

# **News & Notes**

A newsletter from Superintendent of Schools Dr. Charles Galluzzo

Following the Board of Education Special Meetings of Nov. 2 and Regular Meeting of Nov. 16, 2021

The Board of Education, at its Nov. 16 Meeting:

Accepted with regret the resignation for the purpose of retirement of ...

Dr. Charles Galluzzo, School Superintendent, effective 1/15/22

> Angela Christina, Monitor, effective 1/7/22

Kathleen Rose, Monitor, effective 12/19/21

Elizabeth Sicurella, Bus Driver, effective 11/17/21

Accepted with regret the resignation of ...

lan Lewis, Elementary Teacher, effective 11/22/22

Jennifer Hudy, Teaching Assistant, Effective 12/1/21

Valerie Reynolds, Laborer, effective 11/20/21

Continued on next page ...



### Hello Everyone,

I am very appreciative of all your good wishes since the announcement Tuesday night of my retirement, effective Jan. 15, 2022.

Again, I want to express my deepest gratitude for the efforts of an excellent administrative team, the support of a caring Board of Education, and the steadfast commitment of faculty and staff dedicated to the education and

well-being of Lake Shore's children.

Together we have weathered unprecedented challenges. We have learned much along the way about managing remote instruction and hybrid instruction, transportation, food service, facilities, procurement, safety and communications during a global pandemic. Above all, we have learned the vital importance of staying connected with our students and families and each other. Given all the lessons learned and protocols diligently heeded, it would seem we would be in a position to declare victory and call it a day. However, our region's COVID rates and related hospitalizations continue to rise.

More and more we hear that COVID-19 will always be with us and the lesson now is to learn to manage our lives around its risks. We all know about vaccinations and boosters, face-coverings and handwashing. There are additional simple measures we can follow to help keep ourselves, our families and students and colleagues safe:

- If you are sick and are getting tested—or have been tested—for COVID-19,
   STAY HOME and quarantine until you get your test results and know that it's safe to venture out.
- As much as we love to socialize with our colleagues, it carries a risk. Do not eat lunch together here at work. Take breaks in separate locations to help minimize the potential spread of COVID-19 that may affect your building.
- With the holidays coming up, it's important to remember that unvaccinated employees are required to get tested weekly regardless of break/recess or other benefit time (vacation, bereavement, leave, etc.) in order to be in full compliance.

All of us play a vital role in the lives of those in our care, K-12. To optimally fulfill that role, we must stay healthy ourselves and minimize the risk to others. Let's stay the course of diligence as we make another round in adjusting to life with COVID.

Sincerely,

Dr. Charles Galluzzo, Superintendent

Con't

Approved the probationary appointment of ...

Jennifer Hudy, Special Education Teacher, 12/2/21-12/1/25

Samantha Zappala, Teaching Assistant, 11/18/21-11/25/25

Valarie Reynolds, Teaching Assistant, 12/1/21-11/30/25

Danielle Jakubowicz, Teaching Assistant, 12/3/21-12/2/25

Marlene Gleason, Teaching Assistant, 12/6/21-12/5/25

Emilee Smardz, Teaching Assistant, 1/3/22-1/2/26

Crystal Arns School Nurse, effective 11/18/21

Kathleen Rose, Personal Care Aide, effective 10/20/21

Eileen Murphy, Monitor, effective 11/3/21

Allison Tilert, Monitor, effective 11/5/21

Karen Banzer, Cafeteria Monitor, effective 11/8/21

Continued on next page ...

# **Board Reports**

LSCSD Board Meeting of Nov. 16, 2021

### ... On Native American Programs

The Board of Education on Tuesday night heard a detailed report on the District's extensive series of Native American programs from Title VI Home School Liaisons Nancy Klemens (Gr. K-5) and Lindsay John (Gr. 6-12) and Native American High School Support and Title VI Coordinator Stacey Purpera.

The goal of the programs is to ensure the success of all Native American students, break down barriers to success, and incorporate positive cultural awareness K-12. "When they see their culture in school, they are more comfortable," said Mrs. Klemens.

The programs serve nearly 400 Native American students in the Lake Shore schools:

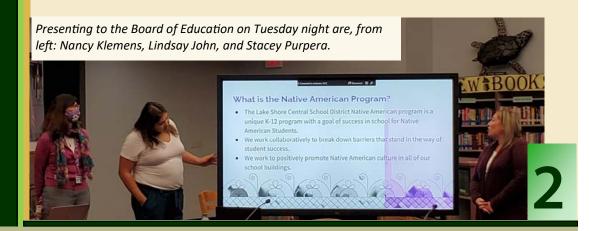
J.T. Waugh
 A.J. Schmidt
 Highland
 Middle School
 High School
 High School
 123 Native American students ... 39% of total school population
 124 Native American students ... 5% of total school population
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Helping students succeed includes monitoring and following up on attendance, attending Response-to-Intervention meetings and Title VI Parent Committee meetings, as well as tutoring, direct instruction and student supports.

At the elementary level, there are Seneca language classes K-5 and a Read & Sew program for 2nd-5th graders. Moving on toward Middle School, there is a Success in Middle School transition program covering everything from how to work a combination locker to discussions about maturity for incoming 6th-graders. Once in Middle School, Native American students can receive tutoring help and, in grades 7 and 8, Seneca language instruction. There's also a Lunch Club to connect with every student at least once a week

At the High School, Seneca language instruction can continue, levels 1-5. There's also a Haudenosaunee studies course, a course in Native American Culture Through Film, and a Native American Culture Club.

Activities such as Every Child Matters observances; Rock Your Mocs, Crocs and Crazy Socks Day; and speakers, performances and exhibits during the annual Native American Heritage Month observances infuse Native American culture throughout the schools.



Con't ...

Approved the 6-month probationary appointment of ...

### Alicia Safe,

Bus Driver, effective 10/19/21

### Katherine Skibinski

Bus Driver, effective 10/19/21

### Elizabeth Schweizer,

Bus Driver, Effective 10/19/21

Lauren Wood, Bus Driver, effective 10/21/21

The Board of Education, at its Nov. 2nd Meeting:

Approved a leave of absence for ...

Jennifer Hudy, Teaching Assistant, 11/2/21-12/1/21

Approved a the temporary appointment of ...

Jennifer Hudy, Special Education Teacher, effective 11/2/21

In other matters during the Nov. 2nd work session, the Board ...

Reviewed policies
 on:
 Advertising in
 Schools

## The ribbon is cut!



### "This is amazing!" ...

that was the reaction throughout the tours of the new High School athletic addition Thursday evening as alumni and community members toured the renovated office and foyer areas, the new weight room and wrestling room and other highlights of the new facility. Many thanks to the Leadership students who conducted the tours, the student musicians who performed continuously in the gym throughout the evening, and all who contributed time and effort to make a memorable event!

# December Pay Update

The month of December is a three-pay period month.

Teamster dues and TRS loans will be turned off for the third pay.

### Did You Know ...

You can find reported cases of COVID-19 in our schools posted on our

**COVID-19 Dashboard.** 

Rather than waiting for Blackboard Connect to provide email or phone notification of positive cases, you can find the information on the dashboard (located on our main web site home page) at your convenience.

## **Ultimate Tailgate Raffle**



### **Drawing is Nov. 24**

Non-Resident
Students,
Student Privacy,
and
Parental Access to
Information and
Administration of
Certain Physical
Examinations
to Minors

- Reviewed a draft
  Request for Proposals
  document for
  development of a
  strategic plan
- Discussed recognition of the late William Houston
- Discussed legislative priorities.

## Next Board Meetings:

Dec. 7

7 p.m., Work Session Highland Tour at 6:30 p.m.

Dec. 21

7 p.m., Regular Meeting High School Library Media Center

Winter Recess: Dec. 23-31

### Tix, Hats, TOPS, Cooler, Chairs!

The Academy of Business & Finance announces its Bills Ultimate Tailgate Raffle.

Tickets are 1- \$10 or 3 - \$20. Winner takes all prizes—an \$800+ value!

2 Buffalo Bills Tickets- December 6th game vs New England Patriots,
Section 222, Row 6, Seats 5 &6

Igloo Trailmate Journey 70 Qt cooler
2 GCI Outdoor Freestyle Rocker Chairs
\$150 gift card to TOPS
2 Buffalo Bills Hats (ball cap and winter hat)

See any AOBF Junior or Senior student or email Danielle Arnone or Marla Schifano for tickets! Drawing is November 24th! Cash or checks payable to Lake Shore Academy Foundation.



Land of a Thousand Pies ... Actually, more like one thousand and one hundred pies! When the Academy of Business & Finance pie fundraiser took off like wildfire, students, advisors and other adult helping hands baked their way through Veterans' Day, the weekend and nights after school. The money raised will help fund their Leadership Trip to Disney in January .... with visions of chocolate, cherry cheese, peanut butter, pumpkin and apple pies no doubt dancing in their heads. Rolling out the dough are Senior Academy student Abby David and Danielle Arnone.

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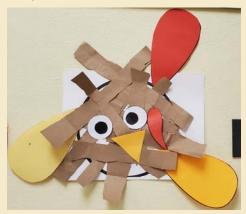
# > Waugh Tour

Board of Education Pre-Meeting Tour of J.T. Waugh on Nov. 2, 2021





Principal Paula Eastman escorted Board of Education members and administrators through J.T.Waugh for a look at Capital Project improvements (including left, from top: Main Office, Staff Room and Gymnasium), and other highlights at the school, including the art/music hallway (bottom right), which was turned into a gallery of students' autumnal art, and a paper turkey outside the OT/PT room that just grabbed everyone's heart.







# A.J. Schmidt & Buff State

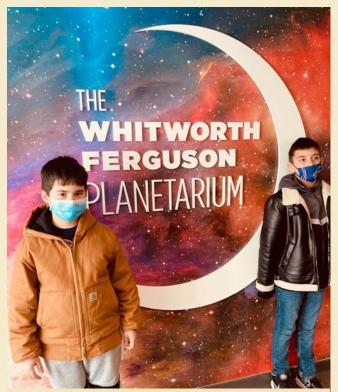
## **Teaching & Learning Together**

In January 2014, Jill Clark was in her first year as principal at A.J. Schmidt Elementary School. By Fall, the school also was introduced to Dr. Christopher Shively and several pre-service teachers from Buffalo State College.

"I am his lab," chuckles Mrs. Clark.

"You give my Buff State students a chance to practice teach," says Dr. Shively, a professor of math methods. "This is a living labor of love, 'try this, let's try this ....' you are not afraid to bring us in and let us practice."

The success of their work together over the past sevenplus years has been documented in professional articles ("Figure It Out: Stories About a PDS Partnership That Put the Needs of Students First"); featured in educational publications ("Strengthening Community Relationships With A Symbiotic PDS Partnership," in the 2020 edition of *The Impact of PDs Partnerships in Challenging Times*), and showcased nationally when Mrs. Clark presented "The Resilience Project at Buffalo State College: How PDS Can Impact Teacher Capacity to Work with Children Who Have Experienced Trauma and Nurture Resilience" at the 2019 National Association of Professional Development Schools Convention in Atlanta.



Bengals for a Day: Noah Hoffnung, left, and Colton Pinelli on the A.J. Schmidt field trip to Buffalo State College's planetarium.

Both Dr. Shively and Mrs. Clark describe the A.J. Schmidt/ Buffalo State relationship as symbiotic, with each benefitting significantly. "We get a lot from the Lake Shore teachers and students," says Dr. Shively. "Instead of a methods course that just talks about teaching, my teacher candidates are able to TEACH."

"As an education methods professor, students talk to me about what they see in their classes and I ask, 'What would you do?' Recently, one of the teacher candidates encountered a 5<sup>th</sup> grade boy who knew how to multiply decimals but every problem he worked on, he flipped the numbers around," he says. "That event gave us something real to talk about. If my teacher candidates weren't in-

volved with kids, if they weren't experiencing it, we would just be making this stuff up as potential learning challenges ... it would not be authentic."

At A.J. Schmidt, the benefits come in the form of additional hands and help and ideas for working with the youngsters. "I want them," Mrs. Clark says of the preservice students. "To think they come all this way from Buffalo State to practice in a rural school. We get the best of the best coming here."

The depth of the math methods practice also has increased, Dr. Shively notes. Initially, he worked with just general education students. Now, he co-teaches his

# A.J.S. &Buff State con't ...

math methods class with special education teacher Dr. Lauren Ormsby, a former superintendent in the Ripley school district. "Our focus is on how to serve children with special needs," he says, adding, "Dr. Ormsby is an expert with the STAR assessment system," a tool used at Lake Shore to assess where students are, or are not, doing well. She helped Dr. Shively and his students learn how to analyze the data to see where the A.J. Schmidt students' math and reading achievement levels were. That, he says, "is how we meet them where they are. We can figure out what skills are lacking and where remediation is needed." During the most restrictive protocols of the pandemic, Mrs. Clark notes, "The teacher candidates couldn't 'touch the kids' per se, but they could 'touch their data,' and that had a very profound impact on how the students were taught during online instruction."

Help and insights can also come from Buffalo State students after they finish their pre-service work. When schools went to full remote instruction during the pandemic, teachers everywhere had to figure out how to adjust instruction to an online environment. Among them was Liz Malinowski, a pre-service teacher at A.J. Schmidt who had gone on to work as a L-8 math instructional coach at West Buffalo Charter School.

During the pandemic, she came to terms with the fact that technology alone was not enough for effective remote teaching. After adjusting her instruction multiple times, she conceded, "You cannot teach as you did when you were together in a classroom - not unless the students are able to sit in front of the computer at home without distraction, and that is so difficult. Their focus is so disjointed online."

Ms. Malinowski modified her approach to be more flexible and reduced the

number of learning objectives. She relied more heavily on providing feedback and support. She adjusted the technology she used and how she used it ... so it wasn't just providing information, but also a way for students to share in the process.

She shared her lessons learned with Dr. Shively, who brought her instructional approach to his teacher candidates, who were able to work again with A.J. Schmidt students when the district returned to hybrid instruction. Meanwhile, Lake Shore was providing teachers with professional development that included an overview of Google Workspace and Google Cloud and the digital classroom, and a demonstration of how Mrs. Malinowski's 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders were taught during the pandemic, including using Google workspace tools and Google cloud organization for math lessons. The influence of Buffalo State's teacher candidates extends both in and outside of the classroom. As schools emerged from remote to hybrid instruction, A.J. Schmidt established classroom "stations" to connect with kids, working for one hour on Tuesdays and Thursdays in small groups. Permission slips were sent home to sign up

for the Buffalo State College Math Club, run by the teacher candidates. The club met online on off days when the A.J. Schmidt students were not in school.

The impact of Buffalo State teacher candidates also will be expanded through a \$1200 grant written by Dr. Shively. The grant provides funding and transportation for 5<sup>th</sup> graders to Buffalo State's Whitworth-Ferguson Planetarium, where they will be joined by college students who will share their experiences. "Some of the AJS students may never have been to Buffalo and none of the students has visited a planetarium," Mrs. Clark notes. The funding also supports a Seneca translation of the Earth and Space science Readers Theater Unit aligned with the Next Generation Science and Engineering Standards. The unit will be taught as a series of 15minute group lessons and/or as a learning station during small group instruction with Buffalo State students.

For A.J. Schmidt and Buffalo State teacher candidates, it is a lab. It is a partnership. It is truly symbiotic. "It is," Dr. Shively says, "a labor of love."



Above: Dr. Christopher Shively and Jill Clark.



Christian Pace, Amazon Senior Software Engineer, joins AP Computer Science Principles class to discuss college, coding and careers.

- Photo by Devon Asboth

# Special Guest from Amazon Talks College, Coding & Careers ...

With the help of Google Meet, Amazon Senior Software Engineer Christian Pace met with students in Devon Asboth's AP Computer Science Principles class to talk about how he discovered computer science and made it his career. "Christian went to high school in Wellsville, NY, and attended Brockport and RIT prior to working with Amazon so he was excited to talk with a group from WNY," says Mrs. Asboth, a Special Education and Math Teacher. "The first half of the presentation was about his life experiences with computer science through high school, college, internships, and careers. The second half was a question and answer session where students talked to him about college, coding, and career options for computer science."

### His Top Tips:

Utilize mentors! Reach out when you need help/info Mistakes will happen, use them as a learning tool Not all tech jobs require coding

"I loved the slideshow and his in-depth explanation to his slides along with his personal steps leading to his current position. I also appreciated that he gave us information on how he got internships and the amazon scholarship," said senior Sneha D'Andrea.





Sam Eschberger



Mitch Kiefer



Max Hazard



Hannah Dunmire and Lauren Smith



Corinne Nagy and Mitch Kiefer

## What A Wonderful Wizard of Oz!

Were you "off to see the Wizard"?

Hopefully yes, because what a wonderful, wonderful wiz it was ...

Congratulations and thank you to the cast, crew, pit orchestra,

the Art, Music and Theater departments

for an outstanding performance and a truly fun event!



## **COVID-19 Testing Locations**

## Area Testing Locations based on information from their websites. This information is subject to change.

### Rite Aid Testing Sites - www.riteaid.com

13090 Broadway, Alden, NY 14004

12983 Main St, Akron, NY 14001

3249 Sheridan Dr., Amherst, NY 14226

3924 Harlem Rd, Amherst, NY 14226

8530 Transit Rd, Amherst, NY 14221

9062 Erie Rd, Angola, NY 14006

1625 Broadway, Buffalo, NY 14212

1941 Seneca St, Buffalo, NY 14210

476 William St, Buffalo, NY 14206

1410 Delaware Ave, Buffalo, NY 14209

2047 Sheridan Dr, Buffalo, NY 14223

789 Tonawanda St, Buffalo, NY 14207

2865 Elmwood Ave, Kenmore, NY 14217

654 Colvin Ave, Kenmore, NY 14217

2585 Main St, Buffalo, NY 14214

291 W Ferry St, Buffalo, NY 14213

2474 Bailey Ave, Buffalo, NY 14215

5447 Main St, Williamsville, NY 14221

2401 Genesee St, Cheektowaga, NY 14225

2887 Harlem Rd, Cheektowaga, NY 14225

3950 Union Rd, Cheektowaga, NY 14225

6000 Transit Rd, Depew, NY 14043

4900 Broadway, Depew, NY 14043

60 Central Ave, Lancaster, NY 14086

9160 Main St, Clarence, NY 14031

190 Main St, East Aurora, NY 14052

3071-3085 South Park Ave, Lackawanna, NY 14218

3050 Union Rd, Orchard Park, NY 14127

140 Pine St, Hamburg, NY 14075

6939 Erie Rd, Derby, NY 14047

40 W Main St, Springville, NY 14141

81 W Main St, Gowanda, NY 14070

214 Central Ave, Silver Creek, NY 14136

47 Niagara St, Tonawanda, NY 14150

#### Walgreens Testing Sites – www.walgreens.com 9217

Main St, Clarence, NY 14031

5275 Transit Rd, Buffalo, NY 14221

2970 Niagara Falls Blvd, Amherst, NY 14228 3564

Delaware Ave, Tonawanda, NY 14217

2601 Sheridan Dr, Tonawanda, NY 14150

3605 Sheridan Dr, Amherst, NY 14226

2739 Delaware Ave, Kenmore, NY 14217

1556 Hertel Ave, Buffalo, NY 14216

3488 Main St, Buffalo, NY 14214

2043 Kensington Ave, Amherst, NY 14226

578 Dick Rd, Depew, NY 14043

4815 Broadway, Depew, NY 14043

### Walgreens Testing Sites - www.walgreens.com 9217

815 Harlem Rd, West Seneca, NY 14224

1180 French Rd, Cheektowaga, NY 14227

1328 Abbott Rd, Lackawanna, NY 14218

3008 Union Rd, Orchard Park, NY 14127

6199 South Park Ave, Hamburg, NY 14075

10 Young Street, Tonawanda, NY 14150 650 Delaware Ave, Buffalo, NY 14202

2320 Grand Island Blvd, Grand Island, NY 14072

#### **KSL Diagnostics Testing Sites**

1000 Youngs Road, Williamsville, NY 14221, 800-960-1080, FAX 716-559-1582

28 Best Street, Buffalo, NY 14209, 800-960-1080, FAX 716-800-6057

#### Medlab, Inc. Testing Site

4110 N Buffalo St, Orchard Park, NY 14127, 716-320-3001

#### **Immediate Care Testing Sites**

2099 Niagara Falls Blvd., Amherst, NY 14228, 716-564-2273

2497 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14216, 716-874-

5014 Transit Road, Cheektowaga, NY 14043, 716-684-

3050 Orchard Park Road, Orchard Park, NY 14224, 716-675-3700

7616 Transit Road, Williamsville, NY 14221, 716-204-2273

### WellNow Testing Sites

1956 Ridge Road, West Seneca, NY 14224

3245 Southwestern Blvd, Orchard Park, NY 14127 4909

Southwestern Blvd, Hamburg, NY 14075

4827 Transit Road, Depew, NY 14043

3450 Union Road, Cheektowaga, NY 14225

3921 Harlem Rd, Buffalo, NY 14226

1751 Sheridan Dr, Buffalo, NY 14223

5965 Transit Rd, East Amherst, NY 14051

225 S Cascade Dr, Springville, NY 14141

#### **Pediatric Urgent Care Testing Sites**

1800 Maple Road, Suite #100, Williamsville, NY 14221, 716-636-5437

3055 Southwestern Blvd., Suite 104, Orchard Park, NY 14127, 716-636-5437