

Superintendent's Report

April 2025

 HELLO 
Spring 



Student Enrollment

March

SCHOOL	ENROLLMENT	ATTENDANCE
Mill Pond Elementary School	611	92%
Cedar Creek Elementary School	433	93%
Forked River Elementary School	477	89%
Lanoka Harbor Elementary School	470	93%
Lacey Township Middle School	823	93%
Lacey Township High School	1111	93%
Special Education (Out-of-District)	32	
*OCVTS – M.A.T.E.S.	27	
*OCVTS – Performing Arts Academy	25	
*OCVTS – Academy Law & Public Safety	9	
TOTAL	4,018	

*Tuition paid by LTBOE



April 2025

Seniors of the Month

SOFIA A. MUSMANNI

DYLAN R. ZECH

Unsung Hero

OLIVIA MILLER



Mill Pond News

We LOVE Movement

Our PTA organized a wonderful assembly for our Preschool and Kindergarten students! Research tells us that movement is very important to learning especially with our youngest learners. The Drum 2B Fit assembly had everyone moving, dancing, and enjoying the music. The presenters taught the student's different movements with rhythm sticks that helped them keep the beat to the music. We had fun while learning!



Starting the Morning off in a Positive Way

Our preschool and kindergarten students continue to hurry to the main office each morning to fulfill their role as our morning speakers. Our students take pride in knowing that they have a responsibility each morning to start our day with The Pledge.



Mrs. LaVelle's Preschool Class



One Big Community

We were so very lucky to have the talented student's from Lanoka Harbor School and Cedar Creek come to visit Mill Pond. They shared their wonderful musical talents as they performed for the students.

We are working hard on our audience expectations. Thank you so much for sharing with us!



Celebrating our Teacher of the Year / Service Provider Professional of the Year

Mrs. Ashley Smida has touched the lives of so many of our students by assisting them to find their voice! Communication is a part of everyone's daily lives but for some of our students, expressing themselves can be difficult. We are very lucky to have Mrs. Smida at Mill Pond. We took the time to celebrate and hold a parade to show how much we appreciate all her hard work!



Cedar Creek News

March Students of the Month

Daleah Barsch	Patrick Fiordimondo	Everly Gonzalez	Ava Papalia
Gabriela Brooks	Mark Furka	Olivia Leppard	Joshua Pine
Danny Carey	Eli Gannon	Gianna Marsicano	Alexei Romantzas
Arianna Cole	Leo Giummarra	Ella Monahan	Bria Simms
Lia D'Avino	Stella Giummarra	Ernie Ottoson	Mady Todd
Alana DeAquino			



Mr. Carter's Class- Presentations on Natural Disasters

Mr. Carter's class presented on Natural Disasters. Students gave weather reports and "on-scene" reporting to showcase their knowledge of weather events that have impacted various locations.





Special Olympics at CCS!

Cedar Creek hosted students from Lanoka Harbor School and Mill Pond School for activities and events during the Special Olympics. Students in fifth grade helped support our students as they engaged in games and events set up in our Multipurpose Room.



The StarLab Mobile Planetarium Visits CCS

The CCS PTA sponsored the StarLab Planetarium to visit CCS. Our students enjoyed an amazing display of space and learning about the planets!





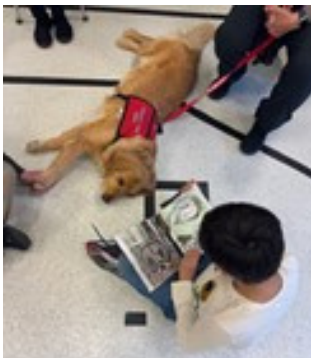
CCS Chorus Presents: The Beatles

The students in chorus performed a variety of Beatles songs. The performance was engaging and the students sounded great!



CCS PTA Literacy Night

Our PTA hosted a Literacy Night event at Cedar Creek! We had so much fun learning from a young author, James Papalia, reading books to therapy dogs, and enjoying reading activities with students and their families!



Forked River News



Special Area Students of the Month

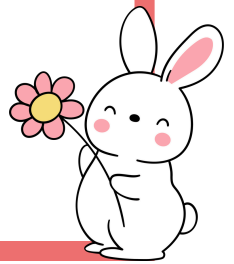
Art - **Julianna Reese**
Jonas Hoyt

PE - **Maggie Slevin**
Alexander Salvatore-Nackos

Music - **Harper Lardieri**
Alexander Romanow

Library - **Jemma Corselli**
Nicholas Townsend

World Language -
Avery Feeney
Chase Booth



Drama Club

On March 27th the Forked River School's Drama Club students debuted this year's school play titled, "Aladdin!" We are very proud of the three great shows they put on for our students and their families! Thank you to our Drama Club directors, Mrs. Bivona and Mrs. Webb, for all of your creativity and efforts to ensure a great production!



Recital

We would like to congratulate our third-grade students on a very well performed recorder recital on April 10th. Our performers performed two recitals for our students and staff under the direction of Ms. Faille, our music teacher. These performances are a culmination to their year-long study of learning to play their first musical instrument during their weekly general music class.





Forked River School Superstar Citizens of the Month



Teacher	Student	Teacher	Student
Mrs. Bergman	Adeline Strawder	Mrs. Latwis	Emma Mantilla
Mrs. Camaligan	Evelyn Christie	Mrs. Lavorgna	Brooklyn Madden
Mrs. Coller	Jonathan Gonzalez	Mrs. Mooney	Bella Riggio Sophia Riggio
Mrs. Crepezzi	David Wisniewski	Mrs. Mulligan	Amelia Rao
Mrs. DeNigris	Ryleigh Kearney	Mrs. Nachman	Dominic Crowe
Mrs. Doherty	Casey Jacobson	Mrs. Opacity	Luna Rosa
Mrs. Flynn	Aaron Optiz	Mrs. Schubiger	Zoe Adams
Mrs. Halliday	Michael Hosely	Mrs. Weaver	Jaxon Velez



Safety Patrol Students of the Month

Sadie Luepke	Mason McDonald
Joshua Midili	Alexandra Pasaniello
Skylar Plosky	Amalia Reynolds
Marquis McAllister	Wes Pearce
Sophia Riggio	Bella Riggio
Julianna Peters	Colton Petti

March Morning Announcers

Julianna Reese
Ella Ziobro





The Forked River School students and staff recognized World Down Syndrome Day by rocking their most colorful pair of socks on Friday, March 21st!



Environmental Club

Ms. Hall and Mrs. Blain-Snow, both from the Ocean County Solid Waste Management Department, visited with Mrs. Weaver's Environmental Club students to teach them about the importance and the process of recycling here in Ocean County. Our students enjoyed their presentation and are eager to turn-key what they learned to help our students and staff properly recycle for the benefit of our environment. The Environmental Club students will be hosting a "Bring your own reusable utensil to school day" to raise awareness of the negative impact plastic utensils have on our environment.

Family Math Night

On Thursday, March 13th, the Forked River School staff volunteered their time to host a Family Math Night here at the Forked River School. Students and their families had a chance to visit and engage in fun, math-themed activities as part of our celebration. We would like to thank the LTEA for sponsoring this event!

The Forked River School PTA arranged for a very special guest to visit ahead of the Spring Holiday break. It was great to see our students excited to greet our special guest! Thank you to the FRS PTA for your ongoing support.



Beginner Band Concert

Our beginner band performed a great concert on Tuesday, April 15th at the Lacey Township High School for their families and friends! They did a great job learning to play the musical instruments of their choice this year under the direction of our elementary band directors, Mrs. Meelheim and Mrs. Gauthier!

Community Service

The Forked River School Denim Day Committee continues to collect for the various scholarships that will be awarded to our upcoming members of the Lacey Township High School graduating class of 2025. In addition, our staff recently collected and donated money and gift cards for one of our student's families who is in need due to a family member experiencing serious health issues.

Lanoka Harbor News

Students of the Month

The following students have been selected as Lanoka Harbor's Students of the Month for March 2025. These students were chosen for their outstanding work, dedication, and achievement.



LILLY BORGESON
ISABEL CARLSON
JOSIE MUERMANN



READ ACROSS AMERICA 2025

Lanoka Harbor School celebrated National Read Across America Day on March 3rd. This day was initially established by the National Education Association in 1998 to inspire children to get excited about reading. It falls on the birthday of Dr. Seuss, the beloved children's author. On National Read Across America Day, students, teachers, and parents across the nation come together to read books and celebrate the joy of reading. At Lanoka Harbor School, many classes enjoyed special guest readers who took the time to read a book to the students. Members of the Lacey Woman's Club also participated as guest readers and sponsored a poster contest for our 3rd-grade students. The winners were as follows:

1st place - **Gabriella Bednarz**
2nd place - **Grayson Rieder**
3rd place - **Issabella Vanim**

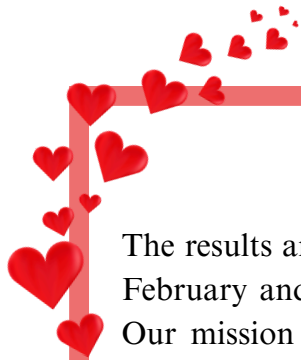


Thanks to the participation of many guest readers, the day was enjoyed by all!

CHORUS

On March 18th and 19th, the 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students of the Lanoka Harbor School Chorus took the stage to perform " Pirates! 2 - The Hidden Treasure. " Under the direction of Mrs. Ferruzza and Mrs. Cottrell, the children taught the audience that our most valuable treasure is our friends. On March 20th, they took their show on the road and performed for the residents of The Pines in Whiting. Great job, Chorus!





KIDS HEART CHALLENGE UPDATE

The results are in! Thank you for your continued support of our Kids Heart Challenge during February and March! We have wrapped everything up with an amazing total of \$16,893.76! Our mission has helped spread awareness and save lives. We are also happy to report that Lanoka Harbor School has reached the principal's challenge goal and has earned \$500 toward PE equipment. Additionally, we will receive \$300 in US Games gift certificates to purchase extra PE equipment. The final challenge results are as follows:

Classroom winners for receiving the most registered students:

1st grade - Mrs. Ientile / 2nd grade - Mrs. Meyler / 3rd grade - Mrs. Orlick /
4th grade - Mrs. Gorman / 5th grade - Mrs. Keelen

Each teacher listed above earned a \$25 Amazon gift card, and each student will receive a throwback keychain!

Our top fundraiser is Sophie Case from Mrs. Ientile's class. We congratulate Sophie for raising \$692.26! She has earned the honor of being PE teacher for the day. We will celebrate with 20 randomly selected students who were registered or raised over \$200 at a pizza party with the principal.

We thank our school community for committing to their heart health and supporting our Kids Heart Challenge program. We are always amazed by the generosity of our Lanoka Harbor family!

PROUD PAWS

The Lanoka Harbor School's Proud Paws Club recently held the Lucky Pets Photo Contest to celebrate household pets and share their love of animals with the Popcorn Park Zoo. Students and staff members who donated \$5 were entered into a drawing to win a hand-painted portrait of their pet. Along with their entry, participants submitted adorable pictures of their pets to be displayed for all to see. The winner chosen at random was:

Westin Riker and his pet hen, Sunny!

We are excited to report that \$500 will be donated to the Zoo thanks to the generous support of our Lanoka Harbor School community!





MUSIC IN OUR SCHOOLS

In March, Music in Our Schools Month was celebrated at Lanoka Harbor School! The students were chosen for their dedication and exemplary behavior in music. The results of the month-long celebration are listed below. Congratulations to all our winners!

MUSIC STUDENTS OF THE DAY

DATE	MUSIC STUDENTS OF THE DAY	RECORDER STUDENT OF THE DAY	BAND STUDENT OF THE DAY	CHORUS STUDENT OF THE DAY
3/3	Riley McChesney	Marina Scott	Andrew Arruda	Marley Watson
3/4	Norah MacLachlan Amy Pine	Jameson Baillie		Neve Lowman
3/5	Summer Brenner	Ciara Barker	Janie Atkins	Logan Streno
3/6	Kennedy Randolph Octavia Rivera	Logan Henderson		Leah Hans
3/7	Daniel Moore Kinsley Shelby	Grayson Rieder	Roman Tretola	
3/10	Gavin Schroeder	Emma Keelen	Emily Gallagher	Abigail Frees
3/11	Juliette Gorda Judah Heilala	Emma Hans		Christian Alston
3/12	Madelyn Hamman	Ella Andrews	Amy Pine	Coirah McAndrew
3/13	Jayson Brewer Alexis Olenczuk	Issabella Vanim		Kiersten Mandato
3/14	Landon Sutter	Maisley Rivas	Mateus White	Wesley Edgecomb
3/17	Zaiver Berroa	Camryn Mitschke		Ryann Riker
3/18				Ryan Sager Reid Kologe Samantha Dotterweich Erin Kinsella
3/19	Tyler Hedberg Callie Ricciardella	Jonathan Mills		Elizabeth Cooney
3/20	Body Balmer Lucas Maertens Hazelet	Quinn Riker		Landon Sutter
3/21	Paetyn Anderson	Isabella Aguilar	Connor Murphy	Sarah Buchner
3/24	Reylin Manchester	Rosalia Larkin	Myles Guerrero	Liam Shaw
3/25	Reylin Manchester Anthony Scalzo	Sophia Przybos		Mateo Reyes
3/26	Chella Plinio Lily Wise	Morgan Prescott	Brody Cohen	Aria Gallo
3/27	Josie Muermann Jayce Dalziel	Finn Kiely		Ava Nasatka
3/28	Leah Solomon	Cooper Reiff	Alexander Porubsky	Alexandra Powlison
3/31		Kyren Dooley Raegan Betterley Christina Juarez Annalise Dimone		

MUSIC CLASSES OF THE WEEK

WEEK 1	1st Grade - Mrs. Verge 2nd Grade - Mrs. Meyler 3rd Grade - Mrs. Orlick 4th Grade - Mrs. Maria 5th Grade - Mrs. Keelen / Mrs. Seaman
Week 2	1st Grade - Mrs. Ientile 2nd Grade - Mrs. Hans 3rd Grade - Mrs. Bentley 4th Grade - Mrs. Gorman 5th Grade - Mrs. Seaman
Week 3	1st Grade - Mrs. Ientile 2nd Grade - Mrs. Ritacco 3rd Grade - Mrs. Bentley / Mrs. Orlick 4th Grade - Mrs. Gorman / Mrs. Subokow 5th Grade - Mrs. Seaman
Week 4	1st Grade - Mrs. Ientile 2nd Grade - Mrs. Hans 3rd Grade - Mrs. Bentley/Mrs. Cook 4th Grade - Mrs. Gorman 5th Grade - Mrs. Seaman



Middle School News

Pi Bee

Congratulations to all the students who participated in this year's Student Council Pi Bee!
The winning students were:



Julia Sidorick
Mason Slaughter
Ethan Sossa
Kylee Kopsic
Victoria Brannick
Luke Audet

Our grand prize winners were **Julia Sidorick & Victoria Brannick** who joined the 200 Club and each recited 200 digits of Pi!



APRIL

8th Grade Student of the Month **VICTORIA BRANNICK**

Victoria is a shining star who truly stands out as an exceptional student! She carries three honors classes and full-year band all with strong grades. She is always ready to lend a helping hand and showcase her leadership skills in a multitude of activities. Whether she's on the field playing field hockey, hitting all the right notes in the marching band and concert band, captivating audiences in drama, or managing the track and field team, Victoria brings her unwavering commitment and dedication to everything she does! Outside of school, Victoria is deeply involved in the Special Olympics Unified Champions and volunteers as a buddy for adaptive physical education, demonstrating her compassionate spirit and her strong desire to make a positive impact on everyone around her. Congratulations to Victoria and her family.

APRIL

8th Grade Student of the Month **ETHAN SULKOWSKI**

Ethan is a fantastic individual who radiates kindness and respect to everyone around him. His positive attitude shines on and off the basketball court, where he consistently demonstrates sportsmanship and team spirit. What's even more impressive is Ethan's unwavering dedication to his studies! He consistently gives 100% effort, whether he's dribbling down the court or tackling challenging honors courses. These courses include: STEM Science, Algebra and English along with full-year Spanish. His hard work has paid off, as he maintains excellent grades! Congratulations to Ethan and his family.



We want to recognize our amazing Science teacher, Mrs. Paz on receiving the prestigious award of Teacher of the Year! We are so lucky to have her in our building. Thank you for all your hard work Mrs. Paz.



NYC Trip

We are incredibly grateful to the Lacey Elks for graciously hosting our MD and Autism classes on a thrilling trip to NYC to see The Lion King! The students had an amazing time, creating unforgettable memories and enjoying a truly fantastic experience. Thank you for making this possible!



Sports

Congratulations to all the Middle School winter athletes. Spring sports are underway. Girls and Boys Track have begun training for the upcoming Spring track season. Participants have started to learn to throw the shot put and discus. Others are training for long jump, high jump, and running events. Softball and baseball players have begun working hard to get ready for their upcoming Spring season. Athletes are beginning to build on fundamental skills and work together on the field to be one cohesive team. Go Lions!

NJ Math League Contest

Back in February, students participated in the New Jersey Math League Contest. Fifty of our 6th grade students participated. Our top five students represented our school against other schools in the state. In our entire region, our Lacey Township Middle School placed 4th. Here are the students who made up our team:

Our top scorer in 6th grade: **Alex Cruz**

2nd place: **Mason Slaughter**

3rd place: **Brody Murphy and Ian Zanotti**

4th place: **Jonah Heilala**

Congratulations to all of our students who participated and to our top-scoring team!

American Heart Challenge



Our LTMS students did an amazing job with the American Heart Challenge program with 89 students registered, 35 students learned how to save a life through hands only CPR, 24 students completed Finn's Mission and learned about the warning signs of stroke and the risks of vaping and \$4,809 was raised for the American Heart Association.

Yearbook Club

As deadlines approach, the yearbook club has been hard at work finalizing layouts and organizing submissions. Meetings have focused on assembling pages and making steady progress toward completion.



High School News

Science Fair

Stockton Science Fair results, Congratulations to the students' accomplishments and their representation of LTHS!

Honorable Mentions

Emily Sierra, AI Detection and Digital Literary

Tatiana Febles-Perez, The Benefits of Proton Radiation Therapy Over Traditional Proton Therapy

Melia Lange, The Effects of Element Combinations on the Crystallization of Silk Flowers

Third Place

Kyan Smith, What is the Strongest Bioplastic

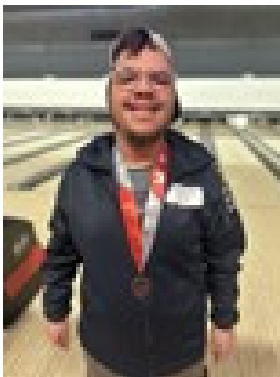


Bowling Competition

North Brunswick Special Olympics New Jersey Spring Games State Bowling competition,

Demos Tsarnas

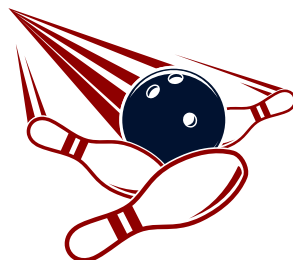
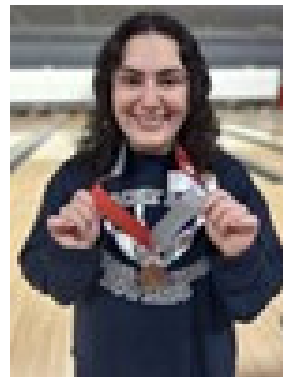
is bringing home a bronze medal in the unassisted ramp event.



North Brunswick Special Olympics New Jersey Spring Games State Bowling competition,

Briana Vasquez

is bringing home a bronze in the singles competition.



Interact & Unified Champions

The Interact Club and Unified Champions Club had a speaker from The Arc on Inclusion.



Select Chorus

Congratulations to the LTHS Select Choral Ensemble, who were awarded Outstanding Achievement 2025 at the Ocean County Teen Arts Festival and will represent Ocean County at the NJ State Teen Arts Festival! Their performance Ezekiel Saw De Wheel/Come Away Sweet Love.



Jazz Band

Congratulations to LTHS Jazz Band for placing 2nd at their two recent competitions. They also won Best Trombone Section and 2 Outstanding Musician Awards!

Mr. D'Arcangelo's class attended a Conference on Human Rights "How Gen Z Can Change the World."



Spring
Break

A pink flower with five petals and a yellow center, with a green stem and leaf, positioned to the right of the word "Spring".

SENIOR OF THE MONTH

SOFIA A. MUSMANNI

The administration and faculty of Lacey Township High School have enthusiastically awarded Sofia Musmanni as our Senior of the Month for April 2025. It is with great pride and enthusiasm that I stand before you today to recognize a remarkable student who embodies the spirit of dedication, leadership, and hard work. This individual has not only excelled academically but has also shown tremendous commitment to her extracurricular activities, the community, and her personal growth.

Sofia's achievements are both impressive and inspiring. Whether on the soccer field, the track, or as part of the cheer squad, Sofia's passion and teamwork have been evident in every season. Her dedication to Lacey's JV Women's Soccer, Fall and Winter Varsity Cheer, and Spring Track demonstrates her tireless energy and ability to balance multiple athletic commitments. But it doesn't stop there—Sofia also finds time to contribute to the Lacey Soccer Club, playing for their competitive team.

In addition to her athletic prowess, Sofia's academic excellence is a true testament to her discipline and focus. She has been inducted into the highly selective National Honor Society, an honor earned through her exceptional academic record, leadership, and service. Sofia's commitment to excellence doesn't only show in her grades, but also in her volunteer efforts. She has given countless hours to causes such as NHS Peer Tutoring, the Red Cross Blood Drive, Lacey Soccer Club Munchkins, the LTHS Boosters, and as a PTSA member, showing an unwavering dedication to improving the community around her.

On top of all of this, Sofia has actively participated in the Student Government Association, Select Choir, Drama, and the Surfrider Club, continually seeking ways to grow as a leader, a performer, and a community member. She has achieved recognition for her time management and self-discipline, balancing her diverse commitments while remaining a high achiever.

Sofia's academic honors speak for themselves: she has been named to the High Honor Roll for three consecutive years, received an Honorable Mention and placed 4th in the Science Fair, and is the current Chaplain of the Lacey Antlers Elk Organization.

What truly sets Sofia apart is her ability to excel in everything she does while maintaining a humble and kind demeanor. She demonstrates how perseverance, commitment, and passion can lead to success not only in academics but also in making a positive impact on the world around us.

Sofia, your hard work and dedication are a shining example for all of us. You've demonstrated that excellence is not just about achieving personal success, but also about lifting others and giving back to the community. You are an inspiration to your peers and a true leader at Lacey Township High School.

On behalf of the entire school community, I congratulate you on being named Student of the Month. We look forward to all that you will continue to accomplish in the future!

SENIOR OF THE MONTH

DYLAN R. ZECH

The administration and faculty of Lacey Township High School have enthusiastically awarded April 2025 Senior of the Month to Dylan Zech! Dylan's devotion to his academics, reliable disposition, and sharp intellect make him a standout recipient for this senior honor.

Attendance, attitude, commitment and perseverance are a few of the hallmark qualities that set Dylan apart from his peers. As a leader in our rigorous STEM Academy, Dylan has proven his academic prowess by maintaining a grade point average of 4.161 all the while being ranked 25th in his class of almost 300 students! Dylan consistently demonstrates a strong grasp of complex topics and has a genuine passion for learning. As an inquisitive, diligent, and self-driven student, he is always eager to broaden his knowledge and excel in his academic pursuits.

Beyond his academics, Dylan is a natural leader and outstanding athlete who has made significant contributions to our school community. He has been actively involved in the LTHS varsity baseball and has volunteered for the Lacey Little League & Taha's Baseball Academy. His commitment to service and his passion for helping others reflect his holistic approach to personal and professional growth. Dylan also possesses a rare blend of empathy, resiliency, and innovation. His ability to balance multiple responsibilities while maintaining a positive attitude and a supportive demeanor speaks volumes about his character. He is a role model for peers, demonstrating that excellence is achieved not only through intelligence but also through kindness, integrity, and perseverance.

It is evident that Dylan demonstrates accountability and a high degree of reliability in all of his commitments. Regardless of the activity, Dylan is a team player, polite and always goes above and beyond for others. There is no doubt that he will make meaningful contributions in the pursuit of his future interests in mechanical engineering and playing collegiate baseball. In recognition of his outstanding achievements and his exceptional contributions to our school community, we emphatically endorse Dylan Zech as April 2025 Senior of the Month! Congratulations, Dylan!

UNSUNG HERO

OLIVIA MILLER

The Matthew Blum Unsung Hero Award is awarded to a person who has exemplified unselfish acts within his or her community.

For the month of April, SGA has chosen the recipient of this award to be someone who is always able to lend a helping hand when needed. She is truly a role model for those who surround her. She is extremely involved at Lacey Township High School, including being a part of the Lacey STEM Academy, a member of Student Government, and challenging herself with AP and Honors classes.

In school, she has been ranked as the top few in her class with well over a 4.0 GPA. She is also a member of the Lacey Varsity Girls Soccer, Winter, and Spring Track teams. In her athletic career, she has broken numerous Lacey Track records and has already left an incredible legacy at our school.

Outside of LTHS, she can be found playing club soccer at the Cedar Stars Academy and volunteering with the Lacey Elks. For these reasons, SGA is proud to announce that our April Unsung Hero is Olivia Miller. Congratulations Olivia and keep up the great work!