

The Lyncourt Ledger

Winter 2023

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Issue 2

<http://www.lyncourtschool.org>

Superintendent—James J. Austin

Phone Number (315)455-7571

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LYNCOURT

UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Principal's Message....

On November 16, 2023 the Lyncourt School Community came together to host our first Multicultural Fair celebrating the diversity and uniqueness of the Lyncourt School Community. There were performances by our very own Lyncourt families and even high school students came back to participate. The Lyncourt Middle School Chorus performed as well. We even had a hip hop dance group as part of the festivities. There was a wonderful variety of foods from all over the world. We also had displays of countries represented here at Lyncourt and many activities including making prayer flags, coloring mandalas, and creating henna art. It was a truly special evening and we can't wait to start planning for next year! Enjoy the pictures.

ORDER YOUR YEARBOOK TODAY!



Scan the QR Code above to order your yearbook! There's nothing else like your school yearbook. Get your hands on the limited edition collection of our stories from the year. Share it with your friends today and hang on to it for years to come!

Our Mission

"The Lyncourt Union Free School District, in partnership with the community, is committed to educating all learners to reach their full potential."

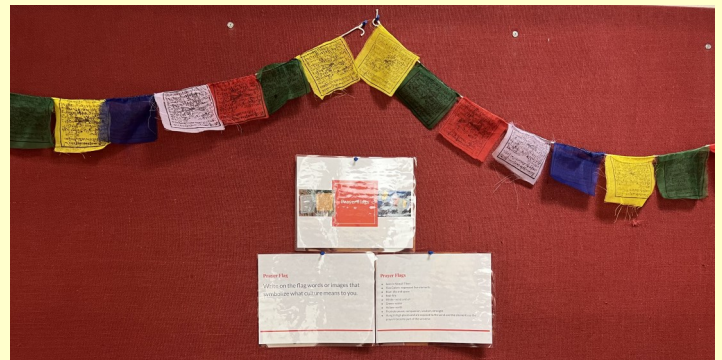


Thanks FOR YOUR SUPPORT



Great Expectations for Achievement, Respect, and Caring

Multicultural Fair 2023



Principal's Message....

Academic Recognition Breakfast

The 1st Marking Period Academic Recognition Breakfast was held on Wednesday, November 29th, 2023, to recognize students and their families. The students' dedication to academic excellence has truly been one of the key highlights of this scholastic year. We at Lyncourt School, are extremely proud of their success as they continue to meet and exceed our "Great Expectations for Achievement, Respect, and Caring." Congratulations to everyone and keep up the good work!



Handicap Parking

Please do not park in spots that are reserved for people with a disability. We have students that require handicap parking, so please leave those spots open for the people who need them.



Lyncourt Tiger Den

Parents and Guardians:

Did you know we have a closet filled with gently used clothing? It's called our Lyncourt Tiger Den. We have clothes, shoes, boots and winter coats that we would love to give away. If your child or children could use some of our clothing donations, please contact Amy MacCaull at amaccaull@lyncourtschool.org or Randi Sherman at rsherman@lyncourtschool.org or by phone at (315) 455-7571. Please let us know what items and sizes that you are interested in and we will check our inventory. **All requests are kept confidential.**



PLEASE remind your student to check our LOST & FOUND items. We have coats, hats, gloves etc. We donate the items if they do not get picked up, so **PLEASE** have them check out the cabinets in the large gym lobby.

High School Choice News

High School Choices:

After graduating from the Lyncourt Union Free School District, current 8th-grade students can choose to attend one of the two districts listed below:

[East Syracuse-Minoa Central High School](#)



[Solway High School](#)

Please contact [School Counselor Amy MacCaul](#) at (315)455-7571 whenever you have a question about which high school might be the best fit for your child. We have included some helpful information below about high school choices however speaking with Mrs. MacCaul is the best way to get answers to any questions you may have.

Transition Timeline

The 8th graders will visit and tour ESM HS on Thursday, January 18th, and tour SHS on Wednesday January 24th.

Both ESM and Solway offer these programs:

OCC Advantage:

The OCC Advantage program is a college and career-readiness program offered to entering freshmen. The program supports the development of skills, behaviors and habits that prepare a student for success in high school, college and career. Students who successfully complete the OCC Advantage program while in high school will be eligible to receive a first semester full-tuition scholarship with the opportunity to earn three subsequent semesters at Onondaga Community College.

Spartan Academy (ESM) or Solway Success Academy (SHS):

Students can earn 24-60 College credits during their 4 years of High School. If a student fulfills the 60 college credits that would equal a 2-Year College Associate Degree. The degree would be in Math/Science from Onondaga Community College.

How to know what's happening at Lyncourt UFSD

District Website

The Lyncourt UFSD website is updated routinely. There is information about school activities, health office updates, daily announcements, calendars, registration, counseling, yearbook and many other topics. www.lyncourtschool.org

Parent Square

The Parent Square system is what we use to send messages via telephone, text and email to notify staff/parents of emergency events, upcoming school events closings and delays. This is only available if you have signed up to receive the notifications. If you need your contact information updated please call the main office.

Social Media

If you are looking for up-to-date district news, view photos, and get additional information on events happening in the school follow us on Facebook and Twitter. Facebook: @LyncourtSchools Twitter: @Lyncourt_UFSD

SchoolTool

The parent portal is a password protected secure website that offers parents and students online access to information about a student's academic program and progress. SchoolTool is also where we pull the SchoolMessenger information from, so it is important to review your contact information and ensure it is correct. Need help with logging in to SchoolTool? Call the main office at 315-455-7571.

Urgent Matters

Lyncourt Main Office 315-455-7571

Lyncourt District Office 315-455-7571 ext. 7

Lyncourt School Psychologist Ms. Schroeter email: kschroeter@lyncourtschool.org

Lyncourt Social Worker Ms. Sherman email: rsherman@lyncourtschool.org

Lyncourt School Counselor Ms. MacCaul email : ammaccaull@lyncourtschool.org

PARENT NOTIFICATION

During the school year, your son or daughter may have the opportunity to have his/her photo taken, video image and voice recorded, and/or art and written work published in connection with a school district activity or program. Your child's photo (image) and school work may be published in local newspapers, posted (displayed) on the District's Internet Site, or used by the requesting organization (local TV or print media) for programming.

If you **DO NOT** want your child's picture or schoolwork to be used in newspaper articles, video, and/or District publications, including our District's website and District social media sites, please inform the school principal, Mrs. Davis, in writing or email Beth Cusick at: bcusick@lyncourtschool.org.





I wanted to take the time to introduce myself to the Lyncourt Community. My name is Officer K. and I am the new SRO here at Lyncourt School. I am currently a member of the Marcellus Police Dept. I spent over two decades as a Trooper with the New York State Police. The latter half of my career I had the honor of being a K-9 handler. My K-9 partner is named Ray. He is now retired and enjoying the good life. Ray was an explosives detection K-9 in addition to other road patrol duties. I grew up here in Syracuse and spent much of my law enforcement career working in the suburbs of Onondaga Co. It has been a pleasure meeting many of you and I look forward to a safe and successful 2023/24 school year.

Safety Reminders from SRO Kissock

A few reminders from your SRO to keep our students, parents and staff safe while on campus during the school year:

Campus Safety:

- During school hours there is one point of entry. Please use the main entrance of the school. This entry will bring you to the Lyncourt main office.
- All persons MUST check in at the main office using an identification card (Driver's License , State ID, etc). All persons are subject to a background check in our RAPTOR system prior to entry.
- Remember that during school hours the campus is closed. No unauthorized persons are allowed on school property ie: walking through parking lots, using the playground, cutting through school grounds to gain access to an off campus location.
- When the school day is completed use of the playground in the back of the campus is allowed until 3:15 pm. A parent or guardian is required to be present for all minors using the playground.

Drop Off/ Pick Up:

- The drop off/ pick up location is in the back parking lot of the campus. Remember that the parking lot is one-way and to form one line. Please be considerate and patient of others as you use the drop off/pick up line.
- **Do not walk away from your vehicle and leave it unattended, running or not.**
- Say your goodbyes at or in the vehicle.
- During pickup, wait with your vehicle
- If you were issued a student number for your elementary student please display it either in your vehicle's windshield or passenger side front window.
- **Any yellow hash marks on the pavement in the rear parking lot is a NO PARKING Section.** If you need to leave your vehicle for any reason please use a designated parking spot.
- Keep your speed to a minimum and be aware of staff and students who may be walking in the parking lot.

Drivers:

- Always stop for pedestrians in the crosswalks and when navigating parking lots.
- When the school buses are picking up or dropping off students, do not access the China drive north parking lot. Also remember that the China drive parking lot is a one-way coming from Court St.
- Use extra caution while in all campus parking lots and the school zone on Court St.
- Look out for our crossing guard, safety patrols and Police (SRO). In the complete interest of public/student/ staff safety, please follow any directions given by them.
- Remember the school zone on Court St, is 20 MPH. It is in effect Monday-Friday, 7AM-6PM.

Walkers:

- Always use the designated crosswalks and have the crossing guard aid you with the main crosswalk in front of the school.
- Never step off the curb without looking in both directions, even if there is someone helping you.
- Never run while crossing the road and be aware of any traffic around you.

Bicyclist:

- Remember to follow the rules of the road and wear proper headgear and visible clothing.
- Be aware of walkers and citizens who may be along your path.
- Be careful when riding and operate in a safe manner for you and others.
- Secure your bicycle in a bike rack and lock it up.
- Do not leave a bicycle in front of any school door.

Bus riders:

- Remain seated until the bus comes to a complete stop.
- Keep your volume down and hands to yourself while on the bus.
- Follow all instructions from the bus driver.
- Once off the bus, whether at home or at school, move away from the bus quickly, but without running.



LYNCOURT

UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Blueprint for

Excellence

STRATEGIC PLAN

Dear Lyncourt School Community,

As 2023 comes to a close and we prepare to enter a New Year, I am excited to share with you an important opportunity to shape the future of our educational community. We're very excited to be looking toward the future by building on our tradition of excellence. We're in the midst of beginning a strategic planning process that takes into account what is working, what we'd like to improve on and how everyone in our school community feels about the work. We need your input so that we can make the best plans for our district's future. Your insights and perspectives are invaluable to us, and we would like to invite you to participate in a ThoughtExchange to gather your feedback and thoughts.

What is a ThoughtExchange?

A ThoughtExchange is a collaborative and inclusive platform where you can share your ideas, concerns, and priorities related to our school's strategic planning. It allows us to engage in a meaningful conversation and ensures that your voice is heard and considered in shaping our school's future direction.

Why Your Participation Matters:

Our school's strategic plan is a roadmap for the future, guiding our decisions and actions over the coming years. We believe that the input and insights of our school community members are crucial in identifying key priorities, goals, and initiatives that align with our shared vision for education excellence.

How to Participate:

Access the ThoughtExchange Platform:

To access the ThoughtExchange platform visit the Lyncourt School webpage at www.lyncourtschool.org

Share Your Thoughts: Join the conversation by sharing your thoughts and ideas on the topics related to our strategic planning process.

Rank and Discover: Review and rate the thoughts of other participants to help us identify the most important and impactful ideas.

You can add thoughts, see what other community members are thinking and rate each other's feedback. All of this is done anonymously, and we encourage you to check back often to keep the conversation going.

Timeline:

The ThoughtExchange will be open from December 15 to January 30, 2024, giving you ample time to contribute your valuable input. We encourage you to participate at your convenience during this period.

We genuinely appreciate your engagement and commitment to our school community. Your participation in this ThoughtExchange will play a pivotal role in shaping the future of our school and ensuring that our strategic plan reflects the aspirations and priorities of our diverse community.

Thank you in advance for your time and thoughtful contributions. Together, we will continue to create a vibrant and inclusive learning environment that empowers Lyncourt students to thrive.

We look forward to hearing your ideas and insights and working together to chart a course for an exciting and successful future for our school.

With Warm regards,

James J. Austin

James J. Austin

Superintendent of Schools

Flu Information for Parents

What is flu?

Flu is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses that infect the nose, throat, and lungs. Flu viruses cause illness, hospital stays, and deaths in the United States each year.

How serious is flu?

Flu illness can vary from mild to severe. While flu can be serious even in kids who are healthy, it can be especially dangerous for young children and children of any age who have certain chronic health conditions. Children younger than 5 years old—especially those younger than 2—are at higher risk of developing serious flu-related complications. Children of any age with certain chronic health conditions like asthma and diabetes are also at higher risk.

What are the signs and symptoms of flu?

Symptoms of flu can include:

- Fever* or feeling feverish/chills
- Cough
- Sore throat
- Runny or stuffy nose
- Muscle or body aches
- Headaches
- Fatigue (tiredness)

Some people may have vomiting and diarrhea, though this is more common in children than adults.

* It's important to note that not everyone with flu will have a fever.

Protect your child

The first and best way to protect against flu is to get a yearly flu vaccine for yourself and your child.

Ask your health care provider which flu vaccine is right for your child.

Everyone 6 months of age and older should get a flu vaccine by the end of October, if possible.

Children 6 months through 8 years of age may need 2 doses of vaccine.

Parents, siblings, and people who care for infants should be vaccinated in order to help protect younger children that cannot be vaccinated.

In addition to getting a flu vaccine, you and your child should take everyday actions to help prevent the spread of germs. ■ Stay away from people who are sick, cover your coughs and sneezes, wash your hands often with soap and water, do not touch your eyes, nose, or mouth.

If your child is sick

What can I do if my child gets sick?

Talk to your doctor right away if you are worried about your child's illness.

- Make sure your child gets plenty of rest and drinks enough fluids. If your child is at higher risk for flu complications, call your doctor or take them to the doctor right away if they develop flu symptoms.
- If your child becomes sick with flu illness, CDC recommends that they stay home for at least 24 hours after their fever is gone and their symptoms have improved or resolved. (The fever should be gone without the use of a fever-reducing medicine.) A fever is defined as 100°F (37.8°C)* or higher.

*Many authorities use either 100 (37.8 degrees Celsius) or 100.4 F (38.0 degrees Celsius) as a cut-off for fever, but this number can vary depending on factors such as the method of measurement and the age of the person.

Is there medicine to treat flu?

Yes. Antiviral drugs are prescription medicines that can be used to treat flu illness. They can shorten your illness and make it milder, and they can prevent serious complications that could result in a hospital stay. Antiviral treatment of the flu works best when given as soon as possible, ideally 1-2 days after flu symptoms develop. Antiviral drugs are recommended to treat flu in people who are very sick (for example, people who are in the hospital) or people who are at higher risk of serious flu complications who get flu symptoms. Antivirals can be given to most children and pregnant people.

#FIGHT FLU



U.S. Department of
Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention

School Closings

It is very important that we continue communicating with our community members in a fast and efficient manner. Whenever weather conditions in the Lyncourt Union Free School District require closing school, for all or part of the regularly scheduled school day, major commercial radio stations will be notified as soon as possible, as well as T.V. channels 3(NBC)/5 (CBS) CNY Central, 9 (ABC), and 10 (Time Warner YNN News Channel 10) and our Parent Square system. Please listen carefully to the phone messages and read text messages from the school, as they contain very valuable information. There may be an occasion where we delay the start of a school day or a very rare occasion of a weather related early dismissal. Please be certain that you have reviewed with your child(ren) the plans made with them for either of these circumstances.

During inclement weather, district officials closely monitor weather forecasts using a variety of weather services. The decision to close or delay school varies, with many factors being considered, including weather conditions and the ability to operate the building with full utilities. The decision to close or delay can usually be made by 6:00 a.m. It is possible that a delay will become a **closing if the conditions fail to improve or worsen. The safety of our students is top priority in making these decisions.**

The

Lyncourt Ledger

**Lyncourt Union Free
School District
2707 Court Street
Syracuse, NY 13208**

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The Lyncourt Union Free School District Board of Education, in partnership with the community, is committed to educating all students to reach their full potential as inspiring, confident, passionate, life-long learners. Please let our Board members know how much you appreciate their efforts in this most important mission.

**Our board meets the second Tuesday of every month.
Meetings start at 6:00 PM and are located in the District Conference Room.
Audit Committee Meetings start at 5:45 PM.**

January 9, 2024

February 13, 2024

March 12, 2024 (Audit Committee)

April 9, 2024

April 15, 2024 at 8am -- Special Meeting--Annual BOCES Admin Budget Vote/Election

May 14, 2024

June 11, 2024 (Audit Committee)

July 9, 2024

Budget Vote and Election May 21, 2024, 7 am- 8 pm

The 2021-22 enacted New York State budget includes language requiring local education agencies, such as school districts, that receive funding from the Federal Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund allocated by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP-ESSER), to post on their website a plan by school year of how these funds will be spent. The Lyncourt Union Free School District has posted our [approved plan](#) on the Superintendent's Office page of our website. Any community member who does not have internet access can request a hard copy of the plan by contacting the Lyncourt School Main Office at (315) 455-7571.