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'In the Loop': BOE recognizes district success stories

BY DANIELLE MULLEN

President, Lewiston-Porter Board of Education

PHOTOS BY MARK WILLIAMS JR.

The month of December continues to be busy at the Lew-Port campus. The board's regular meeting was held on Monday and had a packed agenda, including multiple recognitions.

Leading off, the Lew-Port girls varsity soccer team was honored for its incredible success in the 2021 season. Swimmer Maya Marcyan was recognized for her outstanding accomplishments this past season.

The board also acknowledged the tremendous hard work and dedication of all of the district's School Related Professionals (SRP). These key staff members play a critical role in running and maintaining all of our schools.

This group includes clerical workers, school nurses, teacher aides and monitors, and the custodial team. The district is thankful for their work each and every day.

Members of the Lewiston-Porter Alumni Association attended the board meeting to present a check for mini-grant awards. Each year, the Alumni Association budgets \$3,500 to provide mini-grants to teachers in the district. Since the award of mini-grants was put on pause last year due to COVID-19, they were able to provide more than \$7,000 worth of mini-grants this year.

There were 18 recipients, and each building was represented in the awards. Some of the grants include innovative/flexible seating; funds for field trips; books and science and math programs for enrichment; graphing calculators for The Lancer Learning Center in the high school; music stations for elementary P.E.; printers for the secondary music department; recording studio equipment for first

grade; and support for a Lew-Port Entrepreneurs program in the IEC.

The benefit of these grants will be widely felt throughout the district. Since its inception, the Alumni Association has provided more than \$75,000 through the mini-grant program. The entire Lew-Port school community is grateful for the generosity of the Alumni Association.

•A ribbon-cutting ceremony for the LEVEL art gallery took place on Wednesday. The gallery is located in the mezzanine of the new lobby of the high school. This renovated space will now be home to the Lewiston-Porter district art show each spring, in addition to showcasing student work throughout the whole year. The art department will continue to curate this space. In the future, the LEVEL gallery could be a space to showcase the work of Lew-Port alumni who are professional artists, in addition to a space that could be used to host events and parties.

•Dec. 10 was parent-teacher conference day for the whole district. Dec. 17 marks 15 weeks of school completed, and the end of the five-week marking period for secondary students. Please take a few minutes to review your child's progress report in PowerSchool. If you were not able to schedule a meeting during conference day and need any support, please contact your child's teacher and/or guidance counselor. They are there to help.

•There are three festive days of school left on the Lew-Port campus before students go home for winter break. Each building has



planned spirit days/holiday fun for next week. For the PEC and IEC, this includes Monday – dress like your favorite Christmas character; Tuesday – festive flair day; and Wednesday – pajama day.

In the middle school, Monday – elf yourself; Tuesday – ugly Christmas sweater day; and Wednesday – pile it on, wear all the Christmas accessories you can handle.

And in the high school, Mon-

day – pajama day; Tuesday – ugly sweater day, including a contest for first, second, and third place; and Wednesday – festive headwear day.

Winter break will be from Thursday, Dec. 23, through Sunday, Jan. 2, 2022.

Have a wonderful and safe holiday, Lewiston-Porter!

Making a difference ...

Dear Friends of United Way of Greater Niagara,

The United Way of Greater Niagara is in the home stretch of their 2021 campaign drive!

We are aware of the challenging times we are faced with but find our community is generous in helping others. During these unprecedented times, your United Way has continued to fund our

29 partner agencies to ensure services are being provided to meet our community needs. Your United Way has made it a priority to pull resources together to assist funding for Day Care programs for essential workers along with donations to various food pantries throughout the Niagara Community.

Your support to the United Way

annual campaign is needed now more than ever! One gift of any size has the power to transform lives across the Niagara Community! Our community thrives when children succeed in school, when families are financially stable and when people live healthy lives. Your gift to the United Way of Greater Niagara campaign makes all of this possible!

To make a donation to the United Way of Greater Niagara annual campaign, call 716-731-4580 or visit our website at www.uwgn.org.

Thank You, together we can make a difference in the lives of others!

Robert Kazeangin
president, board of directors
Connie Brown, president,
United Way of Greater Niagara

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