



LINDEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

#LindenCelebrates

Respect for Diversity ■ Excellence in Education ■ Commitment to Service

Linden, NJ

lindenps.org

Feb. 24, 2022



Young inventors full STEAM ahead

Students from Schools No. 4 & 9 will test their tech skills in state competition

A group of technology students from Schools No. 4 and No. 9 have been accepted to take part in the STEAM Tank Challenge, a state competition in which students apply science and technology skills to create a product that addresses a real-world problem. The program encourages students and teachers to work collaboratively in science, technology, engineering, art, and math (STEAM). It also supports the development of critical thinking and problem-solving skills. The Linden team is made up of the Student



Vanguard technology club at School No. 4 and the fifth-grade Gifted & Talented students at School No. 9 under the guidance of technology teacher Mitch

Gorbunoff. The students' invention is the Read-O-Matic, which is designed to help students learn letter sounds then blend them together. [Click here to read more.](#)

Love of animals and MLK inspire service project

A third-grader from School No. 10 was able to raise well over \$2,000 for the Friends of Linden Animal Shelter as part of a selfless service project she took on for Martin Luther King Day. "I feel good because we know we did something good for the world," she said. "This was the most money we ever raised and was the most success we have ever done." Jennifer Panow-Hanger, Amelia's mother, said the project raised \$2,000 directly, which Amelia used to buy pet food and other



supplies for the shelter. She had also put the word out that donors could contribute directly to the shelter, which received \$1,900 in donations on its website during the week of Amelia's project. [Click here for story and more photos.](#)

Hall of Fame coach retiring

Cherie Pizzano, the Hall of Fame coach of the Linden High School bowling team, is retiring at the end of the 2021-22 winter season after 22 years of coaching the Tigers on the alleys. Pizzano was surprised with a party in her honor at Jersey Lanes in Linden after the team's final regular season match on Wednesday, Feb. 9. The party was organized by the parents of the bowlers, whose love for their coach was evident. Pizzano was selected for the New Jersey Scholastic Coaches Association Hall of Fame in 2019, becoming just the sixth Linden coach selected and the first woman from Linden. [Click here for story, video, and more photos.](#)



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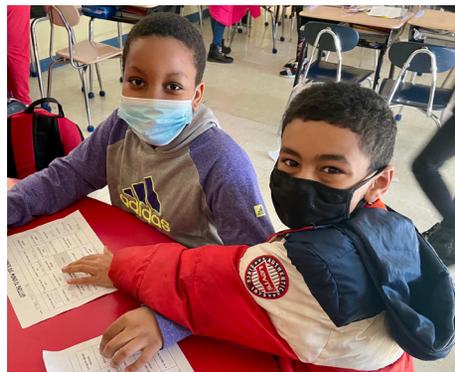
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SELebration continues!

Our district had its second SELebration Day of the year on Friday, Feb. 11, when students and staff took a break from their regular lessons to focus on social emotional learning. Students played games, took part in team-building exercises, and recharged their batteries. [Click to see more photos.](#)



School No. 1 turns front lawn into gridiron



School No. 1 got in the Super Bowl spirit for SELebration Day on Friday, Feb. 11. Acting Principal Michael Walters and Math Director Richard Molinaro led two teams in a fun game of flag football on the school's front lawn. [Click to see more photos.](#)

Key dates to remember

March 9
Early dismissal – Lunch served

March 16
Elementary trimester ends

March 29
Board of Education work session

March 11
SELebration Day

March 22-24
Elementary Parent Conferences

March 31
Board of Education regular meeting

Generosity turns to jubilation

Ex-teacher donates funds to surprise School No. 10 technology students

The love and generosity of a retired School No. 10 teacher is helping a former colleague to go above and beyond for her students – and causing ripple effects of kindness throughout the school. School No. 10 technology teacher Kim Kefalas wanted to get lapel microphones for her students to use with their district-issued iPads to make it easier for them to complete projects while wearing masks. Rita



Cruz Suarez, a teacher who retired from School No. 10 at the end of last school year, came through and donated the entire amount. Kefalas invited Cruz Suarez to visit the school Monday, Jan. 31, so she

could be there when Kefalas surprised the students with their new microphones. Students thanked Cruz Suarez for her kindness. [Click here to read more and to see video of news report.](#)

School No. 4 superheroes show their math powers



School No. 4 hosted students and families for a super Math Mystery Night on Wednesday, Feb. 9. Students arrived dressed as their favorite superhero and were given a mystery scenario to solve. Several superheroes were in the school, but one of them was really a super villain. Students had a blast using math-based clues to figure out who the bad guy was with the help of their parents and teachers. [Click here to see more photos.](#)



‘Book Talk’ allows staff members to explore inclusion through reading

A group of Linden Public School educators has teamed up to form “Book Talk,” a club that meets monthly to discuss equity, inclusion, and diversity through reading. The group was founded by School No. 2 Title 1 teacher Shaliek Moore and held its first meeting virtually in November to discuss the book

“Cultivating Genius” by Gholdy Muhammad. “The conversations were so meaningful,” Moore said. The group ordered “Diversity” T-shirts and gathered at Linden Public Library on Feb. 15 along with Superintendent Dr. Marnie Hazelton to show to them off. [Click here to read more.](#)



Celebrating the Year of the Tiger!

LHS students mark Lunar New Year with music, dance, dragons

Students at Linden High School celebrated the Asian Lunar New Year on Wednesday, Feb. 9, with special performances highlighting Chinese culture for the Year of the Tiger. Members of the Dance Company performed Chinese ribbon and umbrella dances; students of Chinese performed a fan dance; and instrumental musicians performed a Chinese drum routine. Later in the day, NJROTC students took their dragons out for a walk under the Academy dome, moving to traditional Chinese music. Students from the TV/Digital Media program filmed the performances to create a video to be shared with the entire district to help celebrate the Year of the Tiger. The whole program was organized by Chinese teacher Lin Lin Hu. [Click to see video.](#) [Click to see more photos.](#)



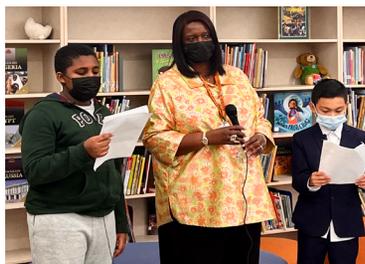
Soehl has high hopes for daily newscast

Soehl Middle School recently went on the air with a morning news show that gives students and staff a rundown of school information and announcements to get each day off on the right foot. The newscasts are still in their early phases, but the hopes are to get more students involved in reporting and production of the show. [Click here for story and more photos.](#)



School No. 8 news show hosts very special guest

The School No. 8 Student News hosted a very special guest recently when Superintendent Dr. Marnie Hazelton stopped by to be interviewed for the show. [Click here to watch the show.](#)



McManus studio in a groove

McManus Middle School launched "Tiger News: Live" on Friday, Feb. 18, and plans to air the student-run show every Friday. [Click here to watch the debut episode.](#) [Click here for photos.](#)



Tech Department offers expert advice to food pantry



Members of our Technology Department visited the LINC'S Food Pantry in Linden on Wednesday, Feb. 2, to offer some advice on how the group could upgrade its computer system and other technology. Our experts were happy to help out the all-volunteer organization that does so much for those in our community who are in need.



Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious!



The McManus Middle School Drama Club put on an amazing presentation of "Mary Poppins Jr." on Feb. 10 and 11. [Click to see more photos.](#)

Senior Tigers go out in style!

Winter Sports teams celebrated our senior athletes with special ceremonies including coaches, teammates, and families. [Click on links below to see more photos.](#)



[Boys basketball](#)



[Swimming](#)



[Wrestling](#)



[Bowling](#)