Blazing trail to Hall of Fame

After nearly two decades of success, Linden High School bowling coach Cherie Pizzano has been chosen for induction into the New Jersey Scholastic Coaches Association Hall of Fame. She was honored March 24 at an induction dinner in Princeton. Pizzano is the sixth coach – and the first woman – inducted into the Hall of Fame from Linden Public Schools. Since she took over the program in 2000, Pizzano's teams have an overall record of 228-65 and have won six sectional titles; five Union County titles; and four Watchung Conference titles. Click here to read more.

Celebrate music, culture, academic excellence

World Languages Family Night was held on March 1 to celebrate the talents and accomplishments of students in the department. Forty-six Linden High School seniors were recognized for attaining the prestigious Seal of Biliteracy from the New Jersey Department of Education, signifying their high level of fluency in two languages. The night was capped off by a wonderful concert by visiting student musicians from Bachata Academy in the Dominican Republic. It turned into a Latin dance party when students and staff took over the front of the auditorium and started moving to the beat. Click here to see story, video and more photos.

Alum now watching over School 2 students

Ed Chabak is the latest retired police officer hired as a Special Law Enforcement Officer Class III to provide security in Linden Public Schools. His post is School No. 2, the district's largest elementary school, and the school Chabak attended as a boy in the 1960s and '70s. "First and foremost is the safety of the kids and staff. That is my No. 1, primary function," he said. "But I want to give these little guys a positive image of a police officer and explain to them that we really are your friends. We're there for you." Click here to read more.
Lindenberg Public Schools - Superintendent’s Report

Learning Commons is unveiled

The Board of Education held a ceremonial ribbon cutting on Thursday, Feb. 28, for the new Learning Commons at Linden High School. The room – formerly known as the library or media center – has been undergoing major renovations since the summertime. It is modeled after a college student center in hopes that it will be used as a relaxed gathering place for meeting and learning. All new furniture, including easy chairs, stools and a welcome desk, contribute to the relaxed atmosphere. Click here to read more and see more photos.

School No. 5 thanks Vietnam Veterans

School No. 5 hosted four members of the Vietnam Veterans of America on Feb. 27. The veterans, including Tony Scamardella, father of Principal Laura Scamardella, each spoke of their service and sacrifice. Students then read poems they had written and thanked them for coming. Click here to see video.

Up Next

March 29: LHS senior prom fashion show, 6 p.m.

April 2: LHS wellness day.

April 2: Autism Awareness Day.

April 3: McManus STEAM night, 6:30 p.m.

April 4: School No. 4 student film festival, 6 p.m.

April 8-9: School No. 10 spring book fair.

April 9: School No. 2 Easter Bunny breakfast, 9 a.m.

April 9-11: School No. 1 spring book fair.

April 11: NJROTC Navy Ball at Gran Centurians, Clark, 6:30 p.m.

April 25: LHS National Honor Society trip to Washington, D.C.

April 25: The 21st Century Community Learning Center at Soehl family game night, 6 p.m.

Next Board of Education meeting: April 25, 7 p.m., at Linden High School's Susan L. Hudak Auditorium.
School No. 6 and School No. 8, which are both designated as Apple Distinguished Schools, hosted a contingent of educators on Tuesday, March 12, to show how they incorporate Apple technology into their classrooms. Administrators and teachers from other Linden elementary schools; visitors from the Plainfield, Nutley and Neptune school districts; and representatives from Apple toured classrooms in both schools to watch teachers use MacBook Air and iPad devices to enhance their lessons and activities. Both schools were recognized last school year as Apple Distinguished Schools for 2017-2019 for their continuous innovation in teaching with technology. Click here for story and more photos.

School No. 4 battles cyberbullies

School No. 4’s Student Vanguard, with help from technology teacher Mitch Gorbunoff, created a video showing how much cyberbullying can hurt, how much better it is to be nice to one another, and what to do if you see or experience cyberbullying. Click here to see video.

Soehl’s got talent

Congratulations to the winners of the Soehl Middle School talent show on March 7. Eighth-grader Alejandro Carro-Quesado took home first place, eighth-grader Nathalie Torres took second, and sixth-grader Johnny Cabral captured third. Click here to watch video.
The Linden High School NJROTC performed admirably on Feb. 26 during its annual inspection by the area commander and active duty Navy personnel. The inspection was followed by a ceremony in the LHS gym that featured a keynote speech by Commander Jimmie Miller, the NJROTC manager for Area 4. The most emotional moment of the ceremony came when four senior cadets were recognized for their commitment to join the Marine Corps. Martin Manipol, Erik Hernandez, Onelvi Martinez and Maurice Faulk, far right, were honored alongside family members at center court. [Click here for story, videos and more photos.]

NBC New York’s weather team storms through School No. 8

Members of NBC New York’s Storm Team 4 visited School No. 8 on Feb. 28 to teach fourth-graders about different weather phenomena and how they track and predict storms. Meteorologists Janice Huff of NBC 4 and Andrea Romero of Telemundo 47 also took volunteers from the classroom and demonstrated different types of cloud formations by spraying shaving cream on their arms. Huff and Romero also visited the studio where students record the weekly Channel 8 news segments, and students checked out Storm Tracker 4, their high-tech weather van. [Click here for story, video and more photos.]

Middle schools explore African-American dance

McManus Diversity Club members and students of Spanish demonstrated African-American dance through history.

Soehl students learned a few moves from step dancers visiting from Rutgers University.
School No. 1 and Soehl Middle School came together Feb. 22 at Soehl for a volleyball match that raised thousands of dollars for the family of Arion Mamudi, a third-grader at School No. 1 who is battling osteosarcoma. The Mamudi family, including Arion’s brother, Sammy, an eighth-grader at Soehl, entered the packed gym to a round of applause from both teams, as well as spectators. Funds were raised through admission, raffles, and sales of T-shirts, baked goods and “Superhero Strong” wristbands. Click here to see video.

Linden High School senior Kyle Lipscomb was named to NJ.com’s All-State Boys Winter Track and Field first team for shot put. Lipscomb threw a school record 59 feet, 7 1/4 inches to take eighth place at the nationals on March 8. Lipscomb, who is committed to Rutgers University, finished first at the Eastern States Championship and second in the New Jersey Meet of Champions. Click here to read more.

Linden High School, McManus Middle School and Soehl Middle School were well-represented with a total of about 450 student artists and performers taking part in the Union County Teen Arts Festival on March 14 and 15 at Union County College in Cranford. Students performed and had artwork on display throughout the day. Each ensemble and piece of art was given a critique, and students received a short master class. Students also participated in workshops, learning techniques in art, theatrical improvisation, hip-hop dance, and more. Click here to see more photos.
All of our elementary schools celebrated Read Across America around Dr. Seuss’ March 2 birthday. Guest readers, including administrators, board members, and dignitaries, visited classrooms to read to students. Staff and students dressed up as Dr. Seuss characters to show their love for books. Click here for more photos.

School No. 6 celebrated “Leadership Day” on Friday, March 8, a day when students honor leaders of the past and present and put their own leadership skills on display for visitors. The day is a culmination of the school’s participation in the Leader in Me program, which is designed to prepare students to succeed both in and out of the classroom. It helps students reflect on their lives, develop leadership skills, and set goals that will inspire them to succeed. Click here for story, more photos and video.

Lead U visited McManus Middle School on March 12 and Soehl Middle School on March 20 to deliver a fun and engaging program that used games such as Rock, Paper, Scissors and Artist, Clay, Model to teach valuable lessons about decision-making, responsibility and communication. Lead U is a positive group of teaching artists who engage, educate, and empower learners of all ages to find the leaders within themselves. Click here to see video.