



LAUREL SCHOOL DISTRICT Spring NEWSLETTER

"Come back with your shield - or on it" • www.laurel.k12.pa.us • Spring 2019

POISE, PATIENCE, AND PERSISTENCE

As we celebrate the graduation of the class of 2019, it is natural for the soon to be alums to think about the teachers and role models that have influenced their lives. It is also natural for we attendees to reflect on our own experiences and heroes. I have been blessed with several. Among them was one of my college coaches, Mr. B. Eugene Nicholson. He stressed to us his three prong philosophy of poise, patience, and persistence.

Poise. A coach prepares his team to be successful while meeting adversity. Coach Nicholson demanded that we play with poise. The game would not always go our way. A good opponent may be successful at different parts of the game. In order to be victorious, we must maintain our poise. I ask that you

maintain your poise in the game of life. You too may face adversity and have to overcome obstacles in your life. Be graceful under pressure. Be poised.

Patience. It is hard to imagine that a coach would encourage patience. Often coaches encourage urgency. As I matured under Coach Nicholson's tutelage, I came to understand what he meant by being patient as a competitive athlete. We would have our opportunities to be successful if only we were patient. He expected that we capitalize upon those opportunities, but understand that those opportunities may be few in number and we would have to work. You never know when those opportunities would come. I urge you to be patient. Know that life is a long

journey and impatience may lead to frustration and disappointment. Know that life will present you with opportunities. Be patient. Take advantage when those opportunities present themselves.

Persistence. Coach Nicholson would not accept intermittent effort. It was not good enough to try. It was demanded that we sustain our efforts. It must be understood that we might stumble. Be firm. Be obstinate to the idea that you will fail. In your life you will not fail, unless you quit trying to succeed. Be persistent.

These three words (poise, patience, and persistence) were always a package. Never mentioned one without the other. It was understood that each worked with, complimented and enhanced the other two.

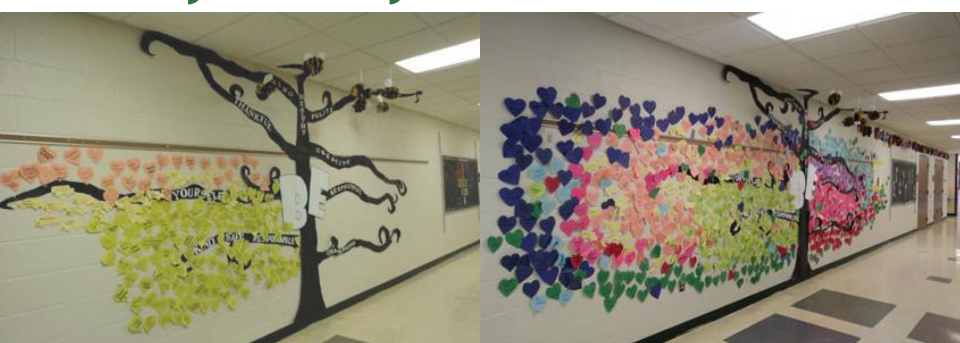
As you leave here today, embrace the 3 P's of poise, patience, and persistence. Embrace complimentary talents, attitudes, and strategies. Maintain grace under pressure. Understand that the success may not occur within your allotted time frame. Most importantly, refuse to lose. Poise. Patience. Persistence.



Len Rich

Submitted By:
Mr. Leonard Rich,
Superintendent

KIND, SAFE, & RESPONSIBLE



Laurel Elementary focused on kindness, responsibility and safety! Our school's theme this year was "Be". The "Be" tree, in our front hallway, grew every day! Each branch represented a new month and a new chance to make a positive difference.

Every day the faculty looked for students who were making a positive difference. Students were given a heart for our "Be" tree if they were caught doing the right thing! Laurel staff caught over 980 acts of kindness

and students being responsible and safe! Each month we randomly picked several hearts off of the tree for a special recognition. Two students won a bike to wrap up a wonderful year! Laurel Elementary is truly a wonderful place to "BE"!

A single act of kindness throws out roots in all directions, and the roots spring up and make new trees!

~Amelia Earheart

Submitted by: Tracie Nicholudis

LAUREL ELEMENTARY STUDENTS HONORED

As usual the end of the school year is a time to celebrate the accomplishments of our students, whether they are academic, athletic, or behavioral. We honor our students' achievements in many ways. One event where we do this is our Elementary Awards Assembly. Students receive awards for outstanding achievement in math, reading, art, academic games, perfect attendance, and through their athletic performance. We also recognize our students who consistently display being kind, safe and responsible during the school year. Aside from our local achievements, we also had a student recognized at the national level for his performance at the National Academic Games. Jackson Saunders represented Laurel very well by placing in the top 20% in Theme and Presidents. His team also placed 5th in presidents, but Jackson's greatest accomplishment was his individual 8th place finish in Current Events. Congratulation to Jackson and all of our students on a successful school year.



We have so many successes and accomplishments both great and small at Laurel each and every year. I know that I speak on behalf our entire staff in saying that we are very proud to be a part of teaching and helping these children grow and succeed.

Submitted By: Mr. Dan Svirby

KNEX STEM DESIGN TEAM



After qualifying in March, The KNEX STEM DESIGN TEAM from Laurel Middle School competed in the State Tournament held at Harrisburg University of Science and Technology on May 17th. What started out as 1,200 teams at the regional level; was narrowed to 24 for states. Laurel's team, named the "Hard Heads" consisting of Chase Tinstman, Colin Bartley, Aidan Collins, and Johnny Andre took home 2nd place at the State Competition. Their second place KNEX Crane consisted of 911 pieces to honor the tragic events of September 11, 2001. Their crane pro-

tototype was used as a construction device to help rebuild Pennsylvania's deficient bridges. Hours of hardwork, research, and design went in to their final project. The team is coached by Mrs. Jenn Horodyski.



had the opportunity to meet two authors from this year's reading list. The authors were Steve Sheinkin and Neal Shusterman. In addition to the literacy activities and author sessions, our district donated over 1,000 children's books and young adult novels to the YSU book drive. The Laurel School District was recognized and awarded for being one of the top schools to donate books. The students and teachers enjoyed this valuable experience and look forward to additional literacy events in the future.

Submitted by: Mrs. Michele Mrozek

YSU ENGLISH FESTIVAL APRIL 2019

Each year, the students in grades seven through twelve are invited to participate in the Youngstown State University (YSU) English Festival. The two tenth-grade students from Laurel who attended this year's event were: Ali Bryan and Nora Paraska. Prior to the event, the students read seven books from a predetermined list in their age group as preparation for the English Festival.

Throughout the day, our students attended literacy-based sessions based on the books such as: writing games, impromptu writing, and art/music workshops. The students also



Submitted by: Mrs. Michele Mrozek

SPARTANETTE CAMP

All Elementary students (K-5) are welcome!

Laurel High School
Saturday, June 15
9:00am to 1:30pm

Please bring water bottle and packed lunch.
Parents are invited back at 1pm to see what they learned.
Cost \$20 per child and includes a t-shirt.

Please fill out and detach this and return to elementary office.
Checks payable to Laurel Band

Child Name: _____
Grade: _____ T-shirt size: _____ (please indicate youth or adult)
Parent/Guardian name: _____
Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone Number: _____
(where someone can be reached during camp)

Any allergies or medical conditions: _____
Walk-ins the day of camp are welcomed, but T-shirt is not guaranteed
Please return to elementary office by May 30th
Please call or email with any questions!
Jessica Miles 724-658-9056 x1127 or jmiles@laurel.k12.pa.us

An Equal Rights and Opportunites School District

DAN JACOBS HEATING AND COOLING, L.L.C. 724.924.2190

Slippery Rock Domino's

KELLY educational staffing. Now hiring substitute teachers! Apply today: teachpittsburgh.com

MCCURLEY HOUSTON Commercial • Industrial • Residential. 2429 Eastbrook Road New Castle, PA 16105 Office: 724.652.9371 Fax: 724.654.5122

NEW CASTLE TRUCK "Maximum Performance with Minimum Downtime"

Justin Petro 724-770-0777

State Farm SPARTAN PRIDE

SAGER'S AUTOMOTIVE Auto Body Collision Repair 724.924.0104

Howard Hannan Go Spartan! Renee Dean 724-730-6909 724-654-5555 x236

DIRECT IMAGE Copy Systems, Inc.

D.J. HANNON & SONS, INC. PLUMBING & HEATING

PONTIUS INSURANCE AUTO / HOME / BUSINESS / LIFE

BOWSER CHEVROLET BEAVER FALLS 724-845-2600 bowserchevrolet.com

HYUNDAI Chippewa 724-847-1703 bowserhipewa.com

Nick's AUTO BODY "Trust Your Body In Our Hands"