

'In the Loop' with the Lew-Port Board of Ed 'Snow days' now history at Lewiston-Porter

BY JODEE RIORDAN
Board of Education President
Welcome to February, Lewis-Porter.

This week the groundhog saw his shadow, forecasting six more weeks of winter. As we discussed back in October, winter weather will no longer present a challenge to learning. In the event of inclement weather this winter, Lew-Port is ready and able to shift to the remote learning format, keeping district students and staff safe in the event of dangerous winter weather without the loss of critical instructional time.

A snow/cold closure day will revert to a virtual Monday schedule for all students expected to be in-person on campus that day.

This change was made back in October, and the three snow/cold days that had been built into the school calendar are now scheduled "days off," with no need to be bed with your pajamas inside-out.

To review, the calendar changes developed in lieu of the use of snow/cold days are as follows: the Presidents' Day holiday will be extended to include both Monday and Tuesday, Feb. 15-16; and the Memorial Day holiday recess will now include Thursday and Friday, May 27-28, and Monday, May 31.

Parents and families can now plan their schedules around these days. Visit the Lew-Port website, www.lew-port.com, for details and the full 2020-21 calendar.

As we transition into the new month, please take note that, with the extended Presidents' Day holiday, the district is closed Feb. 15-16. Wednesday, Feb. 17, will be a day of virtual learning (remote Monday schedule). Thursday, Feb. 18, will see the green group on campus/white group virtual; and Friday, Feb. 19, has the white group on campus/green group virtual.

Lew-Port's 100% remote learners will have Monday and Tuesday off, and follow the normal schedule Wednesday-Friday.

February also marks the one-year anniversary for Brad

Rowles as Lewiston-Porter High School principal. His first day was Wednesday, Feb. 3, 2020 - giving him just five short weeks at L-PHS before the pandemic shutdown on March 15. While nothing could have prepared him for the challenges this year has held, he has provided Lew-Port high school students, families, faculty and staff with great leadership and care. We are grateful to him for his dedication to L-PHS throughout this most formidable first year.

Kindergarten registration is now open for children who will be 5 years old on or before Dec. 1. If you have a child who will be entering kindergarten in September, the first step to the kindergarten journey is the registration process.

The online registration option found on the district website allows families to upload the required proof of residency documents from the safety of their homes. You may also print and mail in your registration documents to the Lew-Port school district. In addition to registration, you are required to provide proof of residency and immunization records, and complete a home language questionnaire.

Once your child is registered, you will be invited to attend an upcoming kindergarten orientation, schedule your kindergarten screening appointment and set up your family and teacher meeting (planned for Sept. 7-8).

See the PEC homepage for registration requirements, or contact Barb Ketch at 286-7220 or bketch@lew-port.com.

If your child is currently enrolled in the Lew-Port Universal Pre-K program, you do not need to register for kindergarten. We look forward to your child joining our kindergarten family. Welcome, Class of 2034!

Applications for the 2021-22 Universal Pre-K program will be available online as of March 8 for children who will be turning 4 years old on or before Dec. 1. Applications need to be returned to the PEC office by 4 p.m. April 19.

New York Farm Bureau seeks scholarship applicants

New York high school seniors who are graduating and interested in pursuing a career in agriculture can apply for the New York Farm Bureau's Agricultural Youth Scholarship. Statewide winners can earn up to \$1,500 toward their future education.

on their submitted applications. The judging will take place prior to April 20.

For more information, including the application, go to New York Farm Bureau's website at nyfb.org. The scholarship information can be found under "Promotion and Education" in the programs section of the website. One can also call the New York Farm Bureau office at 1-800-342-4143. Completed application packets must be returned to the New York Farm Bureau in Albany with a March 1 postmark deadline or via email to pdugan@nyfb.org.

Say You Saw It In The



Happy Valentine's Day

Niagara Frontier Publications asked the community to share Valentine's Day messages to special individuals. Here are a few of our favorite responses:

I would like to brag on my husband Kevin. He has been a wonderful husband and a great father and stepfather. This is our second marriage and we both had kids coming into the marriage, now there are 8, He raised my four kids like his own for 16 years, we had a child together and he has been such a wonderful dad. We even had two grand kids born during COVID and he is a proud papa as well. He works in the medical field as an x-ray tech and worked through the pandemic. He even had COVID back in March 2020. He works hard for our family and we love him dearly.

Lisa F.

To Marty Pauly - I love your mohawk, how you love your family and how you serve the community! Let's go on a date!
Jennifer Pauly



Dear Lew-Port Teachers: Thank you for all you have been doing for our kids since last March, on campus and off. Special thanks to our remote teachers: Ms. Kensinger, Ms. Lester and Ms. Stevener, for your endless patience, support, and dedication to our kids. It takes big hearts to do what you do! You are amazing! Happy Valentine's Day!

With love, the Sheehan family

This year I want to send a very Happy Valentine's Day wish to my grandma, Joan Titterington (otherwise known as "Neena"). She has always been one of the most caring, selfless people I have ever known. This past year she sold her house and moved 2 hours away to live with family. Ever since my grandpa passed suddenly in 2018, I've tried spending as much time as possible with her - as she is the only grandparent I have left. With the pandemic and her moving away, I don't get to see her as much anymore, but I want her to know how much she is loved and missed. I look forward to being able to spend more time with her when all this craziness of the world is over.

So here's to you, Neena! I love you!

Julie MacKenzie

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