District Asks Community to Reauthorize Phase Three Project

In March 2016, Liverpool Central School District residents approved the Phase Three Capital Project which included renovations and improvements to three LCSD buildings - Liverpool High School, the Transportation Center and the former Wetzel Road Elementary. The LHS portion of the project included improvements to the main entrance, fine arts and physical education areas of the building, along with exterior façade repair. The total cost of the proposed project at the time was an estimated $39.5 million.

In July 2017, the district submitted the necessary renovation plans to the New York State Education Department for approval. This process took longer than anticipated, with the district receiving final state approval in June 2018. In turn the delayed approval pushed the district into summer bidding and while most components of the project came in on budget, the major component – the renovations at LHS – came in $10 million over budget.

After discussing its options and making significant changes, the district was informed that an additional $5.8 million will be required in order to complete all phases of the capital project.

Because of this, the district must ask the community to approve the revised Phase Three Capital Project at a new combined maximum estimated cost of $45,281,107 and to withdraw an additional $950,000 from the district’s 2009 Capital Reserve Fund for a new combined maximum appropriation of $3,600,278 from the district 2009 Capital Reserve Fund.

LCSD residents will be asked to vote on the revised Phase Three Capital Project on Tuesday, December 11. The vote will be held from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. in the Liverpool High School Gymnasium (4338 Wetzel Road).

More information regarding the revised project will be posted on the LCSD Web site at www.liverpool.k12.ny.us.

Seven LHS Seniors Commended by National Merit Program

Seven Liverpool High School seniors recently were honored during the 2019 National Merit Scholarship Program.

LHS seniors Marcus D’Agostino, Paul Dewan, Conor Fahy, Sugam Gautam, Michael Perry, Caitlyn Waalewyn and Sarah Wong were named Commended Students and are seven out of approximately 34,000 students who received Letters of Commendation in recognition of their outstanding academic promise.

Students taking the 2017 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test were eligible for these honors. More than 1.6 million students took the 2017 PSAT.

The National Merit Scholarship Corporation, which sponsors the National Merit Scholarship Program, is a not-for-profit organization established in 1955. High school students enter the National Merit Scholarship Program by taking the PSATs and by meeting published entry/participation requirements.
Transportation

Helpful Winter Weather Hints

As Central New York prepares for winter weather here are some helpful reminders for Liverpool Central School District parents and guardians.

During inclement weather, there are many factors that affect our buses and it is not uncommon for buses to run a few minutes late. Students still need to be at the bus stop on time, even in the coldest of weather.

Please have your child dressed appropriately. If the students are not out, the bus cannot wait because that would make them even later for everyone else.

If schools are delayed or closed, that information is posted on the LCSD Web site (www.liverpool.k12.ny.us) immediately, usually before 6 a.m., and announced using the Key Communicator (e-mail) and SchoolMessenger (e-mail and text message) services. **It is important that your contact information is up-to-date in our student information system so that you can receive notices from SchoolMessenger in the event school is closed, delayed or dismissed early. Please contact your school building if your contact information has changed.**

In addition, local television stations will announce the delays or closings live on TV and on their Web sites.

No matter what the weather please remember that if you encounter a school bus with its red lights flashing you must stop. There will be children entering or exiting the bus... let’s keep them safe!

**Additional Winter Information...**

On certain rare occasions, emergency conditions, such as impending storms, may necessitate dismissal of students before regular school closing time.

In such an event, efforts will be made to have the emergency closing posted on the Web site and announced via the Key Communicator, SchoolMessenger and local television stations.

**Partial Day (After 12:00):**

- **K through Grade 12 - NO activities involving students will be permitted.**

**Full Day:** K through Grade 12 - Practices, rehearsals and meetings involving students WILL NOT BE permitted.

**Full Day:** Grades 9 through 12 - Competitions and performances involving students MAY BE permitted at the discretion of the principal, the director of athletics or the director of fine arts.

LHS Softball Offers Free Skills Clinics for LCSD Girls

Liverpool High School varsity softball coaches and players will offer free Fast Pitch Softball Skills improvement clinics/lessons starting this fall. The clinics/lessons are open to any girl in grades 3-12 who is enrolled in the Liverpool Central School District.

These lessons will take place on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays beginning November 1 and running through March 4.

- **Tuesdays:** Hitting for grades 7-12 only – 6 to 8:30 p.m.
- **Thursdays:** Pitching for grades 3-12 Beginners / Rookies – 6 to 7 p.m. (bring your own catcher)
- **Thursdays:** Pitching for grades 7-12 Intermediate / Advanced – 7 to 8:30 p.m. (bring your own catcher)
- **Saturdays:** Pitching for grades 3-12 – 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. (bring your own catcher)

Please note that the skills clinics/lessons have designated dates and will be canceled when school is closed, students are dismissed early, or after-school activities are canceled. Visit the LHS Girls Softball Web site (liverpoolsoftball.vnsports.com) for a complete list of dates.

In addition, strength, speed, agility and conditioning sessions will be held every Monday, Wednesday and Thursday after school in the high school weight room from 2:30 to 4 p.m.

All clinics/lessons will take place in the LHS small gymnasium. The cost is free.

For more information, contact Coach Nicole Lindley at nlindley@liverpool.k12.ny.us or nlindley0129@gmail.com. She also can be contacted by calling 315-453-0245 (ext 5169).
BOE Hears Results of Sleep Survey

At its September 24 meeting, the Liverpool Central School District Board of Education was presented with the results of the LCSD Sleep Survey.

The survey, conducted in June by the Children’s National Medical Center, in partnership with independent research organization Child Trends and with approval from the FCPS Research Screening Committee, was administered so the board could learn more about the sleep habits of Liverpool students and their relationship to school performance, health and well-being.

Although not a surprise, the survey showed that LCSD middle and high school students receive less sleep than the recommended number of hours per night and use the weekend to “catch up” on their sleep.

As a consequence, 20 percent of middle school students who participated in the survey and 15 percent of high school students who participated reported missing school at least one day during that time period because they were just too tired.

As for stakeholders, the survey revealed that they were divided on whether the current high school start time was too early. While there was general support for delaying middle and high school start times, many stakeholders expressed doubt that changing those times would improve adolescent sleep or academic achievement. They also expressed concerns that these changes would have a negative impact on topics such as before & after school care, parent work schedules & participation in school activities, and student after-school employment and extra-curricular activities.

The LCSD Sleep Survey was administered as part of the district’s Modified School Start Time Committee, which was formed in January 2016 and tasked with developing a plan that would have high school and potentially middle school students start school later in the morning. This also presented an opportunity to change elementary start times to take advantage of the elementary students’ own sleep patterns and physiology.

The LCSD Board of Education will take some time to review the study’s findings, and once they have completed their review the district will post the complete results on its Web site (www.liverpool.k12.ny.us).

Please note that at this time the LCSD Board of Education has not approved any modifications to the start times for the district’s elementary, middle and high schools. The district will let parents and guardians know when a final recommendation is presented to the board.

As always, if parents and guardians have any questions regarding the survey or the Modified School Start Time study, please contact Superintendent of Schools Dr. Mark F. Potter by phone (315-622-7125) or e-mail (MPotter@liverpool.k12.ny.us).

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Healthy Hints
Promoting Positive Food Attitudes in LCSD Students

by Lindsey LaDue

As we are all settling back into the swing of a new school year, remember to fuel your students for success!

How do you promote positive food attitudes? Try to include your children in grocery shopping and age-appropriate kitchen prep, or make time for family dinner.

Worried about your picky eater? Ellyn Satter, an internationally recognized authority on eating and feeding, is an excellent resource for child feeding concerns.

During her 40-year career, Satter served as a registered dietitian, then a psychotherapist specializing in eating disorders. Her belief is that each party plays a key role in the eating/feeding process. It is the parent/guardian responsibility to provide the what, when, and where of food. It is the child’s responsibility to decide whether or not to eat it as well as how much to eat.

While this may seem scary at first, remember that it is important to expose kids to a wide variety of foods. However, it creates a stressful situation for all if they feel forced to “finish all of the broccoli before dessert,” for example.

The Liverpool Central School District aims to provide students with the nutrition they need to thrive while also fostering a healthy relationship with food and body image, avoiding the good food vs. bad food mentality. Our meals are affordable, tasty, and meet very specific United States Department of Agriculture guidelines. We are constantly adding new items to our menu!

If you’d like additional information regarding Satter, The Ellyn Satter Institute, and nourishing healthy kids at all stages, consult www.ellynsatterinstitute.org and www.kidseatright.org.

Lindsey LaDue is a School Dietitian for OCM BOCES.

LCSD Introduces Tip Line

The safety and security of students and staff is the Liverpool Central School District’s number one priority, and the district continues to hold numerous conversations about enhancing the safety procedures already in place across the district.

One way to do that is simple - if you see something… say something. To help accomplish that, a new Tip Line has been added to the LCSD App as well as the LCSD Web site.

Students, parents and staff can now submit any safety concerns (including a photo) to district administrators anonymously (although there is an option to include an individual’s name and contact information). Tips can be submitted 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The LCSD App can be downloaded through the Apple iTunes or Google Play stores. A link to the Tip Line also can be found on the main page of the district and school Web sites.

LCSD Has No Publicity List

The Liverpool Central School District provides the community with news, photos and video from our schools as well as information about events, activities and achievements. At times we also share student work.

LCSD provides this information through a variety of mediums including, but not limited to, printed materials (newsletters), the District Web site and “social media” (Twitter/ Facebook/etc.). It also shares the information with the media (TV/ radio/ newspapers/ magazines/ etc.) for their use.

Parents and guardians who DO NOT WANT their child’s full name and photograph to appear in district publications or the local media are asked to make this request using the online form at www.liverpool.k12.ny.us/page/no-publicity-form. This request will be shared with your child’s principal and teacher. Not submitting a No Publicity Form will be interpreted as giving permission to photograph, film or identify your child in district publications and the local media.

For more information regarding the No Publicity Form, contact School Information Officer Meghan Piper at 315-622-7132.
LCSD Utilizes Google Apps

As part of the educational process, the Liverpool Central School District utilizes Google Apps for Education in district classrooms. Google Apps for Education is a set of free, customizable tools that will provide opportunities for students and faculty to work more effectively in a collaborative environment. With a Google Apps account, students will have access to their school-related documents, spreadsheets and presentations from any computer or mobile device with internet access.

The LCSD Technology Department will assign all district students a Google Apps account that will provide them with access to e-mail and site content. Each student will be assigned a unique @mylcsd.org student e-mail account (this will be the student’s official school e-mail address until they no longer attend school in Liverpool). Students under the age of 13 will be limited to e-mail communication with their teachers only when they are within the district.

If you do not want your child to have access to a Google Apps account, please e-mail your child’s name, school and grade level to ipod@liverpool.k12.ny.us. Please include “Google Apps Opt Out” in the subject of your e-mail.

LHS Students Receive All-State Music Honors

Liverpool High School senior Zoyie Baldwin (string orchestra), senior John Coggiola (symphonic band), senior Gianna McManus (symphony orchestra), senior Jingwen Ou (symphony orchestra) and junior Ciara Young (alternate, symphonic band) recently earned All-State honors from the New York State School Music Association. The students will represent LHS during NYSSMA’s Winter Conference held in Rochester from November 29 to December 2.

LHS Volleyball Teams to Host Fall Craft Fair and Bazaar

The Liverpool High School Volleyball Program will host its 2018 Fall Craft Fair and Bazaar on Saturday, November 3, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the LHS gymnasium and cafeteria (4338 Wetzel Road). More than 100 vendors will be on hand – great crafts, raffles, food and fun! Proceeds from the event will benefit the volleyball program. Vendors interested in renting a booth for the craft fair can download an enrollment form by visiting www.liverpoolvolleyball.com/?page_id=19.

Pictured, from left, are LHS seniors and volleyball players Sydney Caviness, Marissa Baskin, Bryanna McRobbie, Alicia Nash, Morgan Michlovitch, Hayley Feidt, Gianna Pezzino, Avery Marcy and Delaney Johnson.
District Schedules Voter Registration Day on December 4

Residents living in the Liverpool Central School District who are not registered to vote may still do so before the Phase Three Capital Project Reauthorization Vote on December 11.

Voters must be:
- Citizens of the United States;
- 18 years of age or older;
- Residents of the school district for at least a 30-day period immediately preceding the election; and
- Registered with the district Board of Voter Registration or the Onondaga County Board of Elections.

Residents who have registered to vote with LCSD, and have maintained that registration by voting in a school district election within the last four calendar years, are properly registered to vote.

Residents who are not registered with the district can do so on Tuesday, December 4, at the District Office (195 Blackberry Road in Bayberry) between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Anyone unable to register on Tuesday, December 4, can visit the Onondaga County Board of Elections Voter Registration Web site (www.ongov.net/elections/voterRegistration.html) to learn how to register to vote by mail.

Those who currently are registered to vote with the Onondaga County Board of Elections also may vote in school elections with no further registration. However, those who are not also entered in the school district register of voters may experience a slight delay at the polls because they will be asked to execute poll records for the district voter file before they will be permitted to vote.

Qualified voters who will be away from home or are otherwise unable to vote in person may vote by absentee ballot. Absentee ballots can be mailed to residents until December 4. After December 4, residents must pick them up in Room 1 of the District Office. To obtain an absentee ballot application, or for more information, contact the Office of Administrative Services at 315-622-7148.

The District Clerk must receive absentee ballots no later than 5 p.m. on the Phase Three Capital Project Reauthorization Vote Day (December 11).