Message from Mr. Brighenti, LMHS Principal

Dear Parents and Guardians,

First quarter is done! That certainly went quickly...

As you review your student's report card for quarter 1, please be sure to be in touch if you have concerns. I will be trying to meet with as many individual students over the next few weeks who did not have a great first quarter to see if there is anything the school can do to help them be more successful; I certainly would welcome your input on your children.

Do you have questions or concerns about LMHS in general? If so, please come to the school on Monday, November 17th at 6:30pm to chat. I'll be having open "office hours" for parents to visit and chat at that time. Please feel free to stop in, no appointments necessary. We'll email home more information as the date gets closer.

There's a lot of good information in this issue of the Wildcat Newsletter -- including a lot to celebrate!

Have you checked out our new website?

Our website has been updated with a new design and many new features to improve the ways we communicate with you. Some of the features you will now find include:

- Google calendars for school events that can be synced to your personal calendars/devices
- Mobile friendly navigation and content
- Faculty contact information and new faculty sites with more on the way

www.leepublicschools.net
School Counseling Information

http://www.leepublicschools.net/schoolcounselors
http://leehealer.blogspot.com/

College Bound Seniors and Parents: Save the Date

On Thursday, December 11, we will hold our annual Financial Aid Presentation at Lenox Memorial Middle and High School. This event is sponsored by the Massachusetts Educational Financing Authority (MEFA). A representative from a local financial aid office will be on hand to answer any questions that you may have. More detailed information will be coming soon!

Naviance Family Connection

Naviance is a college and career readiness platform that helps connect academic achievement to post-secondary goals. Features include email messages from teachers and counselors, career assessments, college search, college application management, college visitation information, transcript requests, recommendation requests, scholarship applications, and more!! Don’t know how to access your account? See Mr. Korte.

LMHS College Application Checklist

The college application season is officially underway. Below is a checklist of all the things you need to do to complete a college application.

- Research colleges and add any you plan to apply to your colleges I’m applying to list in Naviance
- Request transcripts and letters of recommendation (through Naviance – be sure to speak with teachers in person before you send them an electronic request)
- Complete the college’s application (either through the Common App or whatever method they use)
- Meet with Mr. Korte to let him know which recommendations you want sent to which colleges
- Send your SAT/ACT scores directly from your College Board or ACT account
- Check with the college’s admissions office to make sure they have received everything
- Do this all before the deadline!!! (preferably a week or more before)

THE S.A.T. PREPARATION PROGRAM

We are happy to report that we have once again contracted Mr. Jim Hurley and his THINK INK S.A.T. Preparation Program for our students here at Lee. Mr. Hurley is widely regarded as being one of the best in preparing students for the standardized test.

The program will include 12 sessions over 3 months beginning January 28th and ending April 29th. The sessions will run on Wednesdays from 7-9pm. All materials will be provided other than a three-ring binder, notebook, and writing instrument. The cost of the program for LMHS students is $225.

Classes will meet on the following dates:

If you are interested in attending the course, you can sign up online. Anyone in need of financial assistance should contact the school. Mr. Korte can be reached at 243-2781 ext. 2010 or Dkorte@leepublicschools.net.
Psychomotor

Sophomore/Junior Leadership Project
Adaptive Physical Education-Yoga and Mini-Golf Units

Oct 22, 2014 - Mrs. Brouker’s Adaptive Physical Education class was recently given the opportunity to work together with sophomore and junior peers to continue a Leadership Project. The project was founded as a legacy effort by the LMHS class of 2013. This year, the Adaptive Physical Education class enjoyed both a yoga and a mini-golf unit.

In the mini-golf unit, the Adaptive students designed the C Mini Golf Course, a five hole mini-golf course which was built by the wood shop students. The course boasts a windmill, clown, rainbow, American flag and of course — a Wildcat Paw! The Adaptive students painted the wooden designs with the help of paraprofessionals Kim Fera, Cindy Biasin-Burton, Bev Bissell and Nora Babcock.

The students were the chief decision makers of this project, from concept to final steps. When taking a break from painting, they participated in other fun and educational lessons such as learning to count in Spanish!

In the yoga unit, students explored different poses (asanas) and breathing techniques (pranayamas). The students enjoyed the many physical and mental benefits of practicing, which helped them feel STRONG, HAPPY and BALANCED.

Mrs. Brouker took a modern approach to the ancient practice and led a seasonal flow class. Students used their bodies to tell the story of an apple from seed to pie!

“Life is about working together!” said Mrs. Brouker. “The students had a lot of fun working on the yoga and mini-golf units. I would like to publically thank all of the students, paraprofessionals, and especially our dedicated junior intern, Jed Devarennes.”

Through this leadership project, sophomore and junior students were able to develop a rapport with the Adaptive PE students through positive actions, respond appropriately to behavior triggers, put technology to good use and reflect on what they learned.


Gay-Straight Alliance
The Gay Straight Alliance here at LMHS has started the year off with two great events: a Pride Dance for all high school students, and the nationally recognized Ally Week. During Ally Week, the GSA members talked to their classmates about what it means to be an ally to the LGBTQ community, and asked them to sign a pledge to be an ally. The GSA members also went into the 8th grade classrooms to have a conversation with the students about how they can help put an end to bullying and inappropriate language. The 8th grade students also had the opportunity to sign the Ally Pledge. The GSA members have many other wonderful events planned for this school year.
Mr. Priester’s American Government students in combination with Mrs. Clark’s Foundations of Art, Drawing + Painting and Portfolio students visited Sterling and Francine Clark Art Institute in Williamstown, Massachusetts on October 23rd. We split into two groups and were led on guided tours and participated in gallery talks through the newly renovated facility covering *The Age of Impressionism: Great French Paintings* and how these works of art reflect the period in which they were made as well as *Radical Words: From Magna Carta to the Constitution*. The Clark is one of only a handful of institutions globally with a dual mission as an art museum and a distinguished center for research and higher education, dedicated to advancing and extending the public understanding of art.

Students in Mrs. Clark’s art classes visited The Mount, Edith Wharton’s home, in Lenox Massachusetts in early October. The Mount, in partnership with Ann Jon from SculptureNow, hosted the 2014 show titled “Common Ground”, which is an exhibition of large-scale outdoor sculptures featuring 25 internationally acclaimed artists. We began the day by having a guided tour of this remarkable show and heard the stories behind the art and artists. After lunching on the terrace we then continued our visit with a historical account of the formal and informal gardens of the estate. SculptureNow was founded in 1998 by a group of people involved in the arts in the Berkshires, who became aware of a need to promote the experience and knowledge of sculpture through exhibitions and educational outreach, and to offer artists venues for showing their work in our community.

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**Winter Sports Meeting**

The winter sports meeting for all student / athletes and their parents will take place on Thursday November 20th at 6:30 in the LMHS Auditorium (the “Z”). Any students interested in playing basketball must attend this pre-season meeting with their parent and/or guardian.

**Wildcat Sweatshirt Sale**

The Annual Lee Wildcat Sweatshirt Sale is taking place from November 1st through November 21st. Order forms are available at both Lee Middle and High School (see Art Reilly) and at Lee Elementary School (see Janet Warner). Order your Lee athletic hoodies, crewnecks, sweatpants or winter hat and support the Lee athletic programs!
2015 Yearbook News

New this year Senior Ads previously known as Baby Ads will be submitted online. You can create your design from available templates, add multiple pictures, and choose your size. Informative flyers will be going out to seniors on this service soon. If you are not computer savvy, there is a mail-in service. You can submit pictures and text. The pictures will be returned to you.

Prices:
Half page = $125.00
Quarter Page = $75.00
Eighth Page = $40.00

Senior Yearbook Deadlines:
The senior pages will be going to the publishers at the beginning of December.
Senior survey should already be complete.
Senior formal pictures are due November 3.
Senior casual pictures due by Thanksgiving break. These need to be in a vertical format to match our senior template.

Middle School Field Trip to Mt. Greylock
By: Jillian Artioli, Class of 2019

Mt. Greylock: 3,491 feet tall, 60-90 miles of view. All of this was taken on by the students of Lee Middle School. They hiked two thirds of the mountain on September 26, 2014. This was the first time hiking the tallest point in Massachusetts for the seventh graders, but the eighth graders had hiked the mountain only the year before. Every year the middle school students hike Mt. Greylock at the beginning of the year. While the seventh graders are eager, the eighth graders are aware of the 1.75 mile hike ahead of them. This hike takes from two to three hours. The reward they get after the hike is, as some would say, worth it. They hike two thirds of the mountain to the top where they get to stop and eat at the mountain’s fine Bascom Lodge and see the War Memorial Tower. They get to go inside the first floor, but the rest is closed. When everyone is settled and happy, they pile on the hill of the mountain looking over Lanesborough and the teachers take pictures of everyone! It wasn’t so hard in the end!
LMHS National Honor Society Inducts 27 New Members

Inductees:
Casey R. Blair
Alexander N. Consolati
Emily P. Donovan
Edwin M. Hernandez
Sierra A. Palardy
Megan A. Scapin
Cayce J. Williams
Jeffrey A. Brown
Darby E. Curtin
Maryemma Fraser
Karen E. Hernandez
Courtney M. Picard
Joseph T. Sorrentino
Zachary C. Wilson
Tyler V. Buratto
Kate M. DelSignor
Amy B. Goss
Jordan M. Miller
Matthew L. Reynolds
Jaci E. Tart
Sarah M. Winston
Molly J. Carlotto
Alexander F. Donovan
Samuel H. Harding
Devyn B. Olds
Michael P. Roosa
Samantha L. Toupence

Lee High School student publication, Orange Ink, is back and seeking submissions for the first semester edition titled - What Are You Falling For?

We are in search of creative work of all kinds to publish and show the world your talent - all types of art work and writing styles are accepted.

The deadline to submit work is Monday November 24th.

Please see Mr. Schueler or Mrs. Clark for additional information or help.

LMHS and ShoeBox Recycling Collaborate to Recycle Shoes

On November 1st, Lee Middle and High School, in partnership with ShoeBox Recycling, introduced a school wide shoe recycling program with a focus on reuse. Students, faculty, families, and community members are all encouraged to participate. ShoeBox Recycling bins have been placed in the main office and in Mr. Reilly’s office next to the cafeteria.

Please bring in your old shoes that might still be usable for someone else, and place them in the Shoe Box Recycling bin. In addition to mindfulness around shoe reuse, we will be raising funds to support the Lee athletic program. ShoeBox Recycling is a for-profit recycler of shoes. All of the shoes collected will be reused by those in need of affordable footwear.

ShoeBox Recycling will donate money to our athletic program for each pair of shoes that we receive.

Please send in your “gently” used shoes, sneakers, flip flops, dress shoes, etc. Thank you!

apreilly@leepublicschools.net – 413.243.2781 ext.2242