



News & Notes

A newsletter from Superintendent of Schools Dr. Charles Galluzzo

Following the Board of Education Meeting of January 19, 2021

The Board of Education on Tuesday night:

Accepted with regret the resignation for the purpose of retirement of: Vicky Davis, laborer.

At a Special Meeting on Dec. 29, the Board approved the following bid awards for Phase 3 of the Capital Improvement Project:

Site Work:

Louis Del Prince & Sons, Inc.

General Trades:

NCI Construction LLC

Plumbing:

M.K.S. Plumbing Corp.

Mechanical:

D.V. Brown & Associates, Inc.

Electrical:

Frey Electric Construction

Phase 3 work gets underway this winter and includes renovations to High School art, life skills, music, and science rooms and a full auditorium renovation.



Hello Everyone,

Our weekly employee and student COVID testing continues and so far all results have been negative—which is very positive news! This Monday, 52 staff members were tested, which is 10% of the population. This coming Monday there will be another round of student testing, with about 200 students being tested. Many thanks to Jill

Clark, who oversees the testing program, and the nurses, LPNs, clerical and custodial staff making all this happen so we can stay open in the Orange Zone.

Meals Update: Since September, Debbie Becker and her school lunch staff have prepared 27,670 breakfasts and 28,393 lunches for the Monday distribution in the free school meals program funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. It's good to know our children are being properly nourished during what is a trying time for many of our families.

Here they come, the Class of 2034! Kindergarten registration begins in March, preparing our newest graduating class to launch their educational path in September. The traditional Kindergarten Orientation Night, which typically draws some 300 people, isn't possible this year, so Christine Starks and others are working on a series of orientation videos.

Swimming is making a splash ... It's always heartening to see a sports activity resume. Boys' Varsity Swimming and Modified Swimming, which is co-ed, began this week.

Returning from remote ... With the start of a new semester, now is the time for families to make their decisions about returning remote instruction students to in-person, hybrid instruction. Letters have been sent notifying families that elementary students may return on Feb. 23. Middle School and High School students may return at the end of this month. At last count, 24 High School students are returning.

Hopefully by September we can have everyone back in school with some semblance of normalcy. Let's hold a good thought.

Sincerely,

Dr. Charles Galluzzo, Superintendent

'BILLIEVE IT!'

National Attention on Signage Straight Out of Lake Shore!

Listen to NBC's Chris Collinsworth's comments on the "Miracle" sign during the game: <https://twitter.com/danhanzus/status/1350630026920685570?s=10>



The Buffalo Bills are the talk of the town (and beyond!), but Lake Shore High School also had its moment in the spotlight (and beyond!) during Saturday's Bills/Ravens game.

When Global history teacher Bob Mahany, a Bills' season ticket holder for 32 years, told students he was going to the game and thought it would be cool to bring some signs, his students agreed. Thus, in his Thursday and Friday study halls, they set to the task, creating four signs for him to bring.

Their creativity, to put it mildly, did not go unnoticed. The players had all the attention on the field Saturday night, but Lake Shore's signage in the stands drew the attention of NBC announcers, as well as Sportscenter (ESPN) and Barstool's Pro Football Show out of New York City for a couple

of days after the game, and also local WGRZ-TV.

"It just grew legs and took off," Mr. Mahany said of the project. "The students loved it and before you knew it, we were on national TV. During the second half alone I had 193 texts on my phone, from Ohio, Virginia, Georgia, Albany ... people saw the signs and they said they saw me and my sons Bobby, Tim, Danny on TV ... and the students saw the signs and were emailing me over the weekend."

Mr. Mahany was the bearer of the signs, but he gives credit to the students' work and creativity: "I've had the pleasure of having most of them in class this past year, and this year I have them in study hall. They're very bright, clever and witty, and they were totally excited about this and it was a total collaboration."

Continued on next page ...

'BILLIEVE IT!' Con't ...



Photo by Kathryn Zittel.

At left: This Instagram post, "The whole world hears you right now," featuring the students' signs, had more than 101,000 views

Above, from left: Bob Mahany, with students Liz Sreniawski, Lauren Smith, and Megan Kowalski displaying the signs that would grab the attention of national media

He gives props to:

Senior **Jake McNamara**, who coined the phrase "**N**othing **B**eats **C**hicken Wings," riffing off the NBC acronym.

Junior **Ryan Martin**, who borrowed the line "Do you believe in miracles," Al Michaels' famous quote during the 1980 Olympic USA Hockey miracle at Lake Placid. Mr. Mahany, who loves both history and sports, relishes that story. "This was during the Cold War and the Soviets were cheating by using professional players," he said. "The U.S. followed the rule of using amateur players, so our college kids were playing against professionals. No one in the world expected the U.S. to defeat the Soviet Union. It was the biggest upset of all time in sports history, I can't think of anything that compares." As the game reached its final seconds, he recounts, the crowd was in a frenzy, and sportscaster Al Michaels exclaimed, "Do you believe in miracles?" and suddenly the U.S. team scored the winning goal, defeating the Soviet Union 4-3.

"Ryan knew the story and he knew Al Michaels was working the Bills/Ravens game," said Mr. Mahany, "Thus, the 'Do you believe in miracles sign,' which Megan and Liz turned into 'BILLIEve,' giving it the Bills' brand."

See the final minute of the "Miracle on Ice":

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qYscemhnf88>

It was seniors **Megan Kowalski** and **Liz Sreniawski** who converted "believe" to "BILLIEVE," giving it the stamp of the hometown team, and freshman **Lauren Smith** who painted the "Do you BILLIEVE in miracles" sign.

Megan and Liz also created the "Hi Al" sign (to get the attention of Al Michaels), and worked on painting the other signs, including "**N**othing like **B**lue Cheese and **C**ole Beasley," which was specifically called out on the Barstool program.

What happens to the famous signs now? They'll not likely be going to Kansas City, where the game is being broadcast on CBS. But, they'll have a good home at Lake Shore. "I'm hanging them in my classroom," says Mr. Mahany. The "Do you BILLIEve in miracles" sign will always have an especially warm place in his heart.

Tech Tips

For a Better Learning Experience in 2021

5 Tips for STUDENTS

1. Monitor your screen time.

You spend enough time in front of a screen for school. Be intentional about unplugging and finding some balance in your day. It's hard, but you can do it!

2. Clear the digital clutter.

It's frustrating when you can't find something. So name your documents and files in a way that makes them easier to find. Try organizing your files in your Google Drive folders. Get to know how Google Drive automatically organizes your Google Classroom folder for you. Bookmark sites you visit often. Click the star in the address bar to do this.

3. Close your virtual door when finished with tech.

You wouldn't leave the door to your house wide open when nobody is home, right? The same applies online. Be sure to logout of sites that require a username/password. Be sure to shut down or log out of your device when finished using it for an extended period of time.

4. Ask for help.

Your teachers can't always read your mind (every once in a while, they can). If you are unsure of how something online works, where to find something

*Tips from
Mike Drezek
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online or need clarification with certain technology, ASK! Lake Shore teachers want to help. But sometimes they need you to help yourself by speaking up and advocating for yourself.

5. Practice makes perfect.

Are you a slow typer? You won't get faster magically. Here's a [place to practice](#). Do you want to save time? Check out some [keyboard shortcuts](#).

5 Tips for FAMILIES

1. Take a tour.

You don't have to be a tech expert. Ask your child for a tour of their virtual learning spaces. This gives them some ownership in their learning and helps you know what they know.

2. You aren't alone.

Us parents always wonder about the technology our children use. [Learn](#) from the tech experts or reach out to your child's teacher. Every single Lake Shore teacher wants students to succeed and have a positive learning experience.

3. Keep a strong connection.

Many household devices connect to the Internet. Each takes up bandwidth. Online gaming and streaming video (Netflix, Amazon, etc) also take up bandwidth. If you have connectivity issues for a virtual session, disconnect or power off other home devices to free up bandwidth.

4. Stay ahead of things.

Know where your child's assignments are posted so you can talk with them about what they learned or make sure they completed what was assigned. Encourage your child to use Google Classroom To-Do list, Google Calendar, Google Keep or Google Tasks to keep organized. Even just one is better than using nothing at all!

5. Restart (and recharge).

Technology is great when it works! When all else fails, restart the device. Unfortunately, you can't reboot web-based software like Google Classroom. If your child cannot submit an assignment or join a Google Meet, reach out to your child's teacher so they are aware. Also clear the Chrome browser or sign out and back into Google Chrome. Take a screenshot or a photo of the issue, too. The more information we have to work with, the quicker we can help resolve the issue.

Digital Citizenship

Digital Citizenship Institute IMPACT Cohort Takes Off in 2021



WE'RE POSITIVE:
YOU CAN BE THE
DIGITAL CHANGE.

The Digital Citizenship Institute always points to Lake Shore as a district that's "walking the walk" when it comes to digital citizenship in a school-community.

Even a pandemic won't stop us from pushing forward in connecting and learning with educators around the globe to bring new opportunities to our students.

In 2021, Lake Shore will again take on new learning and professional development with educators throughout the world, including the U.S., Canada, Mexico, India, Kuwait, Scotland, Australia and Africa. The Lake Shore Leadership in Action class, led by Julieann Baginski, will be representing Lake Shore!

Program Details

- The cohort begins January 2021 (starting the week of 1/4 through 3/22).
- The first six weeks include: (6) 60 minutes LIVE virtual sessions with (2) 30 minute LIVE coaching sessions.
- The second six weeks include: (2) 60 minute LIVE virtual sessions with (2) 30 minute LIVE coaching sessions.
- Module tasks will contribute to the final IMPACTOR project with your students.
- There will be global networking opportunities with the IMPACTOR cohort.

Learning Outcomes

- DigCitIMPACT Strategy: Upon completion of this program, teachers will have a digital citizenship strategy for their classroom to include learning at school and home.
- Creating a Global Network: Upon completion of this program, teachers will be part of a global network of classrooms committed to modeling how to #UseTech4Good.
- IMPACTOR Classroom Project: Upon completion of this program, classrooms will be alert, balanced, engaged, informed, and inclusive.

During the 12 weeks, the cohort will receive personalized instruction, live coaching and networking on the Belouga platform.

Upon completion of the program, all participants will receive an IMPACTOR certification and badging. Additionally, the cohort will be part of the DigCitSummit classroom speaking network and will be invited to present during the annual DigCitSummit in October. This is an effort to inspire other educators and classrooms around what quality digital citizenship looks like in action.

Ultimately, our students will be the ones who benefit most from this experience as they get an opportunity to learn about the world WITH the world.

*- Article submitted by LSCSD Technology Integrators
Mike Drezek and Deann Poleon*

Night School at A.J. Schmidt!



Photo by Kim Himes.

High School Secretary Kim Himes snapped this photo and AJ Schmidt Principal Jill Clark posted it on Facebook, with a note saying, "There's a party at AJS when it's all quiet and the kids are tucked in at night." Later posted on the District Facebook page, the post drew more than 8600 views and nearly 1700 interactions.



Bruno Niedzwiecki poses with the eagle sculpture he restored at the Middle School. This post got 4469 views on Facebook, and 1350 interactions.



The post about Chris Beckley's (Class of '16) eagle mural in the athletics hallway at the High School reached 3924 viewers and had 878 interactions.

Lake Shore loves its eagle. That was clear when posts about the Middle School's eagle restoration and the High School's eagle mural by Class of '16 graduate Chris Beckley took off on Facebook. But, Kim Himes's deer rally really drew in the numbers. She spotted the deer while driving past A.J. Schmidt around 7 pm. Her husband pulled over and she snapped a couple of photos.

It was a short-lived moment. "After a minute or two one started walking away and the others were willing to follow," she says. She sent the photo to A.J. Schmidt Principal Jill Clark, who posted it on Facebook the next morning. It was next posted on the District Facebook page, where it quickly became the most popular post thus far in the new year.

Capital Project UPDATE ...



Photo by Sarah Gambino

Here's a quick recap of what's done, what's underway and what's to come in Lake Shore's Capital Construction Project:

PHASE 2 UPDATE:

At the High School, the new indoor track is completed, windows and doors are installed in the new addition, and painting and drywall work continues. The entrance canopy is framed in, boarded and ready for glass (see photo above).

The second floor weight room floor has been water proofed, and wall tile is installed in the hallways, giving a modern look.

At the Middle School, the security entry doors and hardware are complete. Auditorium work continues, with all seats and carpeting installed. Sound and lighting work have proceeded slowly, due to COVID-related manufacturing delays.

PHASE 3 CALENDAR:

Contracts have been awarded for work at the High School and J.T. Waugh. Construction starts in February and ends in August 2022.

At the High School, projects include reconfiguration and renovation of science, art, music and life skills spaces.

At J.T. Waugh, work includes a secure entrance, parking lot upgrades and sidewalk replacement.

PHASE 4 PLAN:

Young and Wright have started design development documents for work at the elementary schools. Works includes site work, plumbing, electrical, HVAC and technology upgrades. An initial playground planning committee meeting has taken place. Bids will open in September and be awarded in October. Work starts in November, with a completion date of November 2022.