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**Tuesday 5-12-2020**

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## **Dr. Bertolini's Daily Message**

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To All Members of the Leonia School Community,

Hello again! There have been many rumors and uncertainties about the many possibilities for moving-up and graduation ceremonies. Throughout New Jersey, including the Leonia Schools, preparation was ongoing. The Leonia administration was ready to roll out our plans for a different but, we believe, a very enjoyable send off for our 5th, 8th, and 12th graders. Other districts had already emailed their students and parents with similar plans.

However, on Saturday, the state sent a letter to all schools in New Jersey (the letter is in the 5-11-2020 Daily Update) making it very clear that graduation ceremonies must strictly follow the governor's executive orders. As a result, we were all now required to adjust any ceremony to meet these very strict but appropriate state guidelines.

We continue to develop plans for memorable graduation ceremonies. Our elementary school, ACs, has sent a letter home (please see below) to the parents, asking for their assistance in creating a moving up ceremony for each of the Pre-K, Kindergarten, and 5th grades.

MLS and LHS have developed plans for the 8th and 12th graders. However, we are going to wait a week or two prior to announcing these plans. Since there is uncertainty, we want to make sure we follow the governor's executive order. There still may be a change and, if these changes are less restrictive, we will have a few days to finalize new modified plans. To be honest we cannot switch from a virtual to other types of ceremonies a week before graduation.

So, stay tuned and the final decision for both LMS and LHs should come by the end of next week. If you have any questions, please contact me at [Edward.Bertolini@leoniaschools.org](mailto:Edward.Bertolini@leoniaschools.org).

Stay Safe! Stay Healthy! Stay Home!

Ed Bertolini

# **Board of Education meeting TONIGHT**

## **Tonight's Agenda**

[https://sites.google.com/leoniaschools.org/leoniaboe/boe-meetings-agenda-minutes-videos#h.p\\_eWWVNTxm8YEp](https://sites.google.com/leoniaschools.org/leoniaboe/boe-meetings-agenda-minutes-videos#h.p_eWWVNTxm8YEp)

## **Zoom Meeting Link**

Topic: BOE MEETING 5-12-2020 7:30 pm

Time: May 12, 2020 07:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84537159787?pwd=c0dwczlqb1FEQXh4S29kUmFWYm1JQT09>

Meeting ID: 845 3715 9787

Password: 7XsF6d

## **ZerBU Continues**

Zero Based Building Utilization (ZerBU) continues. Today, I met with the high school administration to discuss a better use of the building. One question that one may ask at the high school: Why are 3 math classrooms in the South Wing, while 5 math classrooms are in the North Wing. The two groups of math classrooms cannot be further apart. This could lead to a lack of communication between two factions of the high school math department. Often, a building map doesn't change when an addition is constructed. Under my watch, this splitting of the math department was put into place after the North Wings was built. As I have said recently, one of my goals is to reconfigure the three buildings to ensure its best use educationally. Moreover, it is my goal to repurpose rooms that are under-utilized.

Change is not easy and this will be difficult but needs to be done.

## ACS Plans for Moving Up Ceremonies for Pre-K, K and Fifth Grade

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Recently school districts in New Jersey received the following information from the NJ Department of Education in reference to virtual ceremonies:

*“We recognize that the sudden disruption to the normal operating procedures could be jarring for school communities at all levels. The resilience and adaptivity required to thrive in the face of unprecedented situations are characteristics embodied by the Class of 2020. Recognizing that high school graduation is certainly a milestone for students and families, the Department has compiled ....suggestions for holding virtual graduation ceremonies and related celebratory activities to honor this year’s graduating class while ensuring the health and safety of the school community during the COVID-19 emergency.”*

We at ACS would like to extend the virtual ceremonies to the elementary school as well by including a virtual ceremony for fifth grade and virtual celebrations for Pre-K and Kindergarten in order to celebrate our students.

This year we will be creating a video for the 5th Grade Moving Up Ceremony. The video will be shown at the time that the fifth grade moving up ceremony would have taken place. The video will be available for all to keep.

- Each classroom teacher will email parents and ask for a picture of their 5th grade child they want to be included in the video. Please prepare a picture of your 5th grade student dressed for the ceremony that you would like in the video. Each child's picture will be shown with their name on the video.
- All pictures should be in by the end of May. Each student will create an audio recording of the 5th grade class song. The recording request and instructions will come from Ms. Jufer and Mr. Babos. The students and parents will be able to upload the picture and audio recording to the 5th Grade Technology Google Classroom, by the end of May.
- Each teacher, Mr. Saco, and I will also record a short speech for the class, as we would have read in real life moving up.
- The pictures, audio recordings, and videos will be made into one moving up movie.

Please choose a picture of your student and upload your picture to the Google Form, <https://forms.gle/sHzCNkgyYiaXLBa47>.

If you have any questions, please email Mrs. Ryu at [Jenny.Ryu@leoniaschools.org](mailto:Jenny.Ryu@leoniaschools.org).

Mr.. Babos and Ms. Jufer have provided instructions for recording and uploading audio clips: <https://classroom.google.com/c/ODMyMTQ1NTYwODBa/a/MTI0MDU3NjA4MDg2/details>

If you have any questions please email Mr. Babos at [connor.babos@leoniaschools.org](mailto:connor.babos@leoniaschools.org) or Ms. Jufer at [rachel.jufer@leoniaschools.org](mailto:rachel.jufer@leoniaschools.org).

We will also have virtual orientation for the fifth graders going to LMS, which is currently being planned collaboratively with the LMS staff.

The P.E. department will host a virtual field day from their Google classrooms-- details to follow.

We will have a virtual clap out in which the names of the fifth graders are called out. We will create a video showing the hallways which students walk during the clap out, with clapping and the names of students recorded in the background.

Kindergarten from Ms. Jufer:

This year we will be creating a video for the Kindergarten Moving Up Ceremony. We will be compiling videos of students singing the song "Hello to All the Children of the World". This is a song that all Kindergarten students have worked on in their music classes. If you wish to participate in this event please send a video of your child singing the song to Ms. Jufer through email or via google drive. There are specific instructions located in the shared google drive folder.

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1RNdPLCMV3 IMuBBHWidml398J28eyNUR?usp=sharing>

Thank you for your participation in this exciting project. I look forward to seeing the videos!

Please email Ms. Jufer with questions about the song at [rachel.jufer@leoniaschools.org](mailto:rachel.jufer@leoniaschools.org)

Pre-Kindergarten from Ms. Jufer:

This year we will be creating a video for the Pre-K Moving Up Ceremony. We will be compiling videos of students singing the song "We Are Family" by Jack Hartmann. This is a song that all pre-k students have worked on in their music classes. If you wish to participate in this event

please send a video of your child singing the song to Ms. Jufer through email or via google drive. There are specific instructions located in the shared google drive folder.

Thank you for your help, and I look forward to seeing your videos!

<https://drive.google.com/drive/u/1/folders/1TZxqMaePVbHhXhAWJNjkoYasJDHhb4ii>

Please email Ms. Jufer with questions about the song [rachel.jufer@leoniaschools.org](mailto:rachel.jufer@leoniaschools.org)

Thank you for supporting the students and each other during this challenging time. We will work together to keep each other safe and to honor our students as well.

Please email me with any general questions at [maria.martinez@leoniaschools.org](mailto:maria.martinez@leoniaschools.org) and please email the teachers with specific questions about your particular child.

Thank you,  
Maria Barcelo-Martinez

## **Leonia High School College Decision Flag Ceremony**



**Esther Gim**

Congratulation to **Esther Gim** on her commitment to the  
**Boston College**

**Adult Volunteers Needed to Ensure Census Count is Accurate and Complete**

The Borough of Leonia and the Leonia Board of Education are asking residents to volunteer their time to assist their fellow Leonians with completing the 2020 Census. Volunteers must be at least 18 years of age, and we are particularly in need of people who speak languages other than English. Help make sure that all Leonians are counted! [Leonia Census 2020 Volunteer Signup](#)

## **Complete Your Census Form**



## **Parent Note**

A note of thanks to our entire maintenance staff and supervisor, Kevin Woods:

Good Afternoon,

As parents of a LMS student and a LHS student we wanted to thank you for all the work going on during these challenging times. It's great to see so many improvements being done during the students time away from school.

Stay Healthy

Thank you

LMS & LHS parents

## **ACS Update - Dr. Martinez**

## **Second Graders wrote Rainbow poems.**

Here is one magnificent example by **Ricardo Urrutia**:

I draw a beautiful day on paper  
I use the color yellow to make a sun  
I use the color green to make the grass  
I use the color blue to make the ocean with  
Wind sounds like someone is grieving  
I use the color brown to color my mother and my sister and me`  
And my dad  
We are all paying with an orange frezeby  
Surrounded by the yellow light of happiness

## **P.E.**

Here is an example of a Home Assignment from the P.E. teachers. Try pushups today with your arms as wide as you can? See how many you can do without stopping! Good Luck!

Link to Video:

<https://youtu.be/tOUtbWSAycg>

How many Wide Push-Ups Can You do?

## **Special Services Update - Mr. Servis**

### **\*\*\*TIME CHANGE FOR THURSDAY'S MEETING\*\*\***

Due to a conflict, I have to move this meeting to 3:00pm on 5/14/20. The purpose of this meeting will be to connect and collaborate with me, as well as other parents whose children are struggling mentally with social isolation, to discuss how to deal with the fear and stress of the global pandemic. This meeting is open to all parents, not just those whose children have IEPs.

Topic: Mental Health in time of Distance Learning

Time: May 14, 2020 03:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/74850647502?pwd=aEkxeHNsVDVvY1ZrdXg2Wkx0eTVCUT09>

Meeting ID: 748 5064 7502

Password: 1bEZyt

## LMS Update - Mr. Saco

★ HAPPY ★  
BIRTHDAY!

- ★ Alana Herrrera- Happy 12th Birthday!
- ★ Andrea C. Kim- Happy 12th Birthday!

### Today's LMS Affirmations:

- ❖ I HAVE PEOPLE WHO LOVE AND RESPECT ME.
  - ❖ I STAND UP FOR WHAT I BELIEVE IN.
  - ❖ I BELIEVE IN MY GOALS AND DREAMS.

**Quote of the Day:** *"You may not always have a comfortable life and you will not always be able to solve all of the world's problems at once but don't ever underestimate the importance you can have because history has shown us that courage can be contagious and hope can take on a life of its own." - Michelle Obama*

## LHS Update - Mr. Kalender

### Wellness Wednesday

Wellness Wednesday with Student Services continues tomorrow, May 13th, at noon with Mindful Movement with Ms. Wong. Participants only need some space to move, a yoga mat or towel and Water. Students, parents, and faculty are encouraged to attend. If you are interested click the link below:

<https://zoom.us/j/99240421052?pwd=enVDWkdBcFMyTUpZOhtQ1F2TUZuUT09>

**Meeting ID:** 992-4042-1052

**Password:** LHSLions

### **College Questions?**

A drop-in style meeting with counselors to answer questions regarding the college planning process. Students and Parents are welcome to drop in to ask questions and get information from the counselors and admission representatives.

May 14<sup>th</sup> at 12:00pm – Montclair State University Admissions Representative

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82834143485?pwd=aGYvT044UllFOU1XK0hIVUZFUE16UT09>

ZOOM MEETING ID: 828-3414-3485

ZOOM PASSWORD: 120060

### **\*\*\*\*\*Previous information**

from earlier updates can be found on the district's website front page. Click on COVID-19 and then choose a date to see that day's daily update.