



LAUREL SCHOOL DISTRICT Winter NEWSLETTER

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

FARMER POWER

Arthur Ashe once said that; "Success is a journey not a destination. The doing is often more important than the outcome." We at Laurel continue our journey. We have recently demonstrated success academically and in our extracurricular activities. As we take some time to savor these successes, we remain unsatisfied. We continually strive to improve, grow, and achieve.

According to <http://www.schooligger.com>, the Laurel School District academically outperformed nearly 80% of all school districts in Pennsylvania. Schooligger calculates school rankings based on

test scores released by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. These rankings were last updated on November 30, 2018, and are based on the most recent test scores available. Other sources of data include the National Center for Education Statistics and the U.S. Department of Education. Academic achievement remains our first priority.

The Laurel School District and greater community has always been concerned about the



Len Rich

development of the entire child as well as the ability to transfer into the "real world" after high school. According to the Future Ready PA Index (<https://futurereadypa.org/>), the Laurel Elementary School and the Laurel High School are excelling at achieving college and career readiness benchmarks.

It has always been a priority to the community we serve to provide opportunities beyond the classroom for our students. The district is committed to pro-

viding a rich experience for the students. Contained in this newsletter our students are strutting their stuff in academic games, state farm shows and Future Business Leaders of America. When a graduate leaves the hallowed hallways of Laurel High, they are equipped with the skills needed to succeed; gained from the diverse opportunities and experiences they had as a student.

#FARMERPOWER

Submitted By:
Mr. Leonard Rich
Superintendent

THE LAUREL COMMUNITY SHOWS ITS SPARTAN STRENGTH ONCE AGAIN



The will of the Laurel community has been tested over the last 18 months. Time and time again, those afflicted by tragedy have shown their strength and the community its support. The recent battle of Anthony Conti is no different. This young man has been recently diagnosed with non-Hodgkin's, Burkitt's Lymphoma.

Despite this diagnosis, Anthony and his family remain positive. Anthony Conti, Sr. describes it as a "well-known, treatable but life threatening disease." Anthony is currently following a path of treatment through UPMC Children's Hospital. Over the course of the next 4 months, he will receive a series of what dad described as chemotherapy "cocktails." Afterwards young Anthony will be subject to more scans to gage the success of the treatment. His current course of action also is pro-active to guard against the disease spreading. Therefore, Conti is being treated in his brain stem and spinal fluid.

Anthony's father wants parents to know that initially the disease looked like an infection. His son was suffering

from abdominal pain and fatigue. He was following a treatment of antibiotics. The discovery of a lump changed everything.

Mr. Conti describes the support he has received from family, friends, co-workers, former co-workers, his church family, and the Laurel community as "overwhelming" and "more than we could have asked for."

Mr. Conti also wants the community to know that the timing of the diagnosis is in young Anthony's favor. Nothing in the young man's lifestyle could have identified that this would occur. Mr. Conti states that it was just "cells going rogue." The Conti family also wants the community to know that Children's Hospital is amazing. The health care providers have instilled a confidence in the patient and the family.

Anthony's treatment is aggressive. The treatment is working. The mass is visibly down. Our continued support remains with Anthony and his family.

Submitted By: Mr. Leonard Rich

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE REMAINS OUR FIRST PRIORITY



The fundamental reason why students go to school is to attain the best possible education a district can provide. We believe that the Laurel School District does an excellent job developing the whole child. Recently, our students had the opportunity to compete against some of the best and brightest students that western Pennsylvania has. Laurel was well represented and we are pleased with our championship results.

Eighteen students competed at the President's level of academic games. This competition was held at Slippery Rock University. The team of Brianna

Reeher, Matt Mincher, Matt Sinibaldi, Scott Hardy, and Tucker Shevitz took first place overall as a team. A special congratulation goes to Matt Mincher who had the highest score out of 150 competitors.

At Laurel our fundamental operating slogan is "Come back with your shield or on it."

This philosophy extends to everything we do in every arena; athletic, academic, artistic. These 18 Spartans are excellent examples of accomplishments. Among these academic champions are athletes, artists, and musicians.

Submitted By: Mr. Leonard Rich

LAUREL FFA FARM TOY SHOW

SATURDAY APRIL 6, 2019 - 9am - 3pm

LOCATION: LAUREL HIGH SCHOOL
2497 Harlansburg Road New Castle, PA 16101

~ KIDS PEDAL TRACTOR PULL (AGES 3-8) @ 12 NOON ~

Admission \$2.00 -- 12 And Under Free • (Proceeds Benefit Laurel FFA)

FFA ADVISOR RANDY: 724.658.9056 EXT 1133

Like us on Facebook: "Laurel FFA Farm Toy Show" & "Laurel Spartan FFA"



FUTURE BUSINESS LEADERS OF AMERICA

Laurel's Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) competed in December at the Regional Leadership Conference against students from area high schools. It was a great day for Laurel! Twenty-three club members took home First Place awards and earned the opportunity to represent Laurel High School at the State Leadership Conference (SLC), which will be held in Hershey, PA on April 7-10. The SLC brings together more than 3,000 high school business students from across the state. FBLA members will compete in a wide variety of events, including Banking & Finance, Entrepreneurship, Marketing, Publication Design and Public Speaking. Good luck FBLA members!

Submitted by Mrs. Skerbetz



Laurel FBLA
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