Scheduling for the 2015-2016 School Year

On the half day scheduled for Friday, April 3rd, we will kick off our course selection window when students and parents can make initial course requests for next school year. This window will stay open until the beginning of April vacation. The process will be slightly different than it has been in the past and will include students being required to get current teachers and parents to sign off on their selections. More detailed information will be coming out in the next couple of weeks.
The high school counseling office at Lee Middle and High School has been redesigned to better serve the needs of our students. It now includes a work area where students can come after school or during a directed study period to work on their individual career plans, complete college applications, sign up for standardized tests, and much more. The College and Career Center also includes a classroom area where students will be able to attend workshops on a variety of topics. Thanks in part to a grant through the Berkshire County Regional Employment Board we have been able to purchase a Chromebox desktop, two Chromebook laptops, and a video display system for presentations. Students are welcome to stop by when they are not assigned to a class, and can make an appointment if they need assistance with a particular task.

Services include...

- Print and online career and college planning resources
- Wi-Fi and devices available
- *Do What You Are 2.0* personality assessment to help students learn about their personality, strengths, blind spots, and more
- *Strengths Explorer* assessment to help students uncover talents and reveal potential strengths
- *Learning Style Inventory* to help students discover their learning and working style
- *Career Interest Inventory* to help students discover the types of work activities and careers that match their interests
- Access to several online college search tools, and assistance using them
- Internship information and support
- Standardized testing information (SAT, ACT, etc.)
- College visits (Every year college representatives from across the area visit our College and Career Center to meet with students)
- Information on upcoming college and career fairs
- College and career planning workshops (coming soon!)
- Financial aid information
- Work on the FAFSA, search for local and national scholarships, and complete applications
- College information nights for students and parents
- Local job posting board

For more information or to schedule a time to come for a visit, email dkorte@leepublicschools.net

**Scholarships as unique as each student**

Scholarships and grants pay for 31% of college costs, according to *How America Pays for College 2014*, yet this valuable source of funding is often overlooked. Scholarship Search by Sallie Mae® is a free, easy way for students to find scholarships that are as unique as they are. It automatically searches through a database of more than 3 million scholarships, worth up to $18 billion, based on a wide range of activities, interests, and affiliations entered by the student. Email alerts are sent when new matches are posted. Plus, by registering, students can easily enter a monthly sweepstakes for a chance to win $1,000.

Learn more at SallieMae.com/Scholarships
LMHS Juniors Participate in Job Shadow Day on March 3rd

On Tuesday, March 3rd, LMHS juniors participated in a job shadow experience with an employer in the community. (postponed from February 2nd) A job shadow is a learning experience that takes place at a business in the community. It usually lasts from 3-6 hours.

During a job shadow, students follow a worker from a career field you are interested in learning more about during a typical day and observe and ask questions about his or her work. Students completed written assignments through Mrs. McEvoy’s English 11 classes to help them understand, think about, and record the things they saw, heard, and learned.

This was a great experience for all of our juniors who participated!

Are You a Business Owner or Employer who would like to Help LMHS Students Learn about Careers?

On Friday, April 17th, LMHS and the LYA will be hosting our 4th Annual Career Fair and we are looking for local employers to attend. From 8:45-11:30 you will have a table set up in the gym with information about the different types of careers you offer including the education and training that is necessary, potential earnings, what the day-to-day job is like, etc. If you are looking for summer employees you may also hand out applications. At 11:30 we will provide you with lunch. If you would like to stay into afternoon, we are looking for people to conduct mock job interviews with members of the junior class.

If you have any questions, or you’d like to sign up, please contact dkorte@leepublicschools.net.

Seniors: March 31st is the Deadline for Most Local Scholarships

Scholarship applications are available now on the LMHS School Guidance website. There are 3 types of scholarships that you will find here.

1. Local scholarships that use our internal application and do not require an essay.
2. Local scholarships that use our internal application and do require an essay.
3. External, but local, scholarships that have their own application process.

For detailed information on the application process and to submit your applications, please visit: http://www.leepublicschools.net/lmhs/schoolcounselors

MEFA Paying the College Bill Seminar

“Parents and students are invited to attend a free seminar on paying the college bill, which will be held on Wednesday, April 1st, at 6:30pm at Lenox Memorial Middle and High School. This seminar is offered through MEFA, the Commonwealth’s authority on planning, saving, and paying for college. An experienced MEFA representative will provide an overview of the college payment process, including the details of financial aid award letters, using payment plans, different financing options, and how to minimize debt. Before the seminar, be sure to visit MEFA’s website — mefa.org — to download a copy of the seminar presentation and explore other tools and resources to assist you in the college planning process. Also, bring your award letters with you for questions after the seminar”.

Darby Curtin at Berkshire Film & Media
Students Broadcast Basketball Games
Students from Lee Live and Mr. Fillio’s Video Production classes got together to record varsity basketball games to be broadcast on CTSB.

Community Suppers
Our most recent community supper was held on February 25th. Seven students from Lee Middle & High School helped set up, prepare, serve and clean up after this event which served our Lee community. The students served a total of 57 Lee residents. We had a greeter, preparation staff, cooks, and clean up staff. The students had a chance to socialize and mingle in with the elderly, and family members that attended our supper. One of the students was kind enough to say Grace. The students were introduced to our community and really had a chance to see what it was like serving our elderly, lonely and less fortunate Lee community members. Thank you very much to our Life Skills class for preparing our brownies for dessert. Brownies with French vanilla ice cream is always a great way to top off a spaghetti dinner!! We would like to extend a special thank you to The Berkshire Taconic Foundation for awarding us a grant for $1000.00 to the Feed the People of Lee Fund.

Freshmen Holiday Spirit
The Class of 2018 had a busy December raising money and socializing in several special events. Led by President Shane Cloutier, Vice-President Alyssa Heath, Secretary Shannon Finnegan, and Treasurer Sarah Cook, the group kicked off the holiday season thinking of community. Students personally donated over $350 to the Dreams of Joy Fund, and the officers went shopping for a mountain of presents for two little boys. The freshmen baked pies from scratch in Mrs. Connors’ room after taking orders in school and at home. It took six hours to bake 120 pies, but was a great team effort that added over $400 to their class treasury. Finally, the class met one evening in the cafeteria to watch holiday movies, munch snacks, and exchange holiday presents in festivities attended by over 30 freshmen. The Class of 2018 will continue their events in the spring with a Color Run fundraiser and a class activity to celebrate the end of the year.

Dental Clinic - The Dental Clinic was held here at Lee Middle High School on February 24th. Our hygienist, Lucy, performed oral exams on several students including a cleaning, sealants and a fluoride treatment. The students took a pre and posttest on what they learned concerning good oral health.

Any student interested in attending Pittsfield School District Vocational Program, the deadline for application is April 1st