

# Lancer Legend

*January 2021*



## Dear LTMS Families,

We want to express how grateful we are for your patience and grace as we continue to educate and serve you and your children. We have been through so much together this year. Despite these trying times, we have shown that we are a community of good, caring people who—when times are difficult—come together to protect and support each other.

Closing our school buildings to in-person learning has been painful as we know it's disappointing for the hundreds of our students who were thrilled to be back in classrooms learning face-to-face with their teachers and classmates. It is equally hard on adults, who have been forced to make more adjustments to their schedules and lives. However, this is a temporary closure, and we will reopen as soon as it is safe to do so. You and your family are part of this effort, it will take all of us to once again drive COVID-19 rates down locally so we can reopen our doors to teaching and learning. As our superintendent has already shared, no student will be permitted to return to the building after travel out of state without a negative COVID test result or a quarantine.

As we continue to focus on immediate issues and needs in this unprecedented year, we are also thinking about the future. We have achieved so much together despite challenges we continue to persevere on. Everyone at LTSD is working tirelessly to ensure your children continue to receive the high-quality education they deserve. On behalf of everyone at LTMS, we wish you and your families a happy, healthy New Year!

### Important Dates:

Monday, January 4 through Friday, January 8 - Remote Learning

Tuesday, January 12 - After School Detention and Homework Club resumes on Tuesday's and Thursday's

Wednesday, January 13 - School Board Meeting

Monday, January 18 - No School for Students - Professional Development

Friday, January 22 - Last Day of 2nd Marking Period/1st Semester

Monday, January 25 - No School for Students - Clerical Day

Tuesday, January 26 - First Day of 3rd Marking Period/2nd Semester

Wednesday, January 27 - Report Cards

- Please follow any or all of our social media accounts on Facebook: @ltmsprincipal, Twitter: @LTMS\_Principal and/or Instagram: ltms\_principal

Remember... be respectful, be responsible, be kind and be courageous... in everything you do and say... be a LANCER!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Sekel, Proud Principal

Loyalsock Township Middle School



## Superintendent Updates

This is an update for all parents and guardians:

We continue to track data relative to COVID-19 and have been monitoring both Lycoming County data as well as that of Pennsylvania. Lycoming County continues to show a substantial rate of transmission along with a very high percent positivity rate. This rate has climbed significantly over the past six weeks.

Therefore, we will continue with remote instruction the week of January 4, 2021 through January 10, 2021.

The District will plan to provide Special Education services for many of our severe need students here at the Loyalsock Township School District starting on January 5, 2021 and we will contact students and their families who will be receiving these services.

We will resume athletic and extracurricular activities on January 4, 2021.

We will continue to monitor the health and safety of our students and staff and will make adjustments as necessary. Enjoy the remainder of your holiday season and be safe!

Jerry McLaughlin, Superintendent  
Loyalsock Township School District



## Word Generation

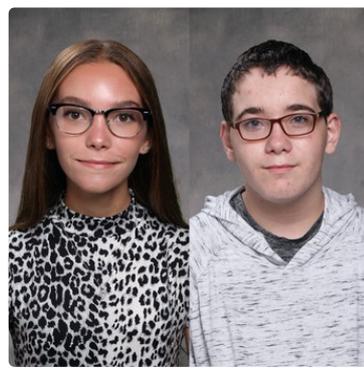
Our school continues to improve academic vocabulary, critical thinking, oral and written argumentation skills work through Word Generation. This interdisciplinary approach offers an essential question during five day school weeks with a list of vocabulary terms to fully comprehend within each content area. We have already completed and had success with the topics: *What is the purpose of school? Should schools be responsible for students' mental health? Are kids responsible for stepping in to prevent bullying? Should middle and high school students have to meet a grade requirement to participate in sports? School dress codes: not strict enough? Should everyone get a trophy? and Should students be paid for performance in school?* We look forward to the upcoming topics in January: *Who is responsible for childhood obesity? and High school dropouts: What can be done?*



6th Grade



7th Grade

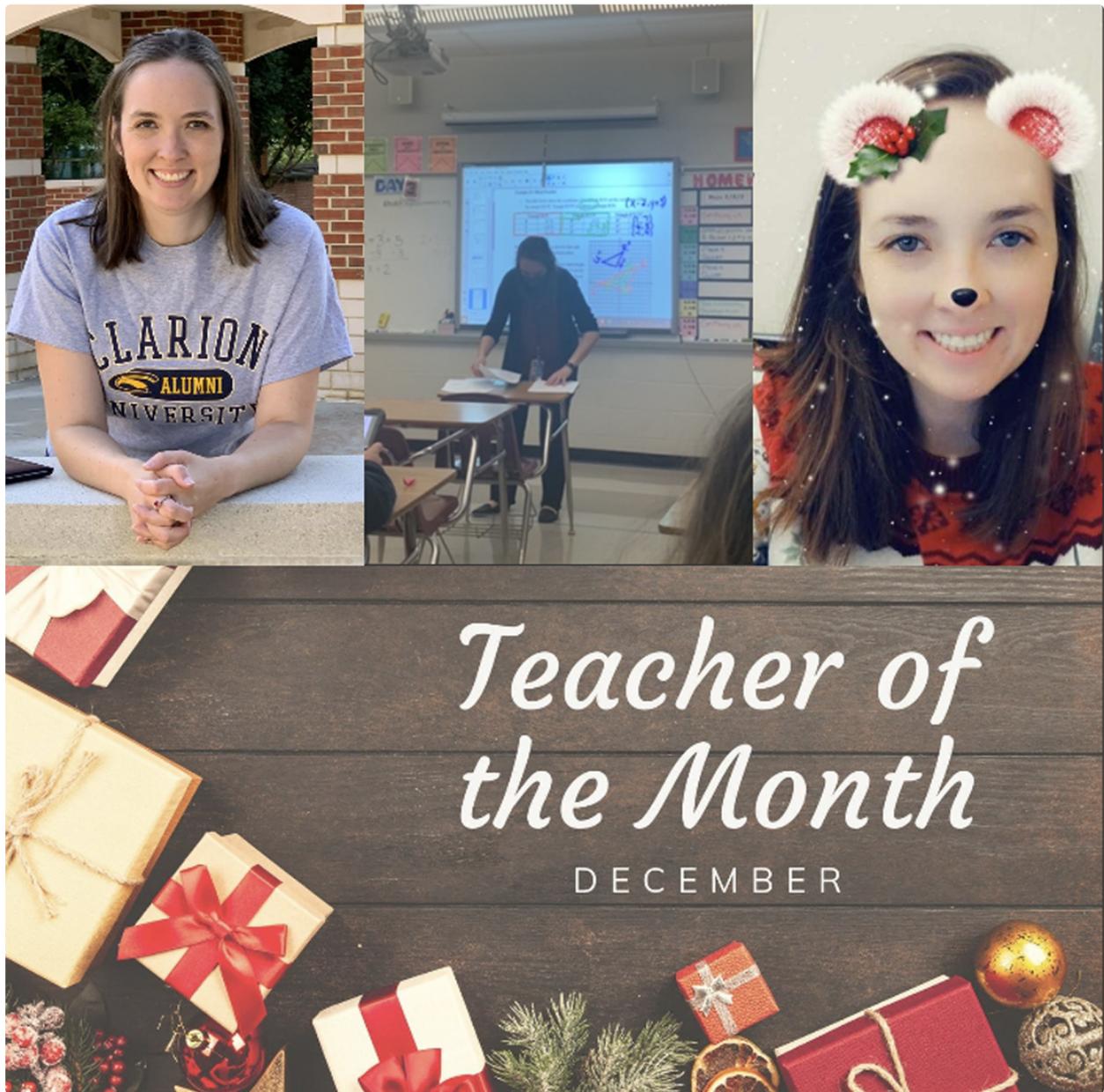


8th Grade

## Students of the Month

LTMS congratulates our Student of the Month nominees for the month of December. These students are respectful (role models to their peers), responsible (take personal accountability), kind (helpful to

others) and courageous (strive to improve well-being of others)!



## Teacher of the Month

LTMS congratulates Miss Hook, our Geo Lab, 7th grade Math and 8th grade Algebra teacher, for being nominated as Teacher of the Month for December. She was described by her students as sweet, patient and organized. Miss Hook reminds students, "There is a great difference between not knowing and not knowing yet. Success comes from hard work and perseverance. Always try your best and put in the effort."



[6th Grade LTMS Holi...](#)

[drive.google.com](https://drive.google.com)





### Days of Remembrance

"Never Stop Asking Why"

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

### 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Essay Contest

The Holocaust was the systematic murder of more than six million Jews in Europe. It is a prime example of how hatred caused horrific crimes and continues to threaten society's values and security.

Many don't know what the Holocaust is. Most don't believe it will happen again.

Thus, the seeds of hate and blame continue to threaten our societies.

On Oct. 7, 1980 the 96<sup>th</sup> Congress passed of PUBLIC LAW 96-388 which established the United States Holocaust Memorial Council. Annually in school and military communities, Days of Remembrance programs are created to recognize this historic event. Thus, Susquehanna Valley community, veteran and religious leaders are sponsoring an essay contest because of the critical need to help all generations learn from the lessons of the past.

### FINANCIAL PRIZES

One first-place prize of \$500

One second-place prize of \$250

Up to 20 honorable mention prizes of \$100

Winning and noteworthy contestants will, through analysis and writing skill, educate, inspire, and motivate others to be responsible, patriotic, and informed citizens.

### Leadership for today and tomorrow.

Go to [www.daysofremembrance.org](http://www.daysofremembrance.org) for more info.

# 7th and 8th Grade "Never Stop Asking Why" Essay Contest

The Days of Remembrance program's inspiration started with the action of Congress in 1980. Their mission statement is aligned with the Holocaust Memorial Museum's message of "Never Stop Asking Why." Submissions should be between 500 and 750 words and sent to our Days of Remembrance board office by March 14, 2020.

Winning and noteworthy contestants will, through analysis and writing skill, educate, inspire, and motivate others to be responsible, patriotic, and informed citizens. For more info go to:

[www.daysofremembrance.org](http://www.daysofremembrance.org)

## Yearbook & RePlay It App

Attention LTMS Students! The yearbook staff needs YOUR help! We would like to fill the yearbook with photos of YOU and your friends outside of school making the best of this pandemic. We are accepting photos of backyard sports, pets, talents and holiday fun! Please send all photos to 7th grader, Kendall Eichensehr, Mrs. Rohrer OR the NEW RePlay It App.

Also, don't forget to order your yearbook! Visit [jostensyearbooks.com](http://jostensyearbooks.com) to place your order before the price increases!

**REPLAYIT<sup>®</sup>**  
PRIVATE PHOTO SUBMISSION

Get your pictures in the yearbook.

The yearbook staff invites students and parents to submit photos for the yearbook. If you've got great photos of school and community events or you and your friends just having fun, we'd like to see them.

Our photographers can't be everywhere. Help us get as many photos as possible to create a terrific book everyone will want to have.

The last day to submit your photos is:  
February 28, 2021

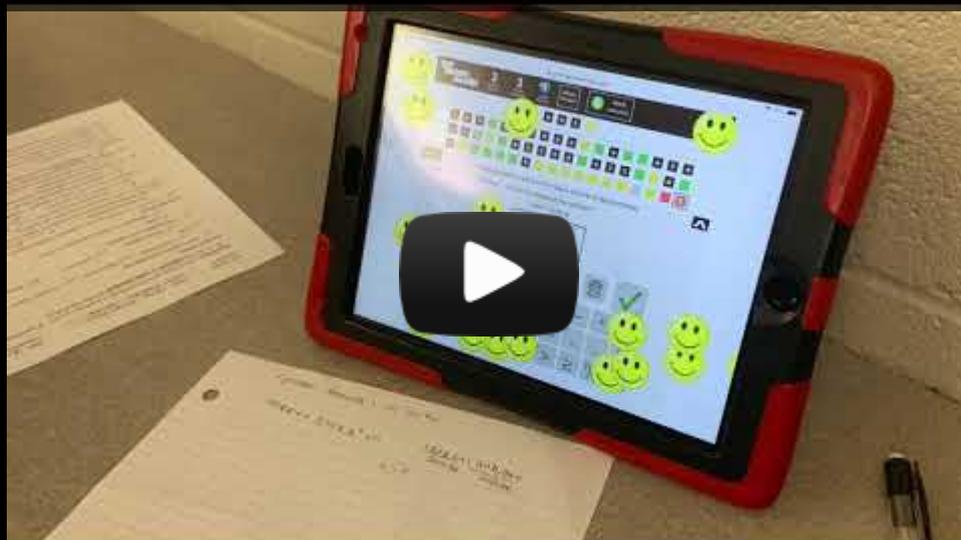
**SUBMIT YOUR PHOTOS ONLINE**  
LOG ON TO: [images.jostens.com](http://images.jostens.com)  
Enter Login ID:

- Browse to select the photos you wish to upload, click on "Select My Images."
- Enter information about the photo and provide contact information in case the staff needs additional information.
- Click "Upload Chosen Images."
- It's that easy! Submit your photos today!

The yearbook staff will review all photos and determine final yearbook content. We cannot guarantee that all submissions will be used.

*Jostens*

## LTMS Student Virtual Expectations



## Quarantined, Hybrid or Remote Learning

As the school year has progressed, we have revised and refined our health and safety plan to include the following details and expectations for LTMS students attending school under three different

conditions: quarantined, hybrid, or remote. On Friday, November 20 students watched a video of these expectations in the circumstance LTSD students need to move to a different learning environment:

**LTMS Student Expectations for Quarantined, Hybrid, or Remote Learning**

The following includes details and expectations for students attending school under three different conditions: quarantined, hybrid, or remote. Each of the conditions below follows our regular daily bell schedule and occasionally our early dismissal schedule. Even from a distance, students will be expected to "go to school" as our normally would, starting in class at 7:55 a.m. and continuing throughout the day.

All students are responsible for continuing to practice positive digital citizenship by respecting their peers and teachers. Like at school, students must practice positive and productive behaviors when in an online learning environment. Our online learning environment will be very similar to what we have established in the classrooms; school rules will be followed just as expected at LTMS.

**Expectations for Quarantined, Hybrid, or Remote Learning**

- Choose a distraction-free workspace and be mindful about keeping distractions to a minimum, remembering that everyone can still see you.
- Camera on - Students must have their video turned on in order to be counted as present.
- Class participation is expected and you may use the on-line class participation features (e.g. Raise Hand feature in Zoom) to answer or ask questions.
- Make respectful comments, showing respect for all cultures, opinions, and viewpoints.
- iPad charged and all materials ready.
- Engage in the lesson, assignment, assessment, and other educational items as you do in school.
- Contribute and engage through chat feature, hand raising, or attempting to ask a question.
- Wear appropriate clothing (following your school dress code) while on video streaming.
- LTSD Technology Use Guidelines must be followed.
- Audio or video-recording is prohibited with any technology (e.g. cellphones, cameras, recorders and/or computer features) unless there is prior approval from everyone involved.
- Displaying/sharing inappropriate material or language will not be tolerated.
- Private chat will be disabled between students.
- The teacher may send you to a breakout session. This session is recorded, and students must follow all school expectations in that environment as well.
- Attendance is mandatory and will be taken at the beginning of each class. Attendance will require students to complete a Bell Ringer assigned by their classroom teacher each day.
- Students MUST complete and submit all assignments, practice activities, and bell ringers to their teachers daily.
- Assessments (quizzes, tests, projects, papers, homework, etc.) may be given while in hybrid, remote, and quarantine just as if you are physically in school.
- Grading - you will be graded exactly as if you are physically coming to school.

## Virtual Learning Expectations

**IF STUDENT IS QUARANTINED AT HOME**

1. Upon learning of the need to remain home, please notify the school of your anticipated return date. Please reach out to Mr. Hartley in the main office to communicate that information. Her email is [subdirect@loyalsocklancers.org](mailto:subdirect@loyalsocklancers.org) or you can call at (570) 323-9439 ext. 1200.
2. If well enough to get online, you will be expected to attend each teacher's virtual classroom on Moodle and/or Zoom upon that, as a minimum, will begin the class.
  - o If you do not connect and get online during class, this will count as an absence.
3. If necessary please communicate with your teachers should you have any questions regarding an assignment or expectation.
4. You will be expected to access Moodle and any other necessary app or platform on your iPad to complete assignments.

**IF SCHOOL OPERATES IN A HYBRID MODEL**

Students and families will be given notice if LTSD moves to a hybrid learning environment. Hybrid means that students will come in school 2 days and teach divided into two groups: Maroon and Gray.

**Maroon** - Students whose last household surname begins with the letters A-J on Monday and Wednesday.

**Gray** - Students whose last household surname begins with the letters K-Z on Tuesday and Thursday.

Please refer to your Student Portal to verify your household color.

**Hybrid Model, Maroon and Gray Schedule**

**In-Person Learning (occurs two days per week)**

- In person learning (physically in your classroom) using the Maroon/Gray schedule
- Daily instruction as usual

**Remote (Home) Learning (occurs three days per week)**

- Online remote (students are working remotely). Students are expected to be online with each of their teacher's Zoom sessions and follow a normal daily bell schedule.
- Friday is remote for all students, and follows a 12:30 early dismissal schedule.
- Students will use remote learning days to access live or recorded lessons, work on new tasks, complete class assignments, or independent reading and writing assignments. Student support, services, and small group instruction can be made available remotely. Both groups, Maroon and Gray are remote on Fridays.
- All expectations on the first page apply to the Hybrid model.

**IF SCHOOL OPERATES IN A REMOTE MODEL**

Like in the hybrid model, students and families will be given notice if LTSD moves to a remote learning environment. Remote means that students remain home for instruction.

**Full Remote Learning Model**

- Teachers will teach remotely using Zoom for daily instruction.
- Students will access synchronous lessons at the beginning of class as well as complete various asynchronous activities designed by the teacher.
- All expectations on the first page apply to the Remote model.

## Quarantine, Hybrid, Remote Models

Loyalsock Township Middle School: **TECHNOLOGY Expectations**

**BE RESPECTFUL**

- Respect others and be respectful of their property.
- Manage your technology properly. Keep technology clean and in working order.

**BE RESPONSIBLE**

- Make certain your iPad is fully charged and ready for the day.
- Power-down and follow "APPLES UP" when prompted.
- Follow all directions the first time given.

**BE KIND**

- Do not post something you might regret.
- If you can help a Lancer, do it!

**BE COURAGEOUS**

**ARE LANCERS**

## Technology Expectations

[6th Grade Virtual Lear...](#) [sites.google.com](https://sites.google.com)

[7th Grade Virtual Lear...](#) [sites.google.com](https://sites.google.com)

[8th Grade Virtual Lear...](#) [sites.google.com](https://sites.google.com)

## Virtual Learning Hub's and Grade Level Team Leaders

We are hopeful the virtual learning hub's will enable success for each student particularly during quarantined or remote learning. If you wish to have a Zoom or phone conference in the future, please reach out to individual teachers or grade level team leaders directly. We will have an opportunity for conferences again on March 19.

6th Grade - Mr. Hessert [nhessert@loyalsocklancers.org](mailto:nhessert@loyalsocklancers.org)

7th Grade - Ms. Cozza [acozza@loyalsocklancers.org](mailto:acozza@loyalsocklancers.org)

8th Grade - Mrs. Bomboy [jbomboy@loyalsocklancers.org](mailto:jbomboy@loyalsocklancers.org)

Please see the athletics page for more information on our [resocialization of sports and extra-curricular activities](#) as we are in the middle of Winter sports.

You can also email coaches for specific information:

7th Grade Boys Basketball - Eric Nagy [ewn2@pct.edu](mailto:ewn2@pct.edu)

8th Grade Boys Basketball - Ryan Cioffi [ryan.cioffi00@gmail.com](mailto:ryan.cioffi00@gmail.com)

Cheerleading - Erin Brouse [efbrouse@gmail.com](mailto:efbrouse@gmail.com)

Wrestling - Derrick Hicks [dhicks@wasd.org](mailto:dhicks@wasd.org)

Winter sports must register on [Family ID](#).

Competition schedules can be found here:

<https://www.phacathleticsconference.org/public/genie/377/school/8/>

Below are the new allowable occupancy rates (10% capacity) within our schools under the governors new regulations. This includes sports and all after school activities. More information can be found here: <https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/coronavirus/Pages/Guidance/Event-Occupancy.aspx>

Weight Room: 36 students & staff only

Wrestling Room: 22 students & staff only

MS Gym: 101 maximum capacity

HS Gym: 67 maximum capacity

There are no parents/spectators allowed indoors at practices. In addition, masks are required at all times, including during competition. The PA mask order was updated last week to include those participating in indoor physical activity in a gym, fitness center, where another person or persons who are not members of the individual's household are present in the same space, irrespective of physical distance.

The latest plan going into 2021:

1. First practice will be Monday, January 4
2. First varsity contest can start on Friday, January 8
3. First wrestling for both Varsity and JH may begin on Saturday, January 9
4. All league matches for wrestling were rescheduled
5. Basketball will only play the second half of the PHAC (for the PHAC championship)
6. Basketball tournament will be suspended this year (PHAC)
7. Regular season for basketball has been extended to February 27
8. Regular season for JH basketball has been extended to March 6

General athletic questions can be sent to:

Athletic Director - Ron (CI) Insinger [rinsinger@loyalsocklancers.org](mailto:rinsinger@loyalsocklancers.org)

Athletic Secretary - Shannon Butters [sbutters@loyalsocklancers.org](mailto:sbutters@loyalsocklancers.org)



# Loyalsock Township Middle School

 Facebook

 @LTMS\_Principal

Our goal is to provide students with experiences that will empower them to become thoughtful, meaningful contributors to society. Our teachers and staff are committed to offering students a wide range of learning experiences that will enable them to discover their passion and to discover how they learn best. While empowering students to uncover their true passion, Loyalsock Township Middle School prepares, engages, and inspires all students to seek academic and personal excellence.

 2101 Loyalsock Dr, Williamspor...

 asekel@ltsd.k12.pa.us

 (570)323-9439

 ltsd.k12.pa.us/schools/middle-...

