What does that spell? SPIRITI
- Alpha Beta:** For those of you who enjoy your ABC's, this is the frat for you!
- Mu Alpha Theta:** MATH + YOU = FUN
- Psi Delta Epsilon:** For all of you "Psi-ence" geeks!
- Lambda Alpha Chi:** Bros unite!
- Rho Kappa:** Washington, Jefferson, Lenin, and more!  
Don't forget your textbook!

## New Electives Announced for Next School Year

By Morgan Levy '15

In an attempt to satisfy the needs of the twenty-first century student, Livingston High School will add a number of new elective courses to the guidance catalogue for the 2014-2015 school year. These options will focus on providing helpful life skills to every LHS student.

To fill the New Jersey requirement for technological literacy, Butter Churning 101 will be a new course at LHS. Students will learn the art of butter churning as a way to understand the importance of traditional values and to discourage reliance on technologies that have made our lives easier. Who needs an iPhone when you can walk five miles to say "Sup bff! <3 <3 <3" to your friend?

As a mechanism to abolish the convenient practice known as "e-mail," LHS will also offer an AP Letter Writing course. Students will learn the history of mail, including

how to write a love letter to their desired prom date. Other topics will include cursive, calligraphy, stationery selection, and pen selection.

Following numerous and considerable complaints about tripping and traffic jams in A-Hall, another course offered will be Shoe-tying Seminar. While this may seem like an elementary-level skill, many LHS students fail to tie their shoes on a daily basis. This skill will even be added to the redesigned High School Proficiency Assessment. And in a world where violence runs rampant, an Explosive Building course will be added. Topics will include various types of explosives to prepare students for any wars which may break out over the last cup of iced coffee in the cafeteria.

The guidance department is excited about these new courses. Students often complain that school does not help them in their daily lives, and LHS looks forward to implementing these outdated courses.