

In the Loop with the Lewiston-Porter Board of Education

By Jodee Riordan, Board of Education President

The Transit Drive-In provided an amazing venue for the recent Lewiston-Porter Virtual Musical Showcase. With the pandemic restricting our annual musical theater production from running in its typical form this year, our Music Department showcased incredible creativity along with the fantastic talent of our Middle School and High School students. Individual performances were recorded professionally on the High School stage, then brought to the silver screen in an amazing musical production.

Families packed the Drive-In, enjoying a full evening of fabulous musical performances. I cannot say enough to describe the talent of our students - You must see it for yourself! You can enjoy the full [Lew-Port 20/21 Virtual Musical Showcase](#) on the Lewiston-Porter YouTube channel. Thank you to Jamie Burritt, Mark Marinaccio, Amanda Burdick, Kevin Duncan and Amanda Sharpe for bringing this production to life, and for each and every bold act of creativity and moment of joy they inspired in our student musicians throughout this most difficult year.

As we move into the last month of the 2020-21 school year, the calendar and our schools are full. Students, Pre-K through grade 12, are back on campus five days per week. Traditional end-of-year events are being planned throughout the buildings and the Lewiston-Porter community. Pre-K, Kindergarten, and Multiage "graduations", along with Moving Up events - 2nd/3rd grade (PEC to IEC), 5th grade (IEC to Middle School), 8th grade (Middle School to High School) - celebrating the transition from building to the next, are milestone moments for our students and families. We are happy to have each of these traditions return this year. The events will take place at the classroom (rather than grade) level, in keeping with current restrictions. Watch for the full calendar of events in next week's Loop.

We are very grateful that as restrictions on events ease, the Class of 2021 will be able to have traditional graduations events this year. The Senior Prom will be held at the historic Wurlitzer venue, in North Tonawanda, on Friday, June 18. Commencement will take place in the outdoor arena at Artpark on Friday, June 25. A rain date is set for Sunday, June 27. Attendance will be restricted to graduates plus four family members. Families should follow all guidelines as established by Artpark/New York State Parks, and watch closely for updates as these guidelines continue to change quickly.

The Board will meet next on Monday, June 14 for a work session, then meet for the final meeting of the 2020-21 school year on Monday, June 21. The annual Organizational meeting, the first meeting of the 2021-22 school year, will be held on Thursday, July 1. Meetings are now open to public attendance and we encourage community members to join us. Going forward, Board of Education meetings will continue to be livestreamed, to allow the community to engage remotely. Recordings and transcripts of each meeting are then posted to our website (go to the Board of Education page, then "Virtual Board of Education Meetings"). Meeting videos are also found on Lewiston-Porter YouTube channel.