



# News & Notes

A newsletter from Superintendent of Schools Dr. Charles Galluzzo

Following the Board of Education Meeting of February 2, 2021

If you're a  
Lake Shore  
Central  
School  
District  
resident,  
your school  
tax code is

**330**

for your tax  
forms.

## UPCOMING Board of Education Meetings

**Feb. 23, 7 pm  
Regular Meeting**

**March 2, 7 pm  
Work Session**

**March 16, 7 pm  
Regular Meeting**

**April 20, 7 pm  
Regular Meeting**



Hello Everyone,

**We're out of the Orange Zone** so there is no more weekly Covid testing. But, it's worth mentioning the effort made to test 150 faculty and staff and 571 students from December 11 through January 25th. We had zero (0) positive cases among the total of 721 people tested while we were in the Orange Zone. Many thanks to all who made the testing possible.

**On the athletics front**, sports began on Monday for Boys and Girls Basketball at all levels, as well as Boys and Modified (co-ed) Swimming and Girls Hockey. At this point no spectators are allowed in person, although swim and basketball can be viewed on the [free Eagles Youtube livestream](#).

Wrestling has been postponed till the spring (May) at this point. The breakdown for the rest of the seasons is:

Fall II: March Monday 15<sup>th</sup> - Friday May 14<sup>th</sup>

Football, Volleyball Boys/Girls all levels, Competitive Cheer

Spring: Monday May 10<sup>th</sup> to Wed June 30<sup>th</sup>

Baseball, Softball all levels, Lacrosse Boys/Girls all levels, Boys Tennis and Outdoor Boys/Girls all levels. You may ask, how are we are playing sports until June 30<sup>th</sup> when students graduate before that and when June 25<sup>th</sup> is Regents rating day? Good question! More on that when we learn the answer!

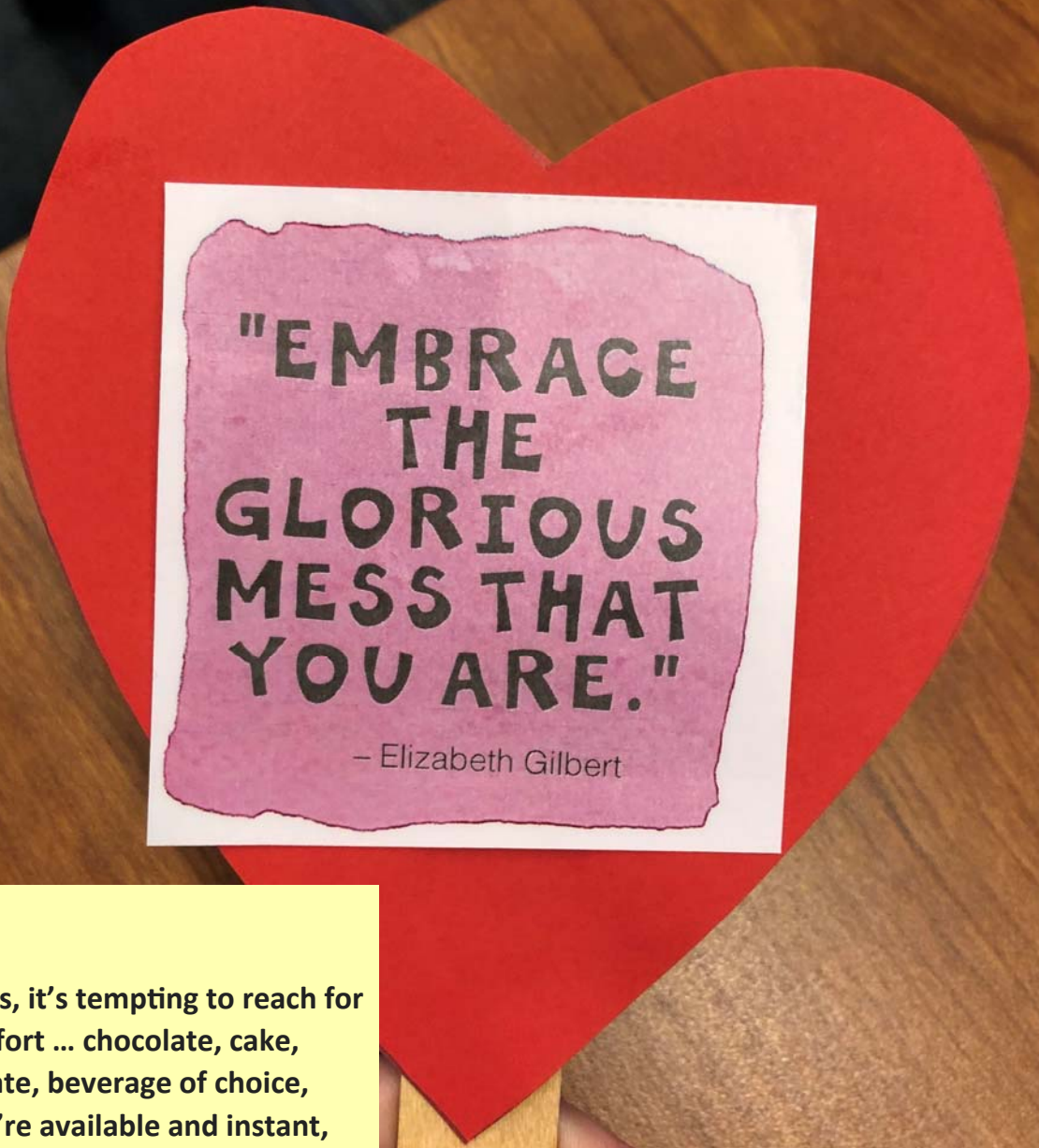
**You also may wonder how many students are still on full remote. While several have returned to in-person, hybrid instruction for the second semester, we still have the following on full remote:**

Elementary	63 out of 923	6.8%
Middle School	50 out of 506	9.0%
High School	89 out of 667	13.3%

**Be well, stay safe, stay masked, stay positive.**

Sincerely,

**Dr. Charles Galluzzo, Superintendent**



**"EMBRACE  
THE  
GLORIOUS  
MESS THAT  
YOU ARE."**

— Elizabeth Gilbert

In times of stress, it's tempting to reach for immediate comfort ... chocolate, cake, cookies, chocolate, beverage of choice, chocolate. They're available and instant, but speech therapists Maggie Sanna and Erin Wodzinski offer a healthier instant alternative by way of a bulletin board at J.T. Waugh.

You can walk right up to that board and grab whatever you need in encouraging, comforting, motivating messages that provide a quick uplift that can get you through the next day — one bright spot at a time. Maybe you'll even pick one to share with someone else. After all, "We're all in this together," as the bulletin board reminds us.



**Take what  
you need  
today!**

Positive Pause ... This bulletin board at J.T. Waugh provides instant pick-me-up messages. It was created by speech therapists Maggie Sanna and Erin Wodzinski. *Photos by Paula Eastman..*



# Thank Your Mentor!

The night before your first day of teaching you probably got as little sleep as the nervous kids before they started their new school year. No matter how much you prepare, there are still many unknowns. That's where mentors come in.

New teachers come equipped with the methods they learn in college and important foundation experience from the practice teaching required for graduation.

But, a brand new teacher – or an intern or a teacher moving to a different level or environment – also needs to learn about school climate and culture, and insights into curriculum and classroom management. They need a knowledgeable source for support and advice.

*Con't on next page ...*



*Mentor Amy Nelson, left, receives her thank you note from mentee Lacadia Dix at A.J. Schmidt.*



*Thumbs up for Mentoring! So says Evan Koehler with mentor Alicia Faust at JT Waugh.*



*A word of thanks ... Chuck Ruffino delivers a thank you to mentor Katie Zittel at the High School.*

**Veteran teachers help orient their “mentees” to the school ...**

# Thank Your Mentor con't ...

At Lake Shore, that's where teacher mentors enter the picture. These veteran teachers help orient their "mentees" to the school and share best practices, observe their teaching and offer feedback and personal support.

Lake Shore's Teacher Mentor Intern Program has developed over the past six years via a New York State grant that pays for a mentor facilitator stipend, mentor stipends, supplies and materials for new teachers and mentors, workshops for mentors and new teachers, and for some clerical support.

Nearly a dozen mentors are currently in place at Lake Shore and a "Thank Your Mentor Day" was held on Jan 29.

*Con't on next page ...*



*Eric Blodgett and Nancy Allesi mentor new teacher Deanna Civilette, center, at the High School..*



*Michelle Lleras, left, mentors new teacher Kelly Riegle.*



*At A.J. Schmidt, Holly Martin mentors Tracy Wing.*

**They share best practices & observe their teaching ...**



# Thank Your Mentor con't ...

There were thank you notes and token gifts exchanged. It's a chance for all involved to reflect on what has been learned and to recognize the mentors making a significant impact on their professional practice.

"Mentoring is an effective support system that fosters learning, growth and confidence," says Lori Wunder, A.J. Schmidt 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher who serves as the District's Mentor Facilitator. "A mentor has a vital role as an advisor and confidant to the intern.

"The Mentor Teacher Intern Program is a structured support system that helps the team learn and share experiences. It's a very successful program that has had a positive impact in the district."



*Peggy Koch and Jessica Dimmer at AJ Schmidt.*



*Melissa Atzrott and Kelly Riegle at AJ Schmidt.*

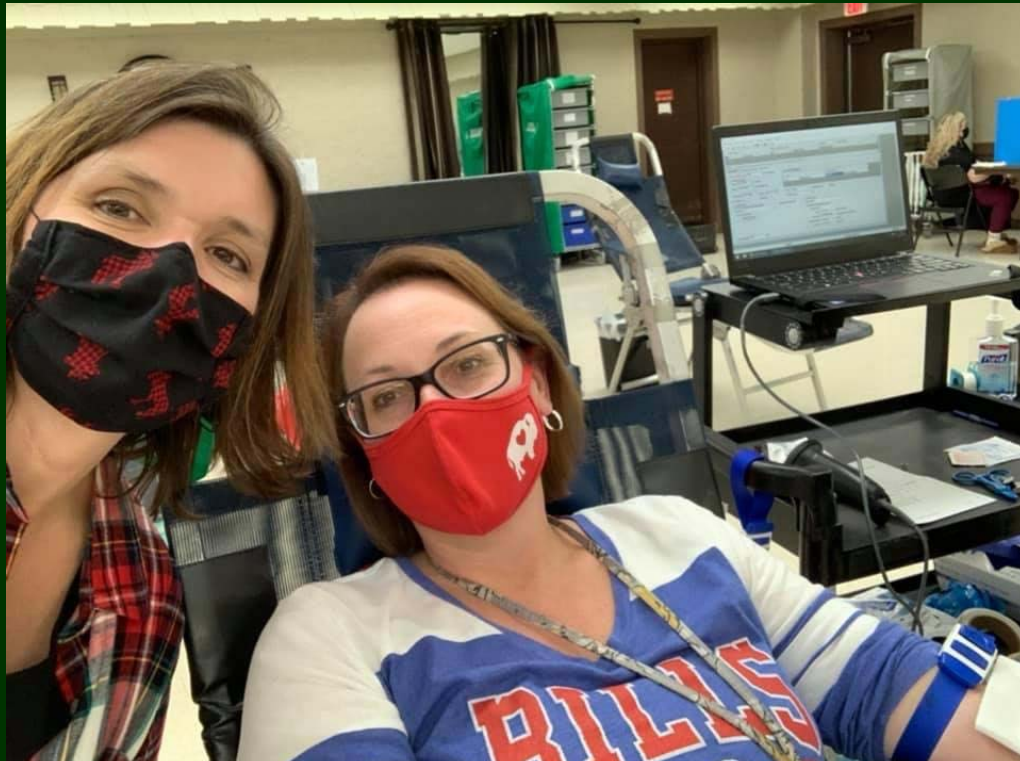


*At Highland, Kylie Mathis-Wadsworth with mentor Jody Schmidle.*

***'Mentoring is an effective support system that fosters learning, growth and confidence ...'***

***- Lori Wunder, LSCSD Mentor Facilitator***

**They offer feedback and personal support.**



## Kate Kreinheder Named ConnectLife Sponsor of the Month

**High School calculus teacher Kate Kreinheder first donated blood when she was in high school, in 1987.**

"Knowing that I could help to save a person's life was very moving for me," she says. "In college, I helped to promote and plan campus blood drives and started regularly donating platelets."

Then, a few years ago, health teacher Rosanne Schaller asked if she would like to co-advise the Donate Life Club here at the High School. "I cannot thank her enough for bringing me on board and making this journey come full circle," says Mrs. Kreinheder.

"Her passion has helped to drive my own passion for donation. At the time of the lockdown, she suggested we host blood drives outside of school. This is when I decided to bring ConnectLife to my town at

The Well, a not-for-profit Community Center run by community members in North Collins."

Mrs. Kreinheder says The Well has been extremely accommodating, allowing ConnectLife to use their facilities and promote the drives. Since May 2020, donations from blood drives at The Well have potentially saved 147 lives.

"I appreciate my community and their willingness to give of themselves to save another human," says Mrs. Kreinheder. "Thank you to ConnectLife and The Well for allowing me to be part of the greater good. It is an honor to be chosen as ConnectLife's Sponsor of the Month."

**Photo: Kate Kreinheder, left, and donor Connie Govenettio, 1st grade teacher at A.J. Schmidt.**

# There's a Lake Shore Connection When You Give

## To Variety Club Telethon This Year

When you give to the Variety Club Telethon you're helping children like Evan Liddick. His adoptive mom is Carrie Preston, a bus driver here at Lake Shore. Evan, a special needs child within the District who attends Aspire Center for Learning, is this year's 2021 Celebrity Child for the Variety Club Kids Telethon.

"Our family is honored to have Evan represent children of multineeds through the year-long Variety Club events," says Mrs. Preston, noting that the telethon airs locally on Feb. 27 and 28.

"Evan is our paternal grandchild," says Mrs. Preston. "He was a shaken baby at four months old. My husband, Shawn Liddick, and I adopted Evan when he was 1 year old. Evan is diagnosed with traumatic brain injury, cerebral palsy, epilepsy and other complications. The Variety Club is sharing Evan's story of being a shaken baby and the tragic results of what many don't realize can be a devastating decision on a caregiver's part."

This year's telethon has other Lake Shore connections. Tony Vaccaro, Business Agent for Teamsters Local 264 who works with Lake Shore's non-instructional staff, is the chair of the telethon. Also, Shelly Jemiolo, a Lake Shore nurse, cares for Evan on the bus and works for his family at home.

In addition to helping to raise donations for Variety Club, Mrs. Preston and her husband hope Evan's Celebrity Child status will help raise awareness. "If anyone has questions re-



*Back, from left: Tony Vaccaro, Shawn Liddick, and Carrie Preston, with Evan at center.*

garding Evan, we are an open book about all he's been through," says Mrs. Preston. "If teachers would like us to visit their classroom when Covid restrictions open up to share information about what shaken baby can do to a child, we are available to do so." She can be reached at [evan4varietykids@gmail.com](mailto:evan4varietykids@gmail.com)

Learn more at <https://varietybuffalo.org/evans-story-read-all-about-our-2021-celebrity-child-evan/>



## Variety Club Telethon

# Meet Evan Liddick

## Celebrity Child 2021



**Evan Liddick is 13 years old and he's a very active, social young man. He loves being outside, camping, listening to music and being an all-around goofball.**

He's the grandson of Lake Shore bus driver Carrie Preston, and her husband, Shawn Liddick, who adopted him when he was a year old.

Evan uses many services through Oishei Children's Hospital: Neurology, orthopedics, dental, and pulmonary clinics to name a few. Evan was a shaken baby at 4 months old. His diagnosis is traumatic brain injury, epilepsy,

cerebral palsy, legally blind, G-tube fed and wheelchair dependent. He requires 24/7 total care. He attends Aspire Center for Learning.

Evan is a Lake Shore student who attends Aspire Center for Learning and he's this year's 59th Annual Variety Kids Telethon Celebrity Child. In yet another Lake Shore connection, Tony Vaccaro is the chair of this year's Telethon.

To support their efforts, you can donate online (<https://varietybuffalo.org/give/>) and be sure to tune in on Feb. 27 and 28 at the times and stations shown above.



# Middle School is School Board Meeting Focus



Members of the Board of Education tour a new technology room at the Middle School. —Photo by Melissa Bergler

Our Middle School kids are doing great when it comes to emotional regulation (credit Trauma-Informed Instruction, which set up a strong foundation four years ago), self management (credit using their Agendas and creating schedules for themselves). Meanwhile, the school will be helping them build growth mindset and grit. Such were the conclusions drawn from the Panorama Survey — a tool used to address the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requirement to assess students' social-emotional learning—piloted at the school in the Fall of 2019. Principal Erich Reidell and Assistant Principal Katy Berner-Wallen highlighted some of the survey data for the Board of Education on Tuesday night in their Middle School update.

Mr. Reidell said the initial plan to address “grit” was to group “low grit” students in homerooms with teachers skilled in social-emotional learning topics. COVID-19 stymied that plan because homerooms were eliminated this year to help minimize student cross-team contact. Other measures are underway to reach out, however, including increased teacher contact and use of peer mentors.

“All of this brings in important data as we structure classes for next year to support their needs,” said Mr. Reidell.

As the second semester unfolds, a reintegration plan is underway for 35 students who are returning to in-person instruction at the school. About 50 students are still fully remote, said Mr. Reidell, some of whom do very well, some not so well. “We do everything we can so they don’t slip through the cracks,” said Mr. Reidell. In those cases, there is outreach from teachers, administrators, and fellow students, along with family support outreach, as well as Child Protective Services and police welfare checks when necessary. For hybrid students who have parent transport available after school, the Middle School has added a 10th period at the end of the day for additional contact and help from teachers.

In other matters, the Board:

- Heard a preliminary report on State Aid figures in preparation for upcoming budget discussions.