



News & Notes

following the Board of Education Meeting of Sept. 19, 2023



Members of the 2023-24 Board of Education (front, from left): Mike Franey, Vice President ; Jen Michalec, President, and student representative Lauren Smith, with trustees (back, from left): Kathleen Chiavetta, Bill Connors, Dennis Feldmann, Arlene DeJoy-Meckes, and Megan Smaldino.

2023-24 DISTRICT GOALS APPROVED

The Board of Education on Tuesday night approved a District Action Plan to document maintenance and improvements in key focus areas, including Academics, Health and Safety, Fiscal Responsibility, Technology, Facilities, Communications and Community engagement. In accordance, the District will:

- Implement a rigorous curriculum and high-quality instruction to advance the learning of all students.
- Provide school community members with opportunities to support their mental and physical health and safety.
- Utilize state and federal funding to maintain and expand educational opportunities.
- Advocate for digital equity of technology for all students.
- Continue to maintain our facilities at the highest level, and demonstrate fiscal responsibility in all areas of operation, including Capital Construction Project Plans.
- Develop family-school-community partnerships to improve academic outcomes.
- Maintain and improve communication to parents and families.

Personnel Actions

On Sept. 19th, the Board of Education approved the:

Resignation for the Purpose of Retirement of ...
Sheryl Zielonka,
Registered Nurse,
effective 12/31/23

Resignations of ...
Rebecca Ramos,
Monitor, effective
9/1/23

Stephen Thexton,
Bus Driver, effective
9/11/23

Appointments of Cafeteria Monitors
effective 9/5/23 ...
Karen Banzer
James Bingenheimer
Kelly Doll
Kimberly Militello,
Teresa Perry
Susan Stevenson
Yvonne Wichtowski

6-Month Probationary Appointments of Personal Care Aides ...
Robin Hackford,
effective 9/6/23

Maria Baez,
effective 9/18/23

Misty Budzisewski,
effective 9/18/23
6-Month Probationary Appointments of ...
Karen Newell, Monitor,
effective 8/29/23

Mary Matuszak,
Monitor, effective
9/5/23

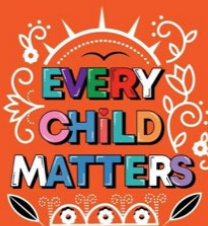
Roy Dieter,
Bus Driver, effective
9/12/23

Appointment of ...
Nicole Sullivan,
Fitness Center Attendant,
effective 9/20/23



Lake Shore has a DPO!

Meet Michelle Krieger on Page 3!



Orange Shirt Day (Sept. 28) is almost here! ... Last call for orange

shirts from the Native American Parent Group fundraiser: cost is \$20 & can be venmo'd to @Sharon-Francis2000. Please check size availability with stacey.purpera@lscsd.org before sending venmo.

Tabs on Grads

Send your alumni news to alumninews@lscsd.org



Grad’s Bills Basement Showcases Life Memories & Remembrances

It’s not unusual for a Lake Shore grad to make the news, but this may be a first for a grad’s basement. **Jennifer Sills** (LSHS 2004) **Staniszewski** and her husband Jeff had their Bills-themed basement retreat featured on WIVB-News 4. Read about their heart-warming space that celebrates the Bills, family and friends [HERE](#).

‘Best TikTokker in WNY’ is A LSHS Alum Who’s ‘Rolling in the Dough’ ...

We have a celebrity chef! **Alex Dispence** (LSHS 2011) has 1 million followers on TikTok (Buffalo SPREE named him Best TikTokker of WNY in 2023), and 151,000 on Instagram. “Since starting his career back in 2013, he’s made a name for himself by working under some of the most pres-

tigious chefs in America, racking up numerous awards along the way,” says a StepOut Buffalo article that also mentions the Loganberry-BBQ wings he made for the Buffalo Bills. This week, he took time from his SupChef Media Co. and SupChef Pizza Co. to chat with students in the High School’s Social Media Marketing, Entrepreneurship, and 43 North Students to Startups classes (taught by Business Department teachers Abigail Widger, Marla Schifano, and Danielle Arnone) about making his jump from trained chef to full-time content creator/business entrepreneur.

If you have a taste for making pizza dough, Buffalo wing sauce, sweet and spicy pizza sauce, or ‘Love Butter,’ check out his cook-book (download for free!) [HERE](#). Don’t feel like cooking? Alex’s pizza dough product is available at 120 TOPS locations.



Studying Our Space

In Tuesday night’s Board of Education discussion about space issues in the District’s elementary schools, Board of President Jennifer Michalec emphasized that the study of a possible 5th grade move to the Middle School is just the starting point of a broader, more complex discussion. Currently, 11 internal committees are meeting, and two parent committees are being formed, for input on a solutions such as different primary grade configurations across buildings, increasing class size, adding annex structures, remodeling space, attrition, redistricting—or a combination thereof—or perhaps doing nothing, if disruption, busing or other constraints preclude those measures.

The space crunch evolved not due to numbers of students in the buildings, but because of the growing number of spaces needed for special education, Native American and other services, as well as instrumental lessons and other activities. Ensuring equity of facilities among the buildings also is an important factor, said Superintendent Dan Pacos. The committees will look at all options, said Assistant Superintendent for Instruction Melissa Bergler, adding that the committees that have met thus far agree that whatever decision is made, it should be one that creates space where students and staff feel valued.

By the Numbers ...

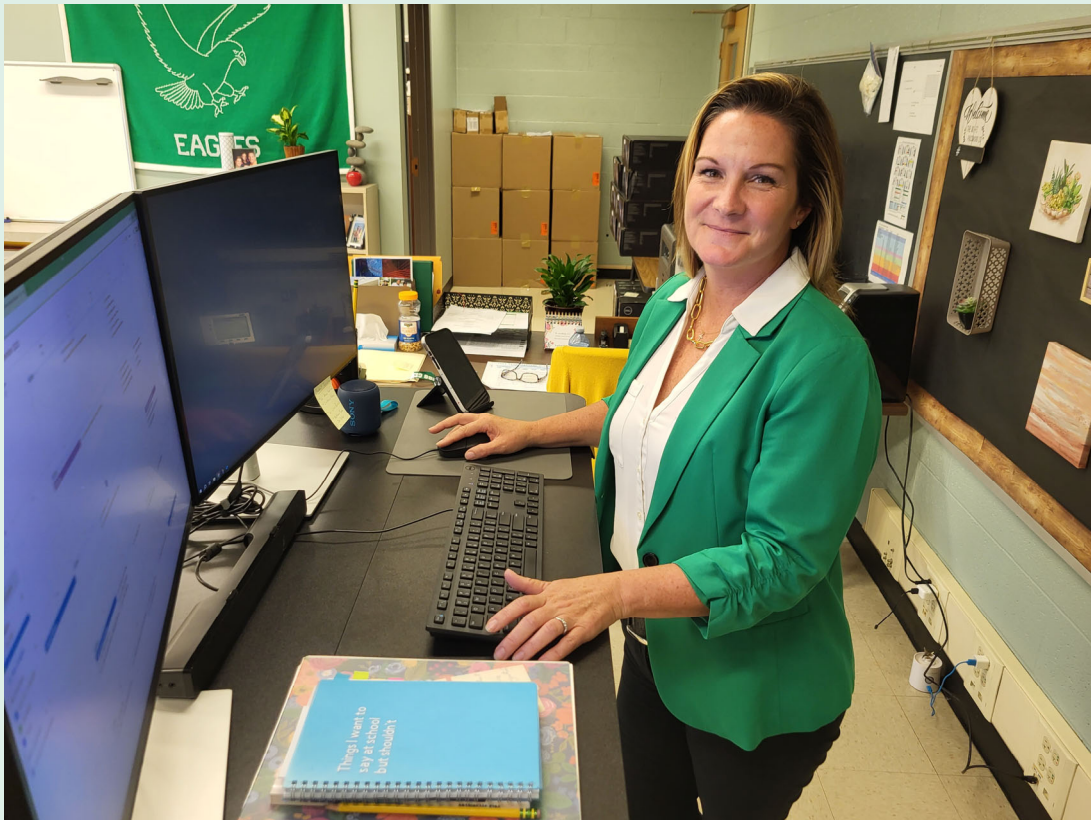


High School Principal Dr. Katy Berner-Wallen reported on [LSHS progress and performance](#) on Regents and AP exams. In keeping with the “One Degree Forward” model espoused in Superintendent Dan Pacos’s Opening Day remarks, she noted that various committees and the administrative team are focused on what the school’s one degree of improvement will be moving forward.

Honoring Grads



Aurora Jimerson was our August grad honored by the Board of Education on Tuesday night. Also recognized was Autumn Lambert (although not in attendance, her mom and grandmother were there!) who graduated a year early. With Aurora are, from left, Superintendent Dan Pacos, Board of Education President Jennifer Michalec, and High School Principal Dr. Katy Berner-Wallen.



‘THE HACKERS ARE OUT THERE ...’

But so is Michelle Krieger.

Meet Our New Data Protection Officer!

For 15 years, Michelle Krieger worked as a special education teacher in the Holland Central School District. Things began to change in 2014, when technology started coming in. The smart boards came in, the carts with devices to sign out came in, and Mrs. Krieger realized she was falling in love – with technology.

“I saw how technology helped my special education students access curriculum,” she says. “I saw the dyslexic student who had wonderful ways to contribute verbally, shut down when he was asked to respond in writing. With technology, we could record his responses through the iPad, so what he wanted to say wasn’t lost in translation from thinking to writing.”

“Another student struggled with decoding,” she continues. “So we used technology that read stories and articles to him. The student could focus on content that he was hearing, rather than struggling to decode words.”

She also used Newsela and ReadWorks so articles could be assigned based on a student’s reading level. “It had the same information and follow up questions, but it leveled the reading to reach them,” she says. Mrs. Krieger was intrigued, and she learned ... and learned and learned.

As Holland CSD moved toward being a 1:1 district – one computer for every student – Mrs. Krieger moved from special education teacher

to Technology Integration Specialist (TIS), helping all K-12 teachers implement technology in the classroom. As use of technology and software grew, she grew into a dual role – that of TIS and Technology Coordinator. Soon, the Technology Coordinator position grew to full-time, and also grew to encompass the role of Data Protection Officer. “I was learning all I possibly could,” she says.

[READ MORE ...](#)



Above: Mrs. Krieger talks data protection with 6th graders in business teacher Jessica Ludwig’s class at William G. Houston Middle School.

She notes that Principal Stacy Conti has organized cyber-security and cyber-crime presentations from an FBI Community Outreach Specialist to take place on Jan. 17 for all Middle School students, with a community presentation that evening.