



News & Notes

A newsletter from Superintendent of Schools Dr. Charles Galluzzo

Following the Board of Education Meeting of February 23, 2021

The Board of Education on Tuesday night:

Accepted with regret the resignation of:
Christine Koch,
Secondary Principal,
effective May 7, 2021.

Richard Reynolds, Bus
Attendant, effective
February 10, 2021.

Accepted with regret the resignation for the purpose of retirement of:
Carol Hughes, Bus
Driver, effective February 28, 2021.

Approved the temporary appointment of:

Shaina Samples,
Teaching Assistant.

Approved the six-month probationary appointment of:
Joshua Niemet-Blust,
Bus Driver.

Valarie Reynolds,
Laborer.

Tammy Sinclair,
Bus Attendant.



Hello Everyone,

With COVID-19 positivity rates dropping, many sectors are in the process of readjusting to some semblance of more normal times. Education is no exception. Here's what we know so far:

TESTING: Districts are required to administer student assessments mandated under ESSA. New York State has a schedule in place. We expect that scores will look different from normal years. This information is vital to identify where gaps may be and how to plan our academic program moving forward.

ATHLETICS: Section VI has given the OK for two spectators per athlete to attend HOME games (no away games yet). Safety measures include the typical COVID-19 screening questions, temperature-taking, masking and distancing, as well as no food or drink and no congregating in the foyer. Games will continue to be live streamed.

CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION PROJECT: Everything is proceeding on schedule. Safety precautions during COVID-19 include scaffolding at the High School which allows workers access to the building without having to enter student areas.

CLUBS and ACTIVITIES: The Administrative Team meets next week to discuss whether clubs and activities can safely resume.

MORE THAN TWO DAYS?: Conversations are ongoing regarding when and how the District might be able to resume more than two days of in-person instruction. Distancing is the primary safety guideline complicating that move, as well as concerns about how to deploy sufficient staff to serve students who may stay on remote instruction. LSCTA and parents are joining the discussion. The Erie-Niagara School Superintendents Association has written to the NYS Education Department asking to be included in discussions about state guidelines for the eventual broader re-opening of school.

Things are looking brighter. Please stay masked and safe so forward momentum can continue toward more normal times.

Sincerely,
Dr. Charles Galluzzo, Superintendent



Big Decisions Ahead!

We've had 12 students accepted at Niagara University and here are six who attended a congratulatory "Accepted Students Lunch." NU Assistant Director of Admissions Stephanie Buczkowski, left, was on hand to answer any questions as students make their final decisions on what college to attend. Beside her, from left, are Melody Lagattuta, Jessica Rinehart, Julia Marinaro, Breanna Bartz, Madelynn Lockwood and Gabriella Rodriguez. - Photo by Heather Boncore

At

Tuesday night's Board of Education Meeting ...

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The Board heard that an additional 950 Chromebooks have been ordered via another submission for Smart Schools Bond Act funding to bring the District to the goal of 1:1 instruction for next school year. An earlier submission provided funds for 950 Chromebooks that recently arrived and will be made ready for distribution this Fall. The newest submission for another 950 Chromebooks is awaiting approval from SED. Also, over the recent break we processed 200 Chromebooks for distribution in early March specifically for students funded by the My Brother's Keeper Grant. Meanwhile, the District continues to provide a Chromebook per household to assist with remote instruction as we gear up for the massive undertaking of going 1 to 1.

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Internet availability for students was discussed ... The District has put in place nearly 275 T-Mobile hotspots through that carrier's project 10Million program at no cost to the District, providing 100 GB of data per device for a full year and 65 Verizon hotspots for students funded under the My Brother's Keeper grant. All appear to be operational. The Nation's Early Childhood Learning Center also provides hot spots for student use. The Boys and Girls Club at Hoag provides hot spot use for a fee. WiFi access also is provided for all students in each building and parking lots as well.

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Assistant Superintendent for Administration and Finance Dan Pacos provided a budget update, noting that the District's allowable tax increase is more than 4% for the 2021-22 school year but due to current financial circumstances, the District is budgeting to keep the tax rate increase under 2%. To accomplish that, unless new revenue arrives from the Federal level, he said an estimated \$1.8 to 2 million in reductions will be necessary. The hope is that if federal stimulus money is forthcoming, the state does not in turn reduce its projected school aid to districts. "We are budgeting for five days of in-person instruction because the hope is that we will be operating as normal then," added Mr. Pacos. "It is a work in progress, the big thing is the aid."

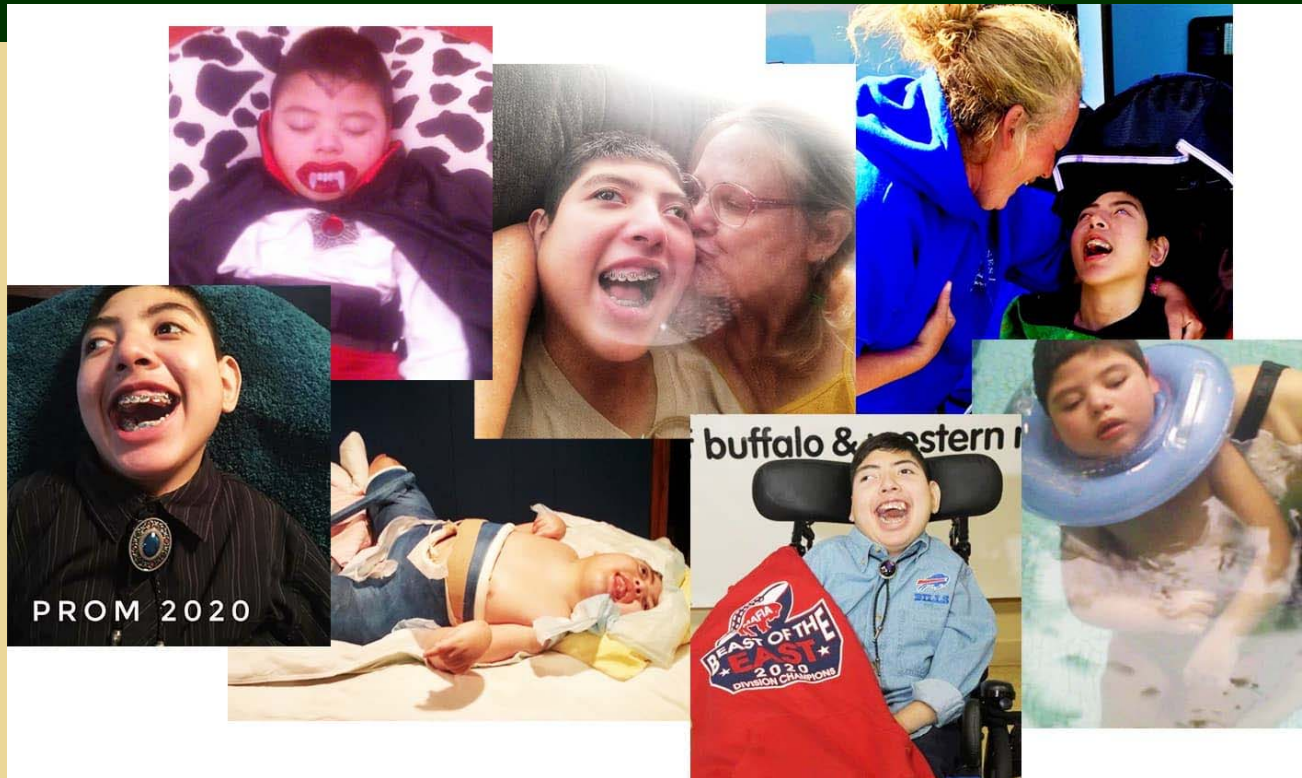
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Assistant Superintendent for Instruction Melissa Bergler reported on ongoing discussions on how and when the District might be able to provide more days of in-person instruction. Among the issues being discussed: adhering to distancing guidelines, routing of buses and bidding of routes, and how to serve students who might remain on remote instruction (currently 187 students). Virtual meetings with parents also are being held for their input.

Variety Club Telethon

This Weekend!

Evan Liddick is Celebrity Child 2021



As we mentioned in the last News & Notes, Evan Liddick is this year's Variety Club Celebrity Child and now his big weekend is coming up—the Telethon airs this coming Saturday and Sunday. Evan is the grandson of Lake Shore bus driver Carrie Preston. She and her husband, Shawn Liddick, adopted Evan when he was a year old.

Evan is a Lake Shore student who attends Aspire Center for Learning. In yet another Lake Shore connection, Tony Vaccaro is the chair of this year's Telethon.

As a show of support, the Transportation Department is accepting checks for Variety Club,

says Payroll Clerk Denise Mecca. "Not everyone likes donating online," she says. They would like to receive checks by Feb. 26th because the donations will be presented to Variety Club on Sunday, Feb. 28 between 1 and 2 pm on WBBZ-TV. "But," she reminds us, "You can donate all year long. Evan is the Celebrity Child for the entire year."

Mrs. Mecca also will be answering phones during the Telethon on Sunday. She's an ardent supporter of Variety Club and loves to share the story of how a baby abandoned by a desperate mother was the catalyst for today's international children's charity serving millions of children around the world—including our very own Evan Liddick.

GOIN' BALD



FOR BUCKS.

March 8-18th!

You Can DONATE to Lake Shore B4B [HERE!](#)

Even COVID-19 can't stop the fight against cancer! In 2002 the Lake Shore Community gave birth to Goin' Bald for Bucks. Now it's a Western New York tradition and a major fundraiser for Roswell Park in their fight to find a cure.

**Want to make a difference?
Know someone fighting cancer?
Want to show support for them?
Want to make a difference in helping to find a cure?**

Join our Team!

Click [HERE](#) or scan the QR code to create an account with Lake Shore B4B.

How to Participate

**Our virtual event takes place
March 8-18th:**

1. Choose a date.
2. Video the shaving or cutting.
3. Post to social media with the hashtag **#baldforbucks.**
4. Email the video to kathleen.kreinherder@lscsd.org.



**If you would like
Benny the Barber
to shave your head, please
email for an appointment.**

He is donating his time from
4-5 pm on Monday, 3/8 through
Friday, 3/13.

kathleen.kreinherder@lscsd.org

Lake Shore BRIGHTS!



Great News, Eagles!

We now can welcome TWO spectators per athlete back to our HOME interscholastic athletic contests. (No AWAY game spectators yet.)

Safety procedures must be followed. Details [HERE](#).



Spring!

That's badminton in gym class, friends! That means spring can't be too far behind. Daylight Saving Time begins March 14th ... springing an hour of sunlight longer into our day!

Buncee Case Study

Lake Shore Central
School District

Featured!

Buncee brings many tools together and examples of its use are featured in this

[**Lake Shore case study.**](#)

LSCSD Honors English 9 students used the Buncee platform for reading and analyzing stories and creating presentations. Spanish students worked through a Buncee template, and Global Studies students used it to teach each other about ancient civilizations.