



Laker Digest

Thursday, March 24, 2016

Edition 2

Laker Digest – A useful tool to help you stay connected with all of the noteworthy academic & co-curricular news, upcoming activities & events, and the awards & recognition that our students so often receive.

IN THE NEWS

To get the complete stories and more, please click on the links.

[Updates on proposed referendum and 2016-2017 Budget](#)

The Citizen newspaper captured updates from the March 21st board meeting on the upcoming referendum; details on how to get involved are included. You will also find 2016-2017 budget details.

[District develops spring testing schedule](#)

Please click on this link to review the 2016 PARCC schedule for grades 3-12. Please note changes to our school schedules and be sure students arrive to school well rested, on time and ready to test.

[Mountain Lakes High School staged "The Addams Family"](#)

MLHS Theater students revive "The Addams Family" for their spring performance.

[Oliver Whang nails perfect ACT score](#)

Oliver earned the highest possible ACT Composite score of 36 and joins less than one-tenth of 1% of students to earn the top score.

[Boys Swimming: Mountain Lakes' Matt Luciano takes first in the 100 butterfly](#)

Matt took first place in the 100-yard butterfly at the NJSIA Meet of Champions.

[Mountain Lakers take award home in Deaf Academic Bowl](#)

Four Mountain Lakes High School students participated in the 2016 Academic Bowl for Deaf and Hard of Hearing and brought home the 2016 Sportsmanship Award in the Northeast Regional Competition.

[Lucy Horowitz places in National Geographic Spelling Bee](#)

Seventh grader Lucy Horowitz is one of the semifinalist eligible to compete in the 2016 New Jersey National Geographic Spelling Bee.

[Lake Drive Participates in Read Across America Day](#)

Lake Drive students get some quality time with Principal Julie Lazeration and Dr. Seuss.

[Wildwood students raise \\$5K for Leukemia & Lymphoma](#)

Elementary school students recently participated in "Pasta for Pennies" fundraiser and collected money for children with blood disease.

MLHS earns trophy in Forensic Tournament

Five MLHS students competed in the final forensics tournament, earning a team trophy and a special individual alternate award in Extemporaneous Speaking.

Wildwood 5th graders perform their spring play Go Fish! and learn that different is nice.

Twenty five 5th graders presented the musical production of Go Fish! Many students took the stage for the first time and explored their acting abilities and talents.

Briarcliff's top ten Spellers go to Regional Middle School Spelling Bee

Ten of our best middle school spellers went to the Regional Middle School Spelling Bee with Zachary Tomayo finishing sixth place in the Region.

After stellar season, Lakers Girls Swimming looking ahead

MLHS girls swim team conduct themselves as champions on all fronts.

STUDENTS DOING BIG THINGS

To get the complete stories and more, please click on the links.

Wildwood Chess Club has energetic first season

Wildwood first and second graders launched the first Chess Club thanks to the guidance of volunteer supervisor Mr. Ian Matty.

MLHS Graphic Design students compete for winning blood drive poster

MLHS Computer Science Teacher Brandon Horn recently presented his Graphic Design students with a challenging, yet fun, opportunity to display their artistic abilities.

7th Annual Team Zoey Annual Fashion Show raises over \$11,000 for the Progeria Research Foundation

The event was once again an enormous success because of the generosity of the school district and community. The foundation's President Barbara Batesko would like to extend her gratitude in this letter. [Please click here to read her letter.](#)

AWARDS / RECOGNITIONS / WINS

Academics: Individual Accomplishments

Sarah Sung, Lake Drive	Received medal in the Supermarket Careers Competition at the DECA State Career Development Conference
National Merit Finalists	Romy Felsen-Parsons Salonee Shah Lindsay Wang
National Merit Special Scholarship	Alexa Czartorysky Nicholas Fiacco Srinivas Rajagopalan
National Merit Commended Scholars	Richard Bonsell Sarah Chapman Dimitri Couwenberg Blake Dignes Andrew Dinka

	Nicholas Fiacco Michelle Fu Nathan Henry Emily Lin Srinivas Rajagopalan Alexander Thomson
Presidential Scholar	Andrew Dinka

Academics: Team Accomplishments

Destination Imagination – Five Mountain Lakes Teams advance to DI’s Global Finals in Knoxville, Tennessee on May 25th. We had 4, first place finishers and 1, second place finisher among the 8,000 students in the competition. [Click here to read all the details.](#)

MLHS & Briarcliff win big at Quizbowl Tournaments
[Click here for all of the Quizbowl details.](#)

Sports: Individual Accomplishments

Boys Basketball	Chris Boyhan , 1 st Team Liberty Division Cade Siddron , 2 nd Team Liberty Division
Girls Basketball	Jane Brennan , 1 st Team Liberty Division Krysta Rigby – 2 nd Team Liberty Division
Girls Ski	Caroline Scarola , 1 st Team All State Ellie Borin , 2 nd Team All State
Boys Ice Hockey	Chet Morgis & Cooper Vorel , 2 nd Team HAAS Division
Boys Swimming	Matt Luciano , 100 Butterfly, NJ State Champions & Daily Record 1 st Team Joe Scerbo , 200 Ind, Medly Daily Record 1 st Team
Boys Wrestling	Nick Fiacco , 1st Team Liberty Division Rory Daniel, Tim Mancusco & Jope McNeila , 2nd Team Liberty Division
2015 Morris County Star Athlete Nominee – Griffin Baker	

Sports: Team Accomplishments

Girls Swimming	North 1-C Section Champions Public C State Champions
Girls Ski	Public School State Champions
Girls Winter Track	State Sectional Champions

Special Recognition to Coach Dave Leshnower

Girls Swim Coach Dave Leshnower was nominated by the Daily Record for the honor of “Coach of the Season”. In a recent reader’s poll, Coach Leshnower came in a close second only losing by 5 points to the winner. Well done!

4th Annual Briarcliff Student/Faculty Basketball Game

Congratulations to the BC students for beating the faculty in an exciting and VERY close game of 57 to 55!

Arts: Individual Accomplishments

Corinne Carmiche will have her art hanging in the Fresh Perspectives Show at the Morris Museum. This is a showing of high school art from across the entire county and, as you might imagine, is very competitive!

Blackwell Street Art Show at the Morris County Courthouse

The following students have achieved the honor to have their work accepted into this highly competitive show. Some of these students are only second year art students!

Christina Graf was awarded an Honorable Mention (Advanced Art)

Jackie Charlton (Advanced Art)

Margaret Dwyer (Advanced Art)

Talya Feldman (Advanced Art)

Sofia Foli (Portfolio Development)

Lydia Marshall (Advanced Art)

Raquel Rodrigues (Advanced Art)

Casey Tang (AP Studio Art)

Joy Xie (2 pieces)

Congratulations to all of our winning students, artists & athletes!

IN OTHER NEWS

MLHS Spain Trip Blog

Over winter break, our Choir and Spanish students had a very successful adventure abroad to Spain. [Click here](#) to check out their blog and see a play by play of their trip.

Internet safety discussions at Briarcliff

This month, Sgt. Gil Benitez spoke to each grade about internet safety and social media networking. Sgt. Benitez helped students understand how to be responsible and safe as well as how to manage the risks that could affect them the most.

Morris County Heroin Summit to take place

The Morris County Prosecutor Office, Daytop New Jersey and the Rockaway Township Substance Abuse Alliance will hold the Morris County Heroin Summit on April 26th from 7:00pm – 9:00pm at Christ Church on Green Pond Road in Rockaway. A variety of stakeholders will come together as a community to address the overwhelming concern about the epidemic.

Mountain Lakes is now accepting tuition students

Please spread the word that tuition applications are available for Mountain Lakes School District. In order to be considered for possible enrollment, an application must be received by March 31, 2016. [Please click here for the application.](#)

Mountaineer

Keep current with MLHS and click here to visit the [online Mountaineer](#)

FROM THE MAIN OFFICE

Superintendent Coffees:

Please join Dr. Anne Mucci to discuss important issues that are going on in the district. Upcoming dates are as follows:

Tuesday, April 5th | 7:00am | Wildwood Elementary School Library

Wednesday, April 6th | 12:00pm | MLHS Media Center

DID YOU KNOW?

Wildwood Elementary Music Teacher Maureen Butler was appointed to sit on the New Jersey Music Educators Association Board of Directors?

In a newly created position, Maureen is responsible for the outreach on the topic of special learners, including being the contact person in the state for music teachers who have questions about their students with special needs. She has published 2-3 articles a year in the NJMEA magazine, TEMPO, and present workshops state-wide and regionally, focusing on music education for special learners.

Mountain Lakes Students spent winter break in Nicaragua volunteering with the YMCA?

[Click here](#) to see how students are partnering with the YMCA to reach out above and beyond the classroom.

UPCOMING EVENTS

MLHS “If I Knew Then” Program

Thursday, March 31

Selected Seniors will be working with the freshman class on an exciting program called “If I Knew Then”. The program will give the Seniors an opportunity to connect with the Freshman and share their knowledge on how to negotiate their way through High School.

MLHS Bi-Annual Band Day with Briarcliff, Wildwood & RVS

Thursday, March 31 | 7:00pm

MLHS students will invite instrumental music students from Briarcliff, Wildwood and RVS for a fun day of mentoring on campus, in the band room and outside!

Briarcliff Spring Musical “Really Rosie”

Friday, April 1 | 7:00pm

Saturday, April 2 | 1:00pm

Briarcliff Middle School

Tickets available at the door: Adults - \$8, Children/Students - \$5, Senior Citizens - \$5

MLHS 1st Annual Chamber Music Day

Friday, April 8 | 7:00pm

Two members from the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra will come in and coach the instrumental students in their chamber ensembles.

MLHS College Panel Program Thursday, April 21 | 7:00pm

A group of talented professionals from highly reputable institutions will join us on stage and share their perspectives into the college application and admission process, providing insights into some of the trends and challenges facing both students and admissions offices around the country. This year we are welcoming the following to the panel:

Ellen Kim, Director of Admissions at Johns Hopkins University

Ronné Patrick Turner, Associate Vice President of Enrollment and Dean of Admission at Northeastern University

Mildred Johnson, Associate Vice Provost, Enrollment Management & Director of Undergraduate Admissions at Virginia Tech

Bruce Bunnick, Director of Admissions, Lehigh University

Contact Us

If you know someone in the community who would like to receive **Laker Digest** or if you have an item for consideration in an upcoming edition, please email Julie Levine at jlevine@mlschools.org

For questions, please contact Dr. Anne Mucci, Superintendent of Schools at: Phone (973) 334-8280 or email at amucci@mlschools.org