



Eagle Express

The Official Newsletter of the Lake Shore Central School District

Vol. 24 #2 Back-to-School 2020

A.J. Schmidt

926-2350

Highland

926-2460

John T. Waugh

926-2305

Middle School

926-2400

High School

926-2301

W.T. Hoag

926-2480

Athletics

926-2260

School Lunch

926-2291

Special Programs

926-2230

Superintendent's Office,

School Board & District Clerk

926-2202

Transportation

926-2240

A Different Kind of **BACK-to-SCHOOL**

To our Families and Community:

There were many complex and complicated questions to address as we developed a plan to reopen school. Combining the good ideas from our District surveys, Zoom meetings and email question/answers, with guidance issued by the NYS Education Department, and health agencies, and NYS Executive Orders, our models for hybrid education and an all remote option were developed.

Having only half the school population in hybrid attendance is essential to provide appropriate social distancing on the school buses and in the classrooms. Our model is working, although we realize the distinct challenges for both families and teachers. We are grateful for everyone's understanding of the need for new routines and requirements, and the cooperation from parents, students and staff.

The bottom line is, this is new for all of us and we deeply appreciate your patience as we all adapt. We hope circumstances allow the full return of students soon. Meanwhile, our intent is to keep everyone safe as we provide meaningful instruction and support to our students. As always, people are here to help if you have questions or matters you wish to discuss. Please reach out to us.

Contact information for all buildings and departments is at left.

Sincerely,
Dr. Charles Galluzzo



**MEALS are FREE
for All Students.
WEEKENDS, too!
(and for younger siblings!)**

Students can bring their lunch to school, as J.T. Waugh Kindergartner Leo Catalano has done here. They also can take advantage of the USDA's free meal program.

Details on back page.

We're Back!



Superintendent's Column/by Dr. Charles Galluzzo

2020: A School Year Like No Other

Hello Everyone,

Most of the back-to-school news this year is about masks, distancing and disinfecting. Those are critical factors for bringing students back to the classroom and this edition of Eagle Express highlights our health and safety efforts in those areas.

But, adjusting our lives to Covid-19 cannot distract us from our other responsibilities as a professional learning community. These responsibilities include setting clear, consistent goals and a plan for continual improvement in educating students, collaborating with the school-community, and being good stewards of district resources. While our goals for the upcoming year include the expectation that we will exceed the safety standards set by the Department of Health, they also include addressing technology inequities, literacy instruction, trauma-informed instruction, and more.

The Board of Education has approved the following District 2020-21 goals, which are the measure of our high expectations for ourselves and our students:

- The District will provide equity in educational opportunities and culturally responsive practices, including addressing the inequities of technology, that align to the Next Generation NYS Learning Standards and promote each student's academic success and well-being.
- The District will provide all students with a rigorous academic career pathway that includes opportunities for advanced coursework, college credit, Career and Technology Education, and other diploma pathways established by the New York State Education Department.

- The District will implement a PreK-12 trauma-informed approach to teaching, which includes social and emotional well-being, to ensure an educational learning environment that is safe, motivating, and fosters success for all students both in and out of the classroom.

- The District will provide a comprehensive, systematic design for high-impact literacy instruction that addresses the needs of students with varied reading abilities.

- The District will continue to adapt to the complications caused by the pandemic by reassessing and offering safety measures that exceed the standards of the Department of Health.

- The District will continue to work with parents, students, staff members, the Seneca Nation of Indians Education Department and the community to seek feedback for continual improvement of academic, social emotional learning, and extracurricular opportunities for all students. This includes but is not limited to being good listeners and stewards of the process for our stakeholders.

- The District will continue to proceed with our Capital Construction Project plans while continuing to maintain our facilities at the highest level while demonstrating fiscal responsibility and accountability in all areas of operation.

Thank you all for your commitment to these goals and our students' educational journey.

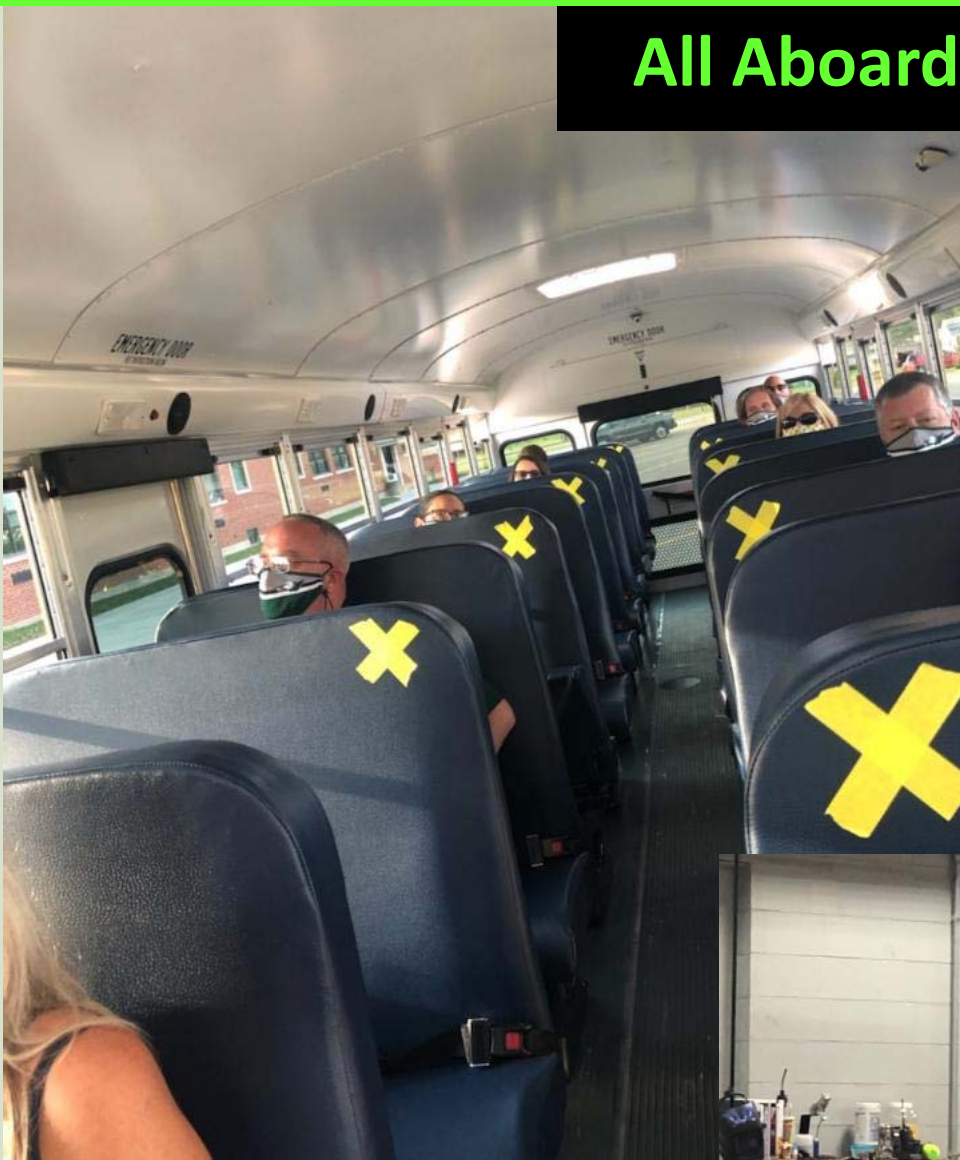
**Sincerely,
Dr. Charles Galluzzo, Superintendent**

Ensuring Safe Transport

All Aboard, Board Members!

Members of the Board of Education held their September work session at the Transportation Building for a first-hand look at the measures in place for the safe transport of children to and from school during Covid-19.

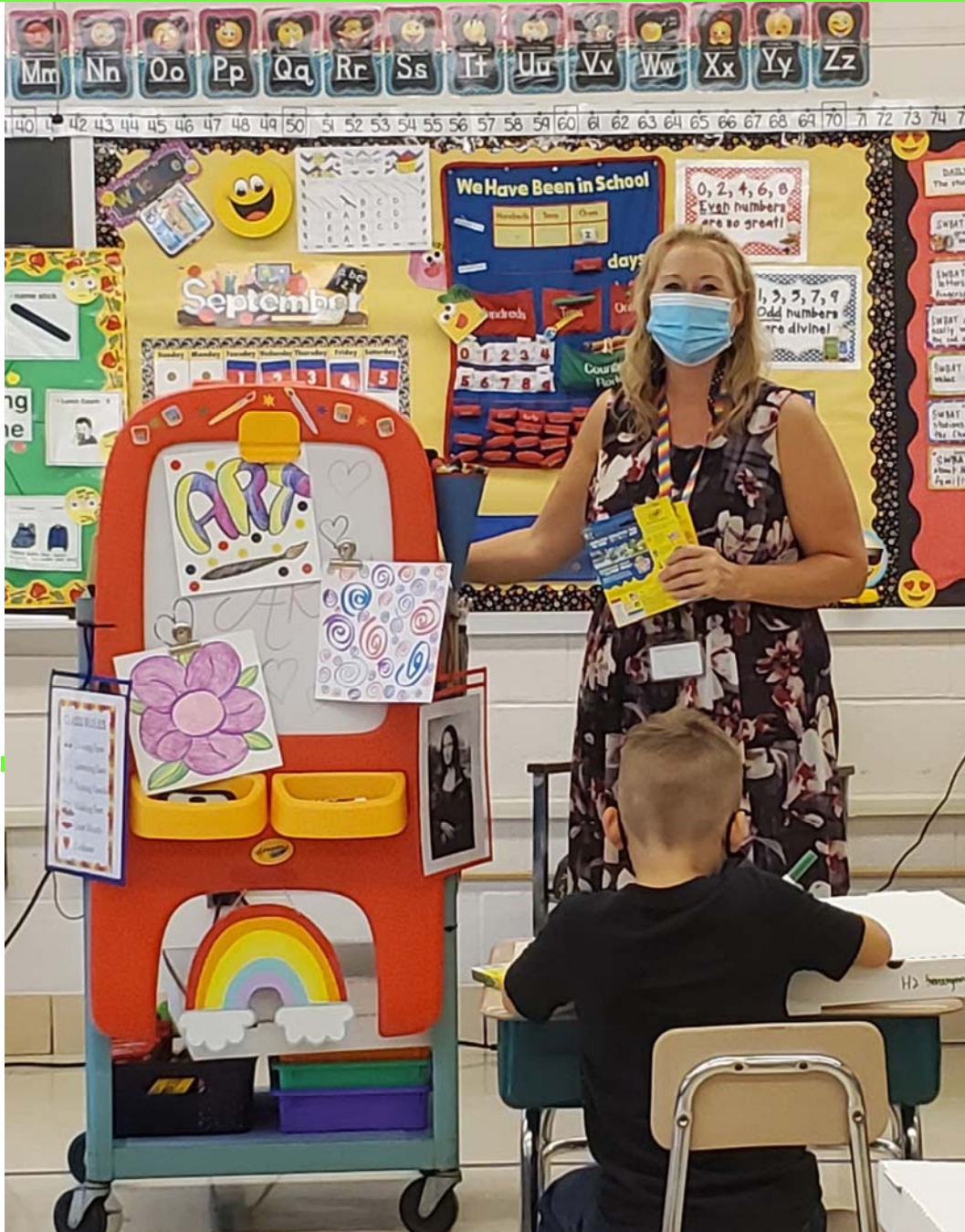
Board members began the session by boarding one of the buses (at left) to experience the social distance seating protocols, including spaced seating, and boarding straight to the back and leaving from the front to eliminate passing in the aisle. The cleaning and disinfecting procedures before and after every bus run also were demonstrated.



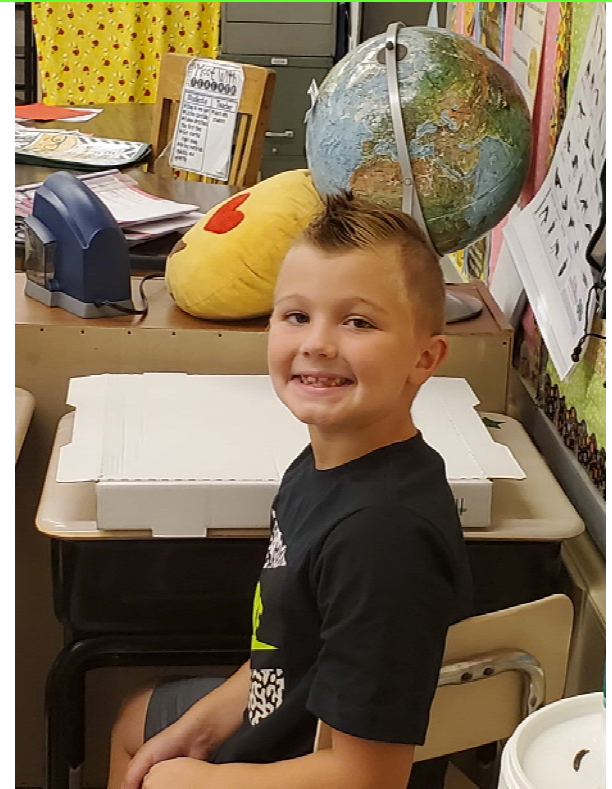
Transportation Supervisor Perry Oddi, at right, leads the Board of Education on a tour of the bus garage and describes how bus air filters have been upgraded and are routinely replaced and cleaned.



Minimizing traffic in hallways



Above: Highland art teacher Julie Easton wheeled into Mrs. Hausrath's 2nd class and got the lesson underway with a distribution of pizza boxes! The students' first lesson was to decorate these boxes, which would be holding their personal art supplies – no sharing this year. It was a nice way to get acquainted, get organized, and flex those artistic muscles.



Art-on-a-Cart Returns!

Do you remember art-on-a-cart from back in the day, when the teacher wheeled that very utilitarian cart stacked with papers and general supplies into the room? Well, art-on-a-cart has returned! It's another way of limiting traffic in our elementary hallways during Covid-19. And, on art teacher Julie Easton's cart at Highland Elementary School, it has returned in high style. Her utility cart's makeover includes bright shapes and signage, and at last sighting, a big flower and a rainbow. It brought smiles to a lot of faces, including Colton Fassel, above.

Distancing & Masking



Above: Mrs. Prizel's A.J. Schmidt 2nd graders learn a technique to help them judge distancing.

Every year brings new things to learn, but added to this year's lessons were techniques for social distancing, hand sanitizing and mask protocols.

At right: Mrs. Dorazio's Highland 4th graders keep masks at the ready in case they move about the room.



Masking with Character ... & Getting Organized



There's classic black, iconic Eagle, or the standard blue disposable mask ... and so many options beyond.

For instance (top, from left), an equine theme for Leila Guzzetta, or the yummy donuts selected by Maylin Bennett. Ethan Faraci opted for a pac man design, while Amiya Nephew chose classic polka dot. Whatever the design, the hybrid instruction return to school meant a deep dive into organizational skills. At right, J.T. Waugh 4th grade teacher Tara Takacs instructs students on the use of organizing binders.



Safe Lunches with Distancing & Shields

Lunch is a key time for companionship and conversation. Thanks to distancing and transparent plastic shields, the social aspect of lunch endures.

Lower Left: Plastic shields and distancing allow these young elementary students to see each other and be together during lunch. These students are at J.T. Waugh.

Lower right: At the High School, the emphasis is on social distancing, shown here with Shay Gonzales and Grayson Krzyzanowicz.



Above: Middle School students can still sit together during lunch, protected by plastic shields.



MIDDLE SCHOOL Capital Project **UPDATE**

Middle School Capital Project work over the summer included extensive repair and replacement of sidewalks, and reconfiguring the bus loop/parent drop off for greater safety, as well as new parking lots, paving and markings. The neat expanses of blacktopped lanes and lots and concrete walkways are the result of months of work in the hot summer sun, including our long stretch of 90+ degree days.

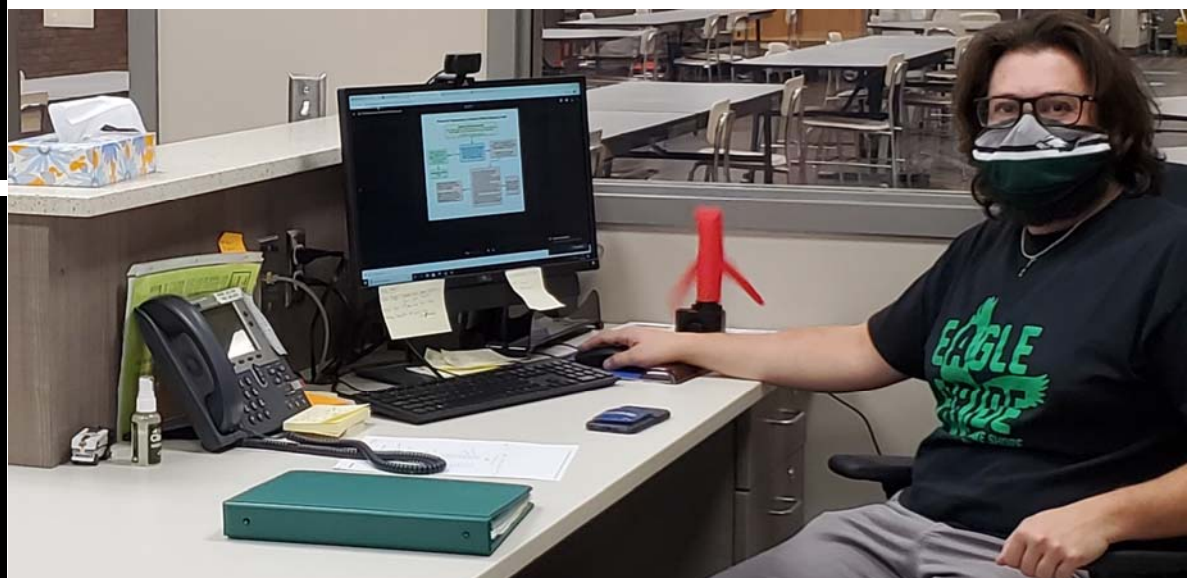
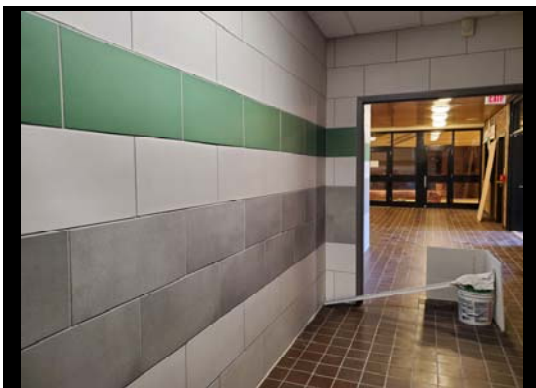
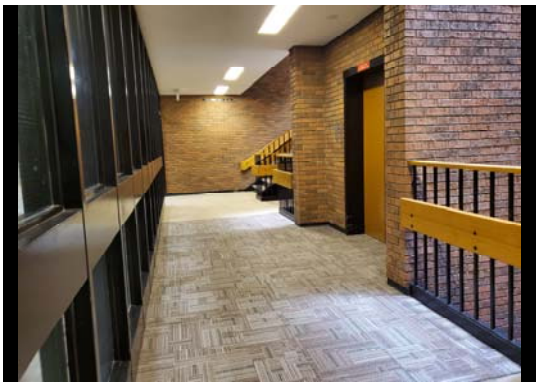
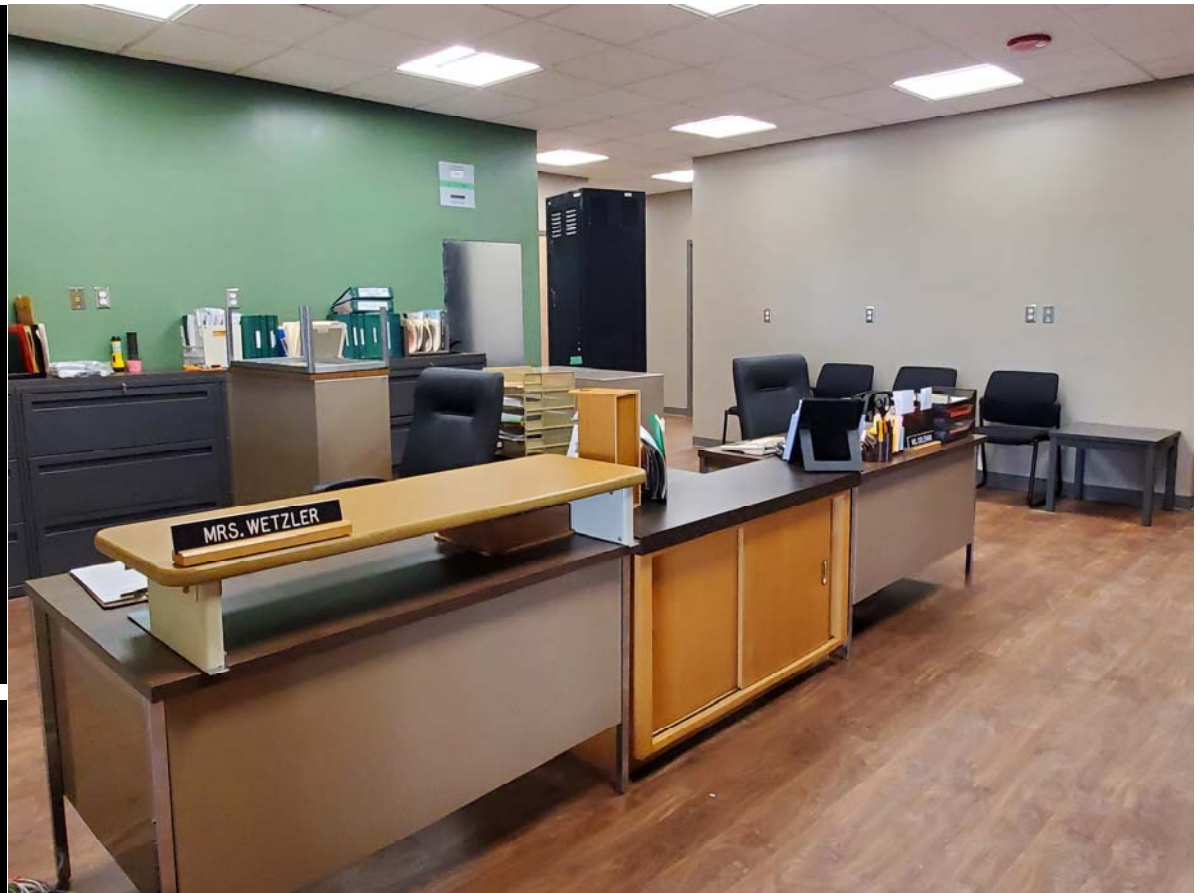


MIDDLE SCHOOL Capital Project UPDATE

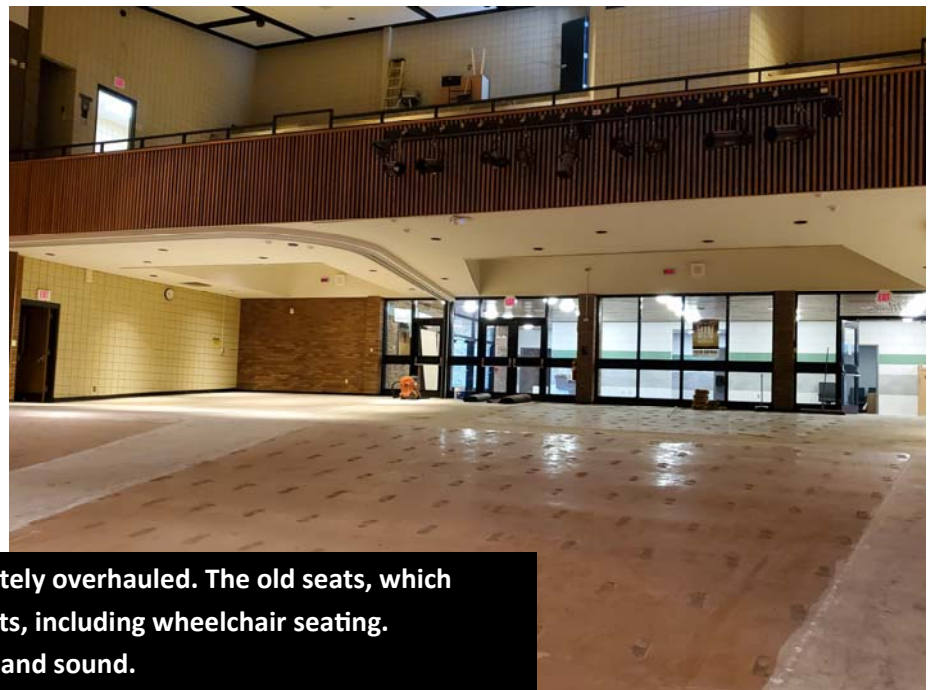
Work is ongoing at Middle School but the new front office suite is complete. The front office, shown near completion at top right, is part of a core area that includes the Principal and Assistant Principal offices, Nurse's office (bottom right with Nurse Scott Dragowski) and a conference room.

An added security feature is a reception window where visitors check in before being admitted to the building. The back of the office suite provides direct access to the student cafeteria.

Below: new carpeting at the school's elevator area and newly painted walls.



MIDDLE SCHOOL Capital Project **UPDATE**



The Middle School Auditorium, built in 1970s, is being completely overhauled. The old seats, which kept breaking, have been removed to make room for new seats, including wheelchair seating. Also, extensive electrical work is underway to update lighting and sound.

HIGH SCHOOL Capital Project **UPDATE**



Above: This arched structure will be the athletic entrance for the High School's new addition.

Right: The construction area at the school.

Work continues to button up the High School addition before winter. This project continues through next summer. The Phase 3 plan is under review at SED. Pending approval in October, bids go out in November. Work in Phase 3 will include renovations to High School art, life skills, music and science rooms and a full auditorium renovation.



HIGH SCHOOL Capital Project **UPDATE**



Left: Workers are busy on the ground and up on the scaffolding as the front of the High School's new addition gets framed in.

Above (upper photo): Interior masonry work underway during the summer.

Above (lower photo): A tech room nears completion.

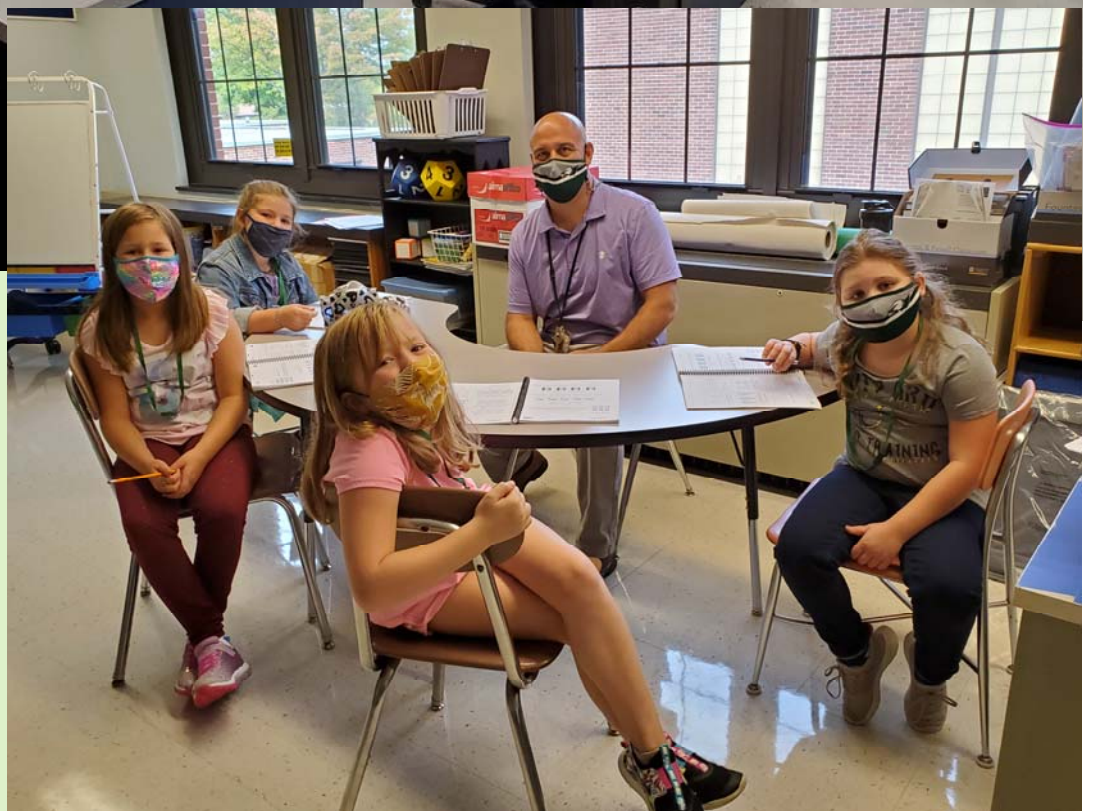


Higher Level Courses Build on These Early Foundations

From the first lessons in Kindergarten through every grade thereafter, every lesson in every class is designed to build another level of understanding and skill.

At right, 3rd graders in Mr. Sills's class at J.T. Waugh (Aubrey Rasinski, Valerie Nemeč, Shelby Morton-Ulmer and Hannah Reickart) have been working on a math and division exercise.

These early math skills are a foundation that builds through the years. By High School, they could be in an Applied Engi-



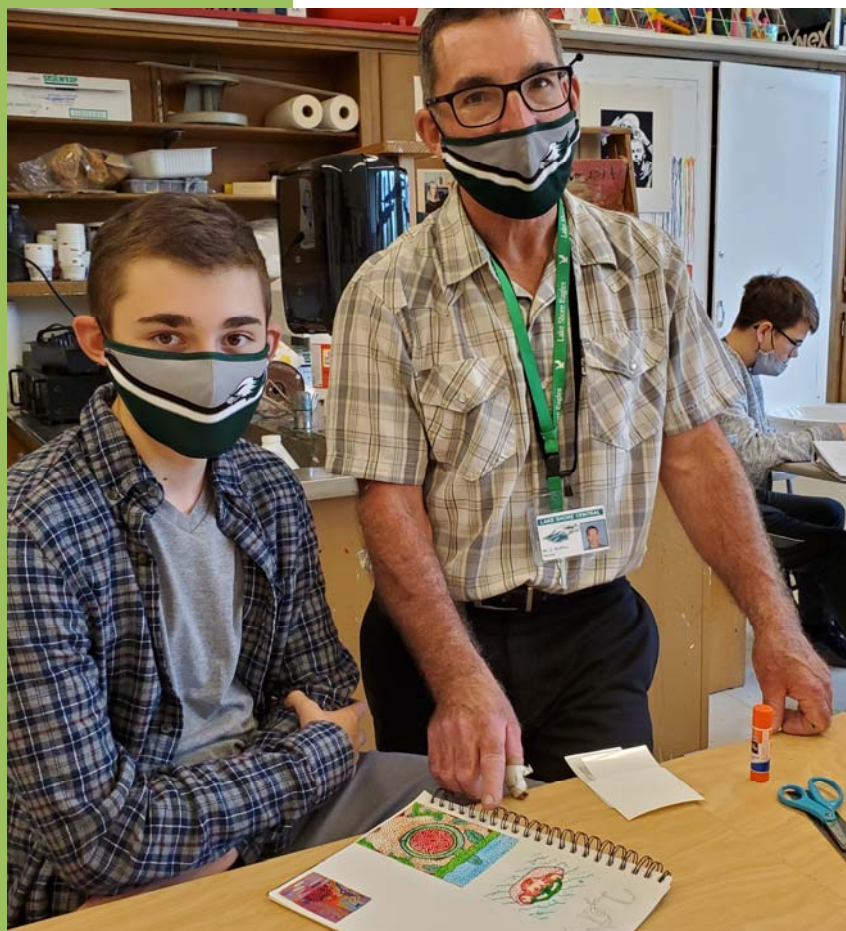
neering and Technology curriculum, like the students shown at top.

This introductory Drawing and Design/Production class, taught by Mr. Seivert, leads into design, CAD and prepping a product for production.

Afterward, students can take courses such as Architecture, CAD, and Advanced CAD and Manufacturing.

Students can also get college credit taking DDP, CAD and/or Advanced CAD.

Art, Music, Library-Media are Alive & Well



Art, music and library-media are in full swing at district schools and, as with everything else, adjustments are being made and precautions taken.

Top left: Middle School librarian Christie Waterman helps students check out books at a desk that now includes plastic shields, a bucket for sanitizing surfaces, and a large bottle of hand sanitizer.

Top right: Students in orchestra and band classes are distanced and facing in one direction and there are masks on instruments like Bryson Reid's trombone. Mrs. Streeter, his music teacher at Highland, notes that Lake Shore took an extra safety step by providing masks for all wind instruments with bells. "It does not affect the sound, but blocks germs from being blown through the bell," she explains.

Left: Masks are required in instruction where distancing cannot be maintained. Below: Cameron Witryk, a freshman, works on an abstract design in class with art teacher Mr. Ruffino.



Chicken Days Add Up At A.J. Schmidt

Two days a week, two professors, two chickens, two bunnies, and eight pre-service education majors from Buffalo State College travel to A.J. Schmidt. The unusual equation adds up to the latest chapter in a now six-year partnership that allows college students to practice in a “real” environment and brings additional supports and resources to the school.

This semester, the preservice students are learning to teach math to elementary students. In order to minimize interactions with students during Covid –19 restrictions, they prepare lessons the classroom teachers can present and often their work may be done virtually.

Luckily, the gardens at A.J. Schmidt provide a way to bring the youngsters outside and create high interest lessons connected to something “real.” One of the professors, Dr. Lauren Ormsby, has an organic farm called Sunset Sky Farm in Westfield. That’s where the animals come from and her expertise comes to bear as she integrates lessons about tending the garden and the animals.

Together with Dr. Christopher Shively, they blend the best practices of both general education and special education as they help their pre-service students learn the art of teaching. As for the chickens and rabbits, they go about their business, fertilizing (of course!) ... and their scratching and pecking for insects helps work the soil and rid the garden of pests. For their part, the A.J. Schmidt students are enjoying every bit of it, the chickens, bunnies and the math!

Left top: “Dixie,” who loves the camera, and 1st grader Liara Smith.

Left bottom: Zoey Rockwood, Paige Manning, Gabriella Ricketts, Liara Smith and Brody Szalkowsk with Dr. Ormsby.

Lake Shore Central School District



THE EAGLE EXPRESS
is a publication of the
Lake Shore
Central Schools

lakeshorecsd.org

BOARD OF EDUCATION

President

Jennifer Michalec

Vice President

Carla Thompson

Board Members

Christopher Binder

Kathleen Chiavetta

William Connors, Jr.

Michael Franey

Cindy Latimore

Student

Representative

Madelyn Lockwood

Superintendent

Dr. Charles Galluzzo

District Clerk

Kristine DeMartino

DISTRICT OFFICE

959 Beach Road,
Angola NY 14006
716-549-2300

PARENTS: make it easy for us to reach you ...

Particularly now when new information can come out very quickly, it is imperative that the District be able to quickly reach our families with updates or new information.

If you have not already done so, please provide the best email and phone number to reach you and update that information as needed. You can provide your current contact information to your building principal.

This way, we can reach everyone quickly through Blackboard Connect via email, as well as through robo phone calls.

Please also make a routine of checking the district web site www.lakeshorecsd.org, Facebook, and Twitter posts for information and updates.



Kindergartener Olivia Hontz enjoys lunch at J.T. Waugh.

FREE Meals Week Days AND WEEKENDS for ALL students & siblings up to age 18

The District now offers breakfast and lunch daily FREE OF CHARGE for every student and their siblings up to age 18 through Dec. 31. Meals are available whether they are in-person or remote learning.

The USDA school meals program has announced that meals given to families will now include Saturday and Sunday meals, and meals for younger siblings not currently enrolled at Lake Shore. When picking up meals, please provide the sibling name(s) for meal tracking purposes.

Meals for students will be available when they are attending in person (via the cafeteria) or remote learning days or full remote (via pick up). Meal pickup for all students will be on Mondays from 3:30 - 6:00 pm at the Middle School - back dock area) with the exception of any Monday holidays when meal pick up will be on Tuesdays.

Tuesday/Wednesday students: pickup will include meals for Monday, Thursday and Friday and the weekend.

Thursday/Friday students: pickup will include meals for Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and the weekend.

Ala Carte items are NOT included in the free meal so students must have money in their meal accounts to purchase. For questions please contact 926-2290 or deborah.becker@lscsd.org.