Education 2020 Committee Looks to the Future of LCSD

Since its inception, the mission of the Liverpool Central School District has been to educate its students and prepare them for the future. While that mission has never wavered, the community the district serves has evolved in numerous ways.

Gone are the days when Liverpool’s population boom meant the district opened new buildings on a regular basis. Instead, the district’s enrollment has dropped by almost 2,000 students in the last 20 years.

Gone also are the days when the standard curriculum was more than enough to prepare students for typical career paths. Instead research shows that students attending Liverpool schools right now will more than likely be hired as adults for jobs that don’t exist today.

With those facts in mind, the Liverpool Central School District has launched its Education 2020 initiative.

For more than a year, a committee of parents, teachers, administrators and community members has explored the future of education in the district and the ever-changing needs of students.

One of the committee’s most recent assignments was to gather the thoughts of Liverpool Central School District employees regarding the district’s future.

In November 2018, 760 LCSD employees completed a survey which focused on topics such as program opportunities, class sizes, grade reconfiguration, facility use & costs, mental health & safety, and staff & professional development.

It is important that the district has a shared vision with the community it serves. In that vein, the district will hold community meetings during the months of May and June to discuss the goals of the Education 2020 initiative and share the staff survey results (dates and times will be announced on the LCSD Web site and Facebook pages, as well as sent to families via SchoolMessenger).

The committee also is in the process of creating a community survey that the district anticipates will be conducted in June.

For future updates, visit the LCSD Web site (www.liverpool.k12.ny.us).

LCSD to Offer Expanded Pre-K for 2019-2020 School Year

The Liverpool Central School District is pleased to once again offer a 4-year-old Expanded Pre-K program for the 2019-2020 school year.

To be eligible, a child must:
- Turn 4 years old between December 2, 2018 and December 1, 2019
- Reside in the Liverpool Central School District

Students must attend the program five days a week for two-and-a-half hours per day. Instruction is consistent with the New York State Pre-Kindergarten Foundation for the Common Core, which focuses on a child’s social/ emotional, cognitive and physical development. Transportation to and from the program is the responsibility of the parents/ guardians.

The district currently has 200 EPK seats available. Those who submit an interest form between now and March 15 will be considered for the initial selection process. Acceptance letters will be mailed by early April, and registration will begin in mid-April for those selected.

To submit a notice of Interest Form, visit the district’s Expanded Pre-K Web page at www.liverpool.k12.ny.us/schools/expanded-pre-k/ and fill out the requested information.
Healthy Hints

March is National Nutrition Month!

by Lindsey LaDue

National Nutrition Month, which kicks off March 1, is an annual nutrition education and information campaign created by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. The campaign focuses on the importance of making informed food choices and developing sound eating and physical activity habits.

Did you know the Liverpool Central School District has a resident registered dietitian? In that role, I provide evidence-based nutritional analysis of the district’s food service program. I also assist the district and families when making accommodations for students with food allergies or special dietary needs.

With so many advertisements and claims from nutrition experts both online and in the media, it can be difficult to decipher accurate information. As a registered dietitian, I constantly receive questions about the latest fad diets, such as Keto and Paleo.

My advice is simple - any diet that requires you to give up an entire food group is not only unsustainable, but unhealthy both physically and mentally. While there are certain medical conditions that fair well with a particular eating pattern, the general healthy population has no need to follow restrictive diets. Consuming enough calories, vitamins, minerals and carbohydrates is much more important than following the latest eating craze.

The easiest way to assess your overall eating habits is to explore the United States Department of Agriculture’s MyPlate dietary guidelines. While we don’t necessarily need to have all five food groups on our plate at every meal, look at your complete day and ask yourself these questions:

- Did I eat all of the food groups throughout the day? If not, what is missing or what might I need to add more of?
- Did I avoid skipping meals?
- Do I need to include snacks between meals to avoid hunger?
- Do I feel physically healthy and have energy?
- Am I providing my body with nourishing foods and ones that sound appetizing to me?
- Do I allow myself to partake in social activities involving food without guilt?


SchoolMessenger Helps District Stay in Touch

Throughout the school year, the Liverpool Central School District uses SchoolMessenger, a notification service for parental outreach and emergency broadcasts, to contact parents and guardians in a variety of ways – including by phone, e-mail and text messages.

Parents and guardians can receive phone calls, text alerts, and/or e-mails about a range of important issues affecting their students and our schools. The SchoolMessenger system uses the contact information housed in our student information system, SchoolTool.

How Do I Sign Up for Texts?

Parents and guardians may opt in to receive an SMS message to the wireless number the District has on file. Parents and guardians can opt in by texting the word “Subscribe” to 67587 (you can unsubscribe at any time by texting the word “Stop” to the same number).

Please note that the District does not pay for text message charges that may be incurred by the user. These charges are dependent on the wireless plan of the user. Please check with your carrier for possible charges before deciding to “opt in.”

If a parent decides to “opt out,” he or she can still receive phone calls and e-mails from the system without charges being incurred.

Still Having Trouble With Messages?

If you are still experiencing issues, please e-mail schoolmessenger@liverpool.k12.ny.us.

In the e-mail, please describe the issue you are experiencing in as much detail as possible and include your child(ren)’s name(s).
Petitions Available for Board of Education Seats


Successors to three of these offices will be elected to three-year terms, effective July 1, 2019, through June 30, 2022, at the annual school district election on May 21, 2019. The successor to the fourth term of office will be elected to a two-year term effective May 22, 2019 to June 30, 2021.

These board seats currently are held by Nicholas Blaney, Craig Dailey, R. Thomas Furr and Dr. Christopher Hockey.

Board of Education vacancies are not considered to be separate specific offices. The nominating petition does not describe a specific vacancy for which the candidate is being nominated.

Each petition is considered for a seat on the Board of Education as a whole and not as applicable only to a specific office presently held by a particular individual.

Candidates may be nominated only by petition. Each nominating petition shall be filed with the Office of the Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services, in Room 1 of the District Office, 195 Blackberry Road, no later than 5 p.m. on Monday, April 22.

Petition forms to nominate candidates for election to the Board of Education will be available beginning March 18 in the Office of the Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services, located in Room 1 of the District Office.

Each nominating petition must state the name and residence of the candidate and be signed by at least 26 qualified voters of the school district.

For additional information about Board of Education membership or the upcoming Budget Vote and BOE Election, contact the Office of the Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services at 315-622-7148.

---

Newsletter Information

Craig Dailey, President
CDailey@liverpool.k12.ny.us

Dr. Christopher Hockey, Vice President
CHockey@liverpool.k12.ny.us

Stacey Balduf
staceybalduf@gmail.com

Nicholas Blaney
NBlaney@liverpool.k12.ny.us

R. Thomas Furr
TFurr@liverpool.k12.ny.us

Joseph Morawski
JMorawski@liverpool.k12.ny.us

Richard Pento
RPento@liverpool.k12.ny.us

James M. Root
JMRoot@liverpool.k12.ny.us

Kevin Van Ness
KVanness@liverpool.k12.ny.us

Dr. Mark F. Potter,
Superintendent of Schools
315-622-7125

Liverpool Central School District
195 Blackberry Road
Liverpool, NY 13090

District Office (Main Number):
315-622-7900

District Web site:
www.liverpool.k12.ny.us

---

The School Bell is published bi-monthly by the Liverpool Central School District Board of Education.

Meghan Piper, Editor

Contributors: Sarah Alvey, Michael Baroody, Richard Chapman, Laura D’Arcangelis, Kelly Frantz, Susan Grier, Daniel Henner, Maria Knapp, Susan Lotierzo, Wendi Martin, David Perry and Frank Sofia.
Fine Arts Hall Seeks Nominations

The Liverpool Central School District is seeking nominations for this year’s Fine Arts Hall of Fame. The Fine Arts Hall of Fame was established in 2003 through the efforts of VITAL (Vision In The Arts at Liverpool), a not-for-profit organization dedicated to supporting the arts in Liverpool.

This year’s ceremony is scheduled to take place Sunday, May 5, at Liverpool High School. The Fine Arts Hall of Fame seeks to honor those who have contributed to the arts (music, visual arts, dance and theater). There are three categories in which individuals may nominate someone for this award:

- **Alumnus**: A Liverpool High School alumnus who has distinguished his/herself in the area of the fine arts (music, visual arts, dance and/or theater).
- **Contributor**: A community member who has given of his/her time and energy for the betterment of the fine arts in Liverpool.
- **Mentor**: A current, former or retired Liverpool Central School District staff member who has supported, inspired and motivated the community in the area of fine arts.

Nominations will be accepted through March 22, 2019. Please download the nomination form found on the LCSD Web site at www.liverpool.k12.ny.us/page/fine-arts-hall, and send the completed form to David Perry, director of fine arts, Liverpool High School, 4246 Wetzel Road, Liverpool, N.Y. 13090.

Please direct any questions to Perry at 315-453-1500 ext. 6929.

LHS Athletic Hall Seeks Nominations

The Liverpool High School Athletic Hall of Fame Committee is looking for Liverpool graduates who have distinguished themselves through their achievements and contributions to the LHS athletic program. The LHS gymnasium lobby displays nearly 200 Hall of Fame plaques dating back to the first class of inductees in 1987.

This year’s ceremony continues a tradition of many years of formal inductions and is scheduled to take place on Sunday, June 2.

To be eligible, a candidate must:
- have attended Liverpool High School
- have participated in at least one varsity sport at LHS
- submit, or have submitted on their behalf, a written resume of his/her athletic achievements at LHS
- be at least five years out of high school (before the class of 2014)

There are four different categories for nomination:
- **“OLD TIMERS”**… prior to 1966
- **“MIDDLE ERA”**… 1966 to 1990
- **“PRESENT ERA”**… from 1990 to present
- **“CONTRIBUTOR”**… an outstanding contributor to athletic programs of LHS, either in coaching or other service related to Liverpool athletics. Coaches must be retired to be eligible for induction.

Nominations for induction will be taken until March 31. To download a nomination form, visit www.liverpool.k12.ny.us/athletichof. Nomination forms should be sent to: Frank Sofia, Liverpool High School Athletic Department, 4338 Wetzel Road, Liverpool, NY 13090.

Once the nomination is submitted, the nominee remains eligible to be inducted for the next five years.

Liverpool DFS to Hold Mail-a-Thon

The Liverpool chapter of Dollars for Scholars will hold its annual Mail-a-Thon on Sunday, March 10, from 5 to 9 p.m.

Student volunteers from Liverpool High School (Grades 9 – 12) will gather in the LHS Cafeteria to stuff envelopes with a letter seeking donations for Liverpool DFS. The letters will be sent to district residents, family members, friends, and neighbors. DFS Board Members Theresa Basla and Rob Just are chairing the committee that organizes the event.

Liverpool DFS is a volunteer community organization that raises money for scholarships for LHS graduating seniors. Nearly 200 scholarships, worth more than $120,000, were awarded to members of the LHS Class of 2018.

The goal is to award even more money to members of the LHS Class of 2019 this June. The Mail-a-Thon is the group’s largest annual fund-raiser, and the eventual goal is to award a scholarship for every college bound senior who applies.

Community members not contacted can still donate by visiting liverpooldfs.org.

Individuals and community groups can establish their own scholarship in honor of a special person or event. In addition, smaller donations can be pooled with funds from other sources to award scholarships and sponsor fund-raising events. As always new members of the Liverpool DFS Board of Directors are always welcome. Contact John Cerrone at 315-451-4653 if you have questions.

“Without tremendous school and community support, this worthwhile program to honor LHS graduates would not be possible,” Cerrone said. “Any donation, whether its time or financial, will be appreciated by the Board as well as students and their families.”
Update Regarding Safety and Security in Liverpool Schools

In March 2018, a month after the tragedy at Stoneman Douglas in Florida, the Liverpool Central School District hosted a community conversation regarding safety and security. More than 100 community members attended this event where they shared their thoughts, asked questions, and made suggestions regarding safety and security.

One suggestion we heard from numerous parents and community members was to add more security guards to the district’s Security Department.

With that in mind, and knowing that we needed to do so in a fiscally responsible way, the district added funding to the budget that would allow us to hire additional personnel in the form of armed security guards. Hiring security guards, as opposed to a school resource officer, is more cost effective for the district because it allowed us to hire multiple guards (as opposed to one school resource officer) and these guards already receive benefits from their previous employers.

Joining our Security Department are retired Syracuse Police Department officers David Carleo (20 years in law enforcement, 26 years military experience, and a Liverpool High School graduate), Marvin Harrington (22 years in law enforcement, seven years military experience and a Liverpool resident), Jeff MacCollum (20 years in law enforcement) and Rick Helterline (20 years in law enforcement and LHS graduate).

In addition, Robert Capria (28 years with the Onondaga County Sheriff’s Department and a Liverpool resident) will now serve as a security guard. Capria had been a school monitor with the district’s Security Department for several years.

Along with longtime school monitors Bernie Dziczkaniec, Richard Frey, Dan Miller, John Musumeci and Shelly Sahm-Frey, the security staff will be a presence in all LCSD school buildings on a rotating basis. When students see our staff in their buildings, they will wear a district polo shirt and ID badge. Only those designated as security guards have been approved by the LCSD Board of Education to be armed, and those weapons must be concealed.

We understand that this issue is a sensitive one, and that many of our parents and community members have opposing views when it comes to armed security guards. District administrators meet with local law enforcement officials on a regular basis to discuss safety in our schools and they provide us with guidance when making important decisions about the safety and security of our students and staff.

Our LHS students have formed bonds with our security staff and we look forward to extending that bond with our elementary and middle school students.

As always, the safety of our students and staff is our number one priority, and your assistance is a valuable resource. I encourage our students, parents and staff to be vigilant and if you see something, say something. Our Tip Line (posted on our District Website and App) is available so you can report any future issues. In an emergency situation, such as an alleged threat, do not hesitate to call law enforcement directly.

Sincerely,

Dr. Mark F. Potter
Superintendent of Schools

Follow Us for More News and Info!

On the Web!
www.liverpool.k12.ny.us

On Facebook!
Liverpool Central School District

On Twitter!
@MarkMpotter17

On Blogspot!
liverpoolsupt.blogspot.com
Non-Public Transportation Requests Due April 1

Requests for school district transportation to non-public schools for the 2019-2020 school year must be filed at the Liverpool Central School District Transportation Center by Monday, April 1.

Applications must state the name, address, telephone number, date of birth and grade of the student for whom the request is being submitted, as well as the name, address and telephone number of the school to which transportation is requested.

Babysitter arrangements must be located within the LCSD boundaries and within the public school enrollment area that the requestor resides.

Request forms may be obtained at the various non-public schools, at the Transportation Center located at 4101 Long Branch Road, Liverpool, N.Y. 13090, and online at www.liverpool.k12.ny.us/page/transportation.