



Ledyard High News

ISSUE 1

September 2015

PRINCIPAL'S LETTER

Dear Parents and Guardians,

By now things are in full swing here at Ledyard High School, and in the month since school began, we've held four class assemblies, cast the fall play, kicked off our nine fall sports, ventured out on two Project O field trips, hosted parents at Open House, celebrated student success at Blue and White Day, completed MAP testing, represented at the Ledyard Fair, hosted an FFA non-profit expo, castrated our alpacas, elected our freshman class officers, worked on redefining our core values, and now find ourselves already at the mid-point of the quarter and well on our way to Spirit Week and the Homecoming dance at the end of October.

Our freshman class has had a great start, and they are working hard to find their way (literally and figuratively) in a new environment. We have all been very impressed with their maturity, their engagement, and their willingness to participate in the classroom, on the stage, and on our athletic fields. They showed solid interest in the class election process, and our Student Congress adviser as well as one of our Assistant Principals commented that the election speeches were the best they'd heard in a very long time. The officers will now begin work, under the leadership of family and consumer science teacher Ashlee Simonka, to organize their class for Spirit Week and to brainstorm ideas for community building and fundraising for the future.

Speaking of the future, I'd like to invite all of you to help me shape our vision of it. Some of you may have heard of NEASC, pronounced *NEE-ask*, which stands for the New England Association of Schools and Colleges. All public high schools in the United States undergo an extensive review, every ten years, in order to retain their status as accredited schools. Our visit will take place in 2018, which seems a long way away, but there is work to be done before then. One part of the process is to re-evaluate our school's mission statement (called a Core Value Statement) as well as our academic and civic & social expectations for student learning.

Your voices in this process are very important to us. **I hope many of you will consider joining us October 5 at 6:30pm in the library for our first Parent Advisory Council (PAC) meeting.** The focus of that meeting will be soliciting the ideas parents have about our core values. You don't need to know anything about teaching, and there is no need to prepare anything for the meeting. I will help you to understand what I'm looking for and guide you through a process to articulate what it is you would like to see your children gain through their education at Ledyard High School.

Please join us and have a voice in this process, and please know that we welcome your thoughts and questions at any time, not just during the monthly PAC meetings.

Amanda O. Fagan
Principal, Ledyard High School

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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

2015-2016

September 29, 2015 to January 31, 2016

September

29 Senior College Planning Night 6:30 pm Gaucher Auditorium

October

1 & 2 Balfour taking orders for Class Rings during lunches
 5 LHS Parent Advisory Council 6:30 pm LHS Library
 7 Board of Ed Mtg 7 pm LHS Library
 7 **COLLEGE FAIR** 6:30 – 8 pm LHS Cafeteria
 8 & 9 Senior Portraits 2 – 8 pm Ag Sci Library
 9 **SHORTENED DAY** (12:00 Dismissal) Dist. Professional Development
 12 **NO SCHOOL** (Columbus Day)
 13 Red Cross Blood Drive 7:30 – 1 pm LHS Practice Gym
 15 NHS Coffee House 7 pm LHS Cafeteria
 21 Board of Ed Mtg 7 pm LHS Library
 22 Meet the Choir 7:30 pm Gaucher Auditorium
 24 Homecoming Dance 7-10 pm LHS Cafeteria
 26 **I.D. Picture MAKEUPS**
 28 **P.S.A.T.S** at LHS

November

2 LHS Parent Advisory Council 6:30 pm LHS Library
 3 Senior Portraits 2 – 8 pm Ag Sci Library 4
 4 Board of Ed Mtg 7 pm LHS Library
 7 **S.A.T.s** at LHS
 10 Financial Aid Night 6:30 pm Gaucher Auditorium
 12 **SHORTENED DAY** (12:00 dismissal)
PARENT CONFERENCES 12:30 – 2:30 & 5 – 7:00 pm
 17 Winter Sports Night 6:30 pm Gaucher Auditorium
 18 Board of Ed Mtg 7 pm LHS Library
 20 & 21 Drama Production (**THE CURIOUS SAVAGE**)
 7:30 pm Gaucher Auditorium
 23 National Honor Society Induction 7 pm Gaucher Auditorium
 25 **SHORTENED DAY** (12:00 dismissal)
 26 & 27 **NO SCHOOL** (Thanksgiving Holidays)

December

2 Board of Ed Mtg 7 pm LHS Library
 3 NHS Coffee House 7 pm LHS Cafeteria
 7 LHS Parent Advisory Council 6:30 pm LHS Library
 11 **SHORTENED DAY** (12:00 Dismissal) District Professional Development
 16 Board of Ed Mtg 7 pm LHS Library
 18 & 19 Holiday Concert 7:30 pm Gaucher Auditorium
 24-31 **NO SCHOOL** (Winter Break)

January 2015

1 **NO SCHOOL** (Winter Break)
 6 Board of Ed Mtg 7 pm LHS Library
 11-15 **MID-YR EXAMS DISMISSAL AT 11:00**
 15 Band Concert 7:30 pm Gaucher Auditorium
 18 **NO SCHOOL** (Martin Luther King Day)
 19 Tri-M Induction 7 pm Gaucher Auditorium
 20 Board of Ed Mtg 7 pm LHS Library



Department News

The **school year is off to a great start**, and our art students are starting to produce some excellent work! Some are taking a high school art class for the first time, while others are returning for their fourth or fifth experience.

All Ceramics **students are working** on **bobble heads**, and the Ceramics 2 class is also getting to use the **potter's wheels**. Drawing 2 students recently began **animal portraits**, with some utilizing the Ag Science animals as their subject. Advanced Studio is working on the theme of "self" during the first quarter of the school year, and they have just finished some stunning **mixed-media self portraits**. Painting students are working on an **acrylic** unit. Art 2 students just started abstract **Cubist still life** pieces. And Art 1 is making great strides on their first **drawing from observation** unit.

The Art Department is creating a **more active presence online** this year in hopes of showcasing student work and opening the channels of communication and information. **The Art Department website** can be found at ledyardart.weebly.com. Both **teachers** have **websites** with **course content** and **handouts**. **Ms. Robinson's website** can be found at robinsonledyardart.weebly.com. **Ms. Flanagan's website** can be found at flanaganledyardart.weebly.com. Both teachers have started **Twitter** accounts: Find them on Twitter: **@msrobinsonart** and **@msflanaganart**. We encourage art students to use the hashtag **#ledyardart** on Twitter and Instagram to share their work!

There are also some **exciting upcoming events**. **RISD** (the Rhode Island School of Art and Design) will be visiting after school on **Wednesday October 15th** for students interested in art school. Feel free to bring potential portfolio work! **FDIM** (the Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising) will be visiting some time in **mid-December** for students interested in a career in fashion. Lastly, **Seasonal Home** in Gales Ferry will be auctioning off **student-created chairs** to benefit the LEAF fund on the evening of **November 6th**.

INNER VISIONS

Inner Visions is both a website featuring student creative writing, art photography, and drawing and painting, and an annual print magazine published at Ledyard High School for over forty years. All LHS students are welcome to submit work digitally to adviser and English teacher Barbara Park at bpark@ledyard.net.



Students are also welcome to come to Room 109 during activity period and are expected to bring work in progress for the 30-minute meetings. This could be photos they're editing, stories, plays, and poems they're writing, or drawings or sketches in progress. The meetings are a quiet place to work in the company of creative, supportive peers. Please bookmark our website and visit it often for updates. Find us at innervisionslhs.weebly.com.

PowerSchool

There is now a free app that you can download to access your student's PowerSchool. This is a great way to track their progress. It will require the student's username and password, so if you do not have this, please contact the guidance office to obtain these. **The district code is GKMP.**

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

NHS is excited for the 2015-2016 school year! Our current group of seniors have been meeting biweekly with great ideas and commitment to volunteer service. So far, we welcomed the freshman to Ledyard High School at orientation in August, and recently welcomed parents at open house. We have volunteered at a children's triathlon and the Ledyard Parks and Rec Children's Day. We have been busy planning for the Haunted Trail, NHS Induction, and the Food Drive. Leaders of our Coffee House met to organize plans and make adjustments to how it will be run. We are excited to bring people together to share their talents throughout this year. Mark your calendar for October 15th, and come with your friends to our first Coffee House of the year! Our annual selection process has begun; Good luck to all the nominees!

SCHOOL COUNSELING AND GUIDANCE NEWS

Senior Meetings –Counselors have recently completed initial senior meetings. These meetings are important for the review of college/career plans for next year. **STUDENTS:** Please be sure to schedule a follow-up meeting with your counselor as soon as your materials are ready to be submitted and remember to **adhere to all deadlines** to assist us in making your college application process a smooth one. **Please visit the Guidance Department webpage’s “senior” tab. Here you will find all of the paperwork from our senior meetings plus a great deal more useful information.**
<http://www.ledyard.net/lhs/guidance/seniors/index.html>

*******FOLLOW US on TWITTER @LedyardGuidance*******

IMPORTANT DATES

PSAT: Test Date Oct. 28 administered to all Juniors at LHS at no cost. The PSAT is optional and encouraged for sophomores. Sophomores can sign up in the School Counseling Office until Oct. 21 and the cost is \$15.00

SAT: Test Date Nov. 7 administered at LHS. Regular registration deadline is Oct 9 and late registration deadline is Oct. 27.

Test Date Dec. 5 administered at area high schools. Regular registration deadline is Nov. 5.

Students must register online at www.sat.org

ACT: Test Date Dec.12 administered at area high schools. Regular registration deadline is Nov. 6. Students must register online at www.actstudent.org

COLLEGE FAIR: Wednesday, October 7 at 6:30pm in the LHS cafeteria. Over 120 University, College and Trade School representatives will be present.

FINANCIAL AID NIGHT: Tuesday, November 10 at 6:30 pm at LHS. A guest speaker from a college financial aid office will be presenting a program on FAFSA, CSS profile and all information pertaining to college funding.

Three Different Ways for Question of the Day

Looking to get ready for the SAT? The Official SAT Question of the Day™ is a great way to practice a little every day.

There are three exciting ways to get Question of the Day:

1. Bookmark the [SAT Question of the Day](#) page (now with 30 days of questions!)
2. Follow [@SATQuestion](#) on Twitter
3. Download the official app from [iTunes](#)

Remember: a little practice goes a long way.

LEDYARD ATHLETICS



Ledyard High School Athletics is off to another great start in 2015. We have 271 students participating in the following fall sports: football, boys' soccer, girls' soccer, boys' cross country, girls' cross country, girls' swimming, volleyball, cheerleading and field hockey. Please take some time to get out and support



our outstanding fall student-athletes as the regular season has kicked into full gear and conference and state competitions will soon be upon us. You can view a copy of the updated fall schedule for all of our teams at ledyard.net/lhs/athletics. LHS sports fans can get daily athletic updates by following the twitter page of @ledyardsports. We are also happy to announce that Ledyard Athletics has a mobile application for the entire Ledyard community. Go to your Apple App Store or Google Play Store and simply search "Ledyard Colonels Athletics", download, and start getting up to the minute information today in regards to Ledyard Athletics. Stay updated, stay involved and get out and support our fall athletic teams.

Winter Sports Night will be held on Tuesday November 17 at 6:00pm in the LHS gymnasium. All students who are interested in

participating in a winter sport must attend the meeting with a parent or guardian. If you have any questions in regards to the Ledyard athletic department, please contact LHS Athletic Director Jim Buonocore at 860-464-9600 ext 6123 or at jbuonocore@ledyard.net.

GO COLONELS!



MUSIC AND DRAMA

LHS Students attend Young Conductors Symposium at UCONN



Mr. Hammond and students shown here with LHS alumni Alexis Olsen, Ian Maxwell and director of UCONN Choirs, and former LHS Director Dr. Jamie Spillane

On Thursday, September 17, LHS Music department members Avery Davies and Sasha Lopez Watson attended the Young Conductors Symposium at UCONN. Our students were joined by twenty seven other high school students from throughout Connecticut for a day of workshops on topics ranging from conducting technique to score study. The day culminated with a performance of the UCONN Chamber Singers under the direction of former LHS Choir Director Dr. Jamie Spillane.

Ledyard Music presents



One Show only!!
Saturday, October 3, 2015
7:30 p.m.
High School Auditorium
Adult \$15 – Student \$10 (under 10 \$5)

Tickets on sale Monday, September 21 (LHS Main
Office 8-2)

Meet the Choirs Concert, Thursday, October 22



Tickets will go on sale on Tuesday, October 13 for the Meet the Choirs concert. The concert will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium and feature nine of the ten LHS Choirs. Voice Male will also be introduced at the concert. Tickets are \$5 each (family rate 4 for \$15) and tickets will be sold during both lunch waves (10:45-11:10 and 12:10-12:40) in the cafeteria. Tickets will also be sold before school in the main lobby of the high school (7:00a-7:35)

see the Facebook event page for details -

<https://www.facebook.com/events/436367066488193/>

LHS Chamber Choir invited to participate on prestigious festival at CCSU

LHS Chamber is one of only four choirs in the state invited to participate in the CCSU Invitational Choral Festival. Chamber will join choirs from Avon, Glastonbury and Canton for a day of performances and clinics. The Festival will be held on Friday, November 13 on the campus of Central Connecticut State University.



Ledyard Drama to perform *The Curious Savage*

Set aside the weekend of November 20 and 21 for the Ledyard Drama production of John Patrick's warmhearted comedy *The Curious Savage*. With a dominant mood of comedy you will also be reminded that the virtues of kindness and affection have not been entirely lost in a world that seems motivated at times only by greed and dishonesty.

The Curious Savage

By John Patrick

Cast

The Guests

Florence
Hannibal
Fairy May
Jeffrey
Mrs. Paddy

Jessica Armstrong
Eli Uttley Rosado
Ashley McCarthy
Carter Smith
Amanda King

The Family

Titus
Samuel
Lily Belle
Ethel

Spencer Kilby
Michael Bunch
Tricia Tolles
Haley Mikkelsen

The Staff

Miss Wilhemina
D. Emmett

Andrea Gamboa
Connor Masten

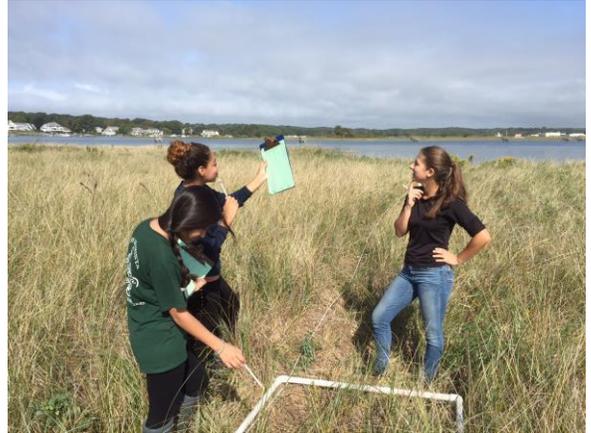


MARINE SCIENCE

Each Marine Science I class visited Pine Island in September for their first Project Oceanology field trip. Groups were responsible for collecting physical and biological data for particular ecosystems found on this island. Marsh teams determined elevation, peat depth and plant cover. Several teams pulled nets to sample the flora and fauna of the sub-tidal environments. Following this trip, students will work on a group project, constructing a poster and paper detailing the environment that they investigated.



ECE Marine Science: Introduction to Oceanography



The class spent a full day at Bushy Point Beach in late September as part of our coastlines and coastal processes unit. Teams focused on measuring the topography of the dunes as well as the amounts and types of vegetation found on the beach. Student groups will spend the next 5 class periods graphing the huge amount of data collected and producing a research paper that will compare the beach as it is now to historical data collected by previous UConn marine classes.



LIBRARY



Welcome Back to the Library 2015-2016



Library Resources 24/7

<http://lhs.ledyard.libguides.com/home>

slantelme@ledyard.net Mrs. Lantelme, MLS LHS School Librarian



Wondering what the high school library offers students in addition to books?



Access to online resources 24/7

Computer support after school till 3:15 Monday – Tuesday – Thursday and M-F in the morning.



Assistance with formatting and writing documents, spreadsheets, presentations, and various other online educational tech tools.

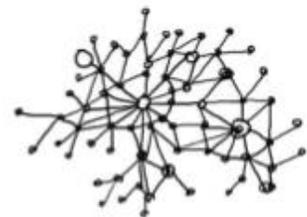


We offer space to **Think** – **Collaborate** – **Communicate** – **Share** – **CREATE** – **Publish**



Printing and Copying Help

Connections with each other, with staff, and with the community.



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CAREER CENTER

LEDYARD HIGH SCHOOL SCHOOL COUNSELING AND GUIDANCE

3 Upcoming Events

Sept. 29, Tuesday 6:30 PM
Senior College Planning Night

A college admissions office representative will answer your questions and guide you through the application process. (College planning Night for JUNIORS will be in Spring, 2016)

Nov. 10, Tuesday
6:30 PM
Financial Aid Night

A guest speaker from a college financial aid office will answer your questions and guide you through the financial aid process. Junior & Senior parents and students are welcome to attend.

Oct. 7, Wednesday
6:30-8:00 PM
COLLEGE FAIR

Free Admission * LHS Cafe
* Open to the Public
Sponsored by the LHS Career Center

Over 120 University, College and Trade School Representatives!!

Fair tip: Bring pre-printed labels with your name and address to give to the representatives to receive more information from their school. This saves time filling them out by hand.

BIOLOGY



K. MONTGOMERY'S BIOLOGY CORNER:

Ms. Mont's biology classes have completed their first laboratory investigation in which they studied the effect of one factor (examples include chewing gum, listening to music, manipulating an object) on short term memory. Ask them what they learned! Scientific literacy and scientific methodology skills will be emphasized throughout the course, but we are moving onto our first topic, biochemical reactions and organic compounds in organisms. In this unit, students will be making apple juice using different enzymes, testing the buffering capacity of different solutions, testing liver & muscle for the presence of a particular enzyme and exploring organic compounds found in common foods.

Check out my website for a homework calendar, copies of assignments, links to other resources and other pertinent information. [Sites.google.com/site/msmontsbiology](https://sites.google.com/site/msmontsbiology). Powerschool is updated daily, and you can always e-mail me. Finally, you can sign up for Remind.com text messages by texting one of the following messages to 81010.

Level 2 biology (block 1B): @77c1be

Level 3 biology (blocks 1A, 2A & 2B): @bioblo



Each of these groups of students is testing whether sucking on a lollipop or chewing gum improves short term memory.



KEY CLUB



Ledyard High School Key Club

Key Club rose close to \$1200 during the Ledyard Fair at Alex's Lemonade Stand, a foundation for childhood cancer (visit www.alexslimonade.org for more information). Thank you to all the students and families who supported us by visiting the stand, volunteering or donating items. Our next major fundraiser is Trick or Treat for UNICEF. We will be working with the Ledyard elementary schools as well as collecting money in the office and classrooms at Ledyard High School for Kiwanis and UNICEF's Eliminate Project, which aims to eliminate maternal and neonatal tetanus around the world. In the meantime, students are assisting with various activities at our elementary schools and through Ledyard Parks and Rec.

If you have questions about our work, would like to suggest a cause or would like help with a particular charitable endeavor, please contact myself or one of the Key Club officers listed below. You can also visit our website at ledyardkeyclub.org or follow us on twitter @Montgummi #Ledyardkeyclub.

Kirsten Montgomery

kmontgomery@ledyard.net

Ledyard High School Key Club Advisor

President: Gianni Jannke

Vice President: Riley Lindsey

Secretary: Hannah Arnold

Treasurer: Luke Saccone

Editor: Megan Brawner

12th Grade Director: Simon Bohn

11th Grade Director: Ariana Murray

10th Grade Director: Jacob Money

9th Grade Director: Olivia Strelevitz

