

Superintendent's Report



March 2025

Student Enrollment February

SCHOOL	ENROLLMENT	ATTENDANCE
Mill Pond Elementary School	605	91%
Cedar Creek Elementary School	435	92%
Forked River Elementary School	476	92%
Lanoka Harbor Elementary School	470	93%
Lacey Township Middle School	824	93%
Lacey Township High School	1116	93%
Special Education (Out-of-District)	34	
*OCVTS – M.A.T.E.S.	27	
*OCVTS – Performing Arts Academy	25	
*OCVTS – Academy Law & Public Safety	9	
TOTAL	4,021	

*Tuition paid by LTBOE



March 2025

Seniors of the Month

NATALIE K. McGOVERN

DIEGO ANDRADE

Vocational Senior of the Month

ARIANNA GREENE

Unsung Hero

JORDYN MARTIN



Mill Pond News



“ROAR”ing about Positive Character Traits

We love watching our students shine! The staff at Mill Pond is always looking for students that display good citizenship through responsibility, kindness, and respect. Our Pawsome Citizens had so much fun picking out their books at the book vending machine.

Congratulations to our Pawsome Citizens!

Mrs. Brolin - Bentley Krill & Easton Snyder
Ms. Crisafulli - Kyla Cortez
Mrs. Garcia - Brooklyn Marshall
Mrs. Heck - Joseph Exner
Mrs. Johnson - Alayna Krinic
Mrs. Midili - Charlotte Hudson
Mrs. Pastore - Marcos Malfettano
Mrs. Picozzi - Jax Milane
Ms. Rizzo - Isabella Smedie
Mrs. Sarcone - Riley Daroci



Teacher of the Year!

We were so proud to honor and recognize Ashley Smida as the Mill Pond Elementary School Teacher of the Year!

CONGRATS!



100 Days Smarter

Mill Pond students celebrated their 100th day in school in a variety of ways! We had 3, 4, and 5 years old come off the buses with gray hair, glasses, and some canes. We sent them home the night before with a youthful glow and they arrived as if they went through a time machine! Some students wore a collection of 100 things creatively displayed on their capes and shirts, while others displayed their favorite 100 items on posters.



Read Across America

What a fun week celebrating the love of reading! Throughout the week, the halls of Mill Pond were filled with students dressing as their favorite Dr. Seuss character, wearing their hair in crazy yet creative styles, and enjoying the read aloud from many in the building, and partnering with classes for fun reading activities. We opened our doors to parents, grandparents, siblings, and volunteers from the Women's Club of Lacey.



Kids Heart Challenge

Wow! Our students worked together to support the American Heart Association's campaign, the Kids Heart Challenge. They practiced exercises during gross motor and PE that followed the workout routines of the characters from the campaign. The classes that had the most student's registered and contributing won some really great prizes for the classroom! Together 218 students registered with their families and learned all about ways to keep their hearts healthy. As a Mill Pond community, we raised a little over \$19,000 to support the Kids Heart Challenge!



Family Zumba and Soccer Shots



Our preschool concluded a unit of study focusing on exercise. Our classroom centers were designed all around ways to exercise and be healthy. Some classes turned their play kitchens into smoothie stores! We had a visit from Soccer Shots with trainers that helped us with our balance and kicking soccer balls. As a culminating activity, we invited our families to participate in family zumba led by one of our preschool teachers, Mrs. Budija. Our families had a great time exercising to some really fun music!



Thanks to our wonderful PTA!!

Our PTA worked hard this past month to provide our students and families with multiple opportunities for fun! They sponsored a super fun family movie night in the community room to watch Nemo and eat popcorn with friends.

Students came with their families to play bingo together. There were some great prizes and we were visited by a special guest, Bluey! Families were able to take advantage of a great picture opportunity.

They also set up the community room with a beautiful display of books from Scholastic. Students had the opportunity to visit with their class and during our family night to purchase a book or two.



THANK YOU



Cedar Creek News



Students of the Month February

Aurora Cart	Nicolette Johnson	Austin McCombie	Mariah Salzer
Reese Cerami	Mason Jones	Jack Meyer	Santino Sossa
Mason Conaty	Sophie Keogh	Ben Montenegro	Sawyer Terbecki
Mason Dos Santos	Brody Langan	Michael Nowacki	Denise Woolfork
Bailey Ewart	Ethan Linke	Nolan Rakoczy	Dimitri Yarmolenko
Juliet Faccioli			



Teacher of the Year

We were so proud to honor and recognize Michelle Papa as the CCS Teacher of the Year! She works tirelessly to support all of her students and make sure each student's voice is heard. She builds students' interests into learning and helps them build confidence as they grow academically and socially during their third grade year!





Read Across America at CCS

Our school welcomed guest readers during the first week of March! Students loved hearing the different stories and learning about different characters from family, friends and community members. Our students engaged in various activities celebrating reading and learning important themes and life lessons.



1st Grade Celebrates 101 Days of School!

Dalmatians were here on the 101st Day of School! Our first grade students engaged in activities celebrating 101 Days of Learning!



4th Grade Hero Club

Our 4th Grade Hero Club spread gratitude and kindness around the building. They created welcoming signs with positive messages and shared special thank you notes to the staff!



Forked River News

Special Area Students of the Month

Art - Avrie Feeney
Ella Ziobro
PE - Kylie Emme
Colton Petti

Music - Teya Caiazzo
Anthony Rao
Library - Amalia Reynolds
Daniel Sanchez

World Language -
Sophia Riggio
Bella Riggio



Teacher of the Year

**Congratulations to Kirsten Nachman, the
Forked River School's 2025-2026 Teacher of the Year!
Thank you, Mrs. Nachman, for your expert instruction,
dedication, and nurturing care for our students!
Congratulations to all of the Lacey Township School
District's Teachers of the Year!**



Family Math Night

On Thursday, March 13th, the Forked River School staff hosted 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 our PTA and the LTEA for sponsoring this event!

Community Service

Our Scholarship Committee continues to host staff fundraisers for the benefit of this year's graduating Lacey Township High School seniors as well as other community based causes to help those in need.



Forked River School Superstar Citizens of the Month



Teacher	Student	Teacher	Student
Mrs. Bergman	Logan Ferguson	Mrs. Latwis	Landon Avila
Mrs. Camaligan	David Corano-Hernandez	Mrs. Lavorgna	James Toner
Mrs. Coller	Brooklyn Kerly	Mrs. Mooney	Grace Robles
Mrs. Crepezzi	Penelope Staples	Mrs. Mulligan	Braxton Swartzel
Mrs. DeNigris	Amaila Reynolds	Mrs. Nachman	Olivia Gronczewski
Mrs. Doherty	Samantha Fastaia	Mrs. Opacity	Ava Cerqua
Mrs. Flynn	Mia Cruz	Mrs. Schubiger	Edward Wilson
Mrs. Halliday	Araya Hubschman	Mrs. Weaver	Ashlynn Morrow



Safety Patrol Students of the Month

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>Casey Jacobson</p> <p>Jake Lebron</p> <p>Kaleb Melga</p> <p>Haleigh</p> <p>Cali Mazzola</p> <p>Scarlett Martinez-Castaneda</p> | <p>Samantha King</p> <p>Harper Lardieri</p> <p>Prisculla Munoz</p> <p>Sophia Melhorn</p> <p>Mia-Bella King</p> |
|---|---|

February Morning Announcers

- Jack Esteves-Aguilar**
Luke Selig





Dr. Seuss Birthday

Dr. Seuss's birthday was celebrated at the Forked River School on March 3rd. Our staff and students dressed in their favorite Dr. Seuss attire! Guest readers and literacy-themed interactive lessons were arranged for the educational benefit of our students! Our third grade students participated in a Read Across America poster contest hosted by the Women's Club of Lacey Township.

Literacy Fair

The Forked River School staff, in conjunction with our PTA, hosted a Literacy Fair on Thursday, February 20th in the evening. Students and their families had a chance to visit and engage in fun, literacy themed activities as part of our celebration of literacy ahead of Dr. Seuss's birthday and our nationwide participation in Read Across America!



Book Fair

Thank you to the FRS PTA for hosting a Book Fair for all of our students during the week of February 18th. It was great to see so many students excited about reading! I would also like to thank our PTA for their continued fundraising efforts which provides value-added educational resources and experiences for our students!

Battle of the Books

The third and fourth grade Battle of the Books finals took place on February 18th and 19th. Mrs. Paris, our school librarian, serves as our Battle of the Books coordinator each year. Together with the help of our special area staff our 3rd and 4th grade teachers, and many other staff volunteers, as well as our PTA, this annual event was a big success! Congratulations to all teams who participated in this year's Battle of the Books finals and our two winning teams, Mrs. Bergman's Beasts and Mrs. Camaligan's Clever Crew!



Lanoka Harbor News



Students of the Month

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

RUBY ALLEN
MEGAN GERMOND
DOMINIC SARAGUSA



Teacher of the Year

Congratulations to
Deborah Ritner
Lanoka Harbor School's
2025-2026
Teacher of the Year!



Music In Our Schools Month

To help Lanoka Harbor School celebrate music in our school's month, Lanoka Harbor School students will be participating in March Mania with the U.S. Marines and Quaver's Music Madness. Mrs. Ferruzza will choose two students from her music classes each day to be The Music Students of the Day. These students will be chosen based on their hard work and good behavior in the area of music. In addition, one recorder student of the day will be chosen daily and one band or chorus student will be chosen each day by Mrs. Meelheim, Mrs. Gauthier, and Mrs. Ferruzza. At the end of the week, one class from each grade level will be chosen as Music Classes of the Week.

All students are reminded to do their best in music class and practice their recorder/band instrument! **HAPPY MUSIC MONTH!**



Kids Heart Challenge



In February, Lanoka Harbor School was thrilled to support the American Heart Association by teaching our students and families how to care for their hearts through the Kids Heart Challenge program. Students were asked to spread awareness and help raise money to fight heart disease and stroke.

Over the past few weeks, students enjoyed learning about their hearts with the Heart Heroes while raising money to help fund lifesaving research. With a few more days to go, our school has done an amazing job! We have raised \$16,647.13 in donations, and 256 students have registered! We are almost at our goal of \$19,000.00 in donations! We are happy to report that Lanoka Harbor School has completed the principal's challenge goal and has earned \$500 towards PE equipment! Thank you to all who have contributed. We are always amazed by the generosity of our Lanoka Harbor School family!

Lanoka Harbor School Featured Artists

Landon Alcoriza	Ava Dalziel	Blake Haag	Damon Mazzeo
Ruby Allen	Joshue Dapiran	Micah Heilala	Eva Mele
Kyla Ambrosio	Damien DeMatteo	Christian Heraclio-Flores	Norah Mitton
Paetyn Anderson	Kolton DePasquale	Kateryna Huerta	Danny Moore
Cody Apanel	Killian DePasquale	Richard Hurley	Aurora Naia
Joe Arruda	Amelia Deppe	Skyleen Jimenez	Emma Nasatka
Lailani Avila	Tess Devecka	Joselyn Jimenez Xelhua	Madeleine Peterson
Brody Balmer	Christopher Donadio	Julianna Jones	Zachary Pipher
Ciara Barker	Cayleb Dooley	Emma Keelen	Alexandra Powlison
Adleina Beaton	Kyren Dooley	Bodhi Kelleher	Sophia Przybos
Gabriella Bednarz	Charlotte Dorry	Tori Keller	Cooper Reiff
Austin Bednarz	Zander Duran	Conor Kiely	Harleigh Reiff
Xander Bozarth	Mason Feeney	Finn Kiely	Grayson Rieder
Jayson Brewer	Jillian Finnila	Kozłowski	Susana Sacramento
Sarah Buchner	Henson Fitzgerald	Harrison Lander	Alex Sacramento Perez
Jua'n Cabrera Arias	Gunnar Francis	Kennedy Lander	Marina Scott
Sonya Calabrese	Lars Francis	Kevin Lange	Declan Shaw
Sophie Case	Jaxon Fuge	Addilyn Lauria	Alina Sturdivant
Gianna Casella	David Garrote	Finnegan Liston	Carson Sutter
Carson Coghlan	Matthew Gatto	Neve Lowman	Marley Watson
Tighe Collins	Juliette Gorda	Norah MacLachlan	Charlize Watson
Henry Conigliaro	Oliviana Guiliano	Lucas Maertens-Hazelet	Madeline Whitley
Jayce Dalziel	Norah Guiliano	Kyla Manuwald	Zahler Winkle
			Lily Wise



Middle School News



Drama Performance

Let's give a big round of applause to the LTMS Drama Club for their amazing performance of Frozen Jr. - it was truly spectacular!



Teacher of the Year

Congratulations to Melissa Paz
Lacey Township Middle School
Teacher of the Year!



March*

8th Grade Student of the Month

KAYLYN POTOR

March Student of the Month is Kaylyn Potor. Kaylyn consistently demonstrates a strong work ethic, putting forth her best effort in every class. Her positive attitude and willingness to assist her classmates make her a valuable member of our school community. An enthusiastic participant in STEM Science, she maintains an impressive average of no less than 96 in all her honors courses, which include English and Geometry Honors. Kaylyn is not only a talented and respectful student, but she also excels in athletics, participating in both soccer and track. She serves as a wonderful leader and role model for her peers, always ready to lend a helping hand and brighten the day with her infectious smile. Congratulations to Kaylyn and her family.

March*

8th Grade Student of the Month

ELVIS EELMAN

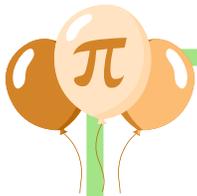
March Student of the Month is Elvis Eelman. Elvis excels academically with straight A's in a schedule which includes STEM, Algebra Honors, and English Honors. He is also a proud member of the Select Ensemble and participates in the jazz band, further demonstrating his musical versatility. This year, he took on the lead role of Kristoff in our school musical, Frozen Jr., showcasing his impressive talent and dedication. As a section leader for the baritone group in Chorus, Elvis effectively runs rehearsals and supports his peers. He is a remarkable young man, who balances his artistic pursuits with his studies. Congratulations to Elvis and his family.

Chorus / Drama / Band

Chorus is working in sectionals and after school rehearsals for our upcoming concert in May.

Drama has wrapped up our production of Frozen, Jr. and celebrated at our cast party.

Now that the spring musical is over, the concert and jazz bands are gearing up for after school rehearsals in preparation for our spring concert, which is being held on May 22nd. Additionally, the jazz band will perform at the LTHS Jazz Festival, which is being held on April 11th.



Student Council

The Student Council is continuing to host our spirit Fridays this month.

In addition, we are sponsoring a Pi Contest on 3/14 where students will have a chance to recite digits of Pi.

Sports

Middle school baseball and softball will begin tryouts on Monday, March 17th. The interest for both teams has been great and we expect a good turnout at tryouts. Teams will be formed later this month as we work towards our first game on Monday, March 31st.

Yearbook

The Yearbook team is continuing to make progress on completing this year's edition. We will be holding several meetings between now and mid-April to finish everything up. We will continue to also engage in team-building activities to continue having fun and working together while we create memories for the school community.

What's Happening!

Students and teachers are absolutely thrilled to dive into the third marking period!

A huge shout out to our PTC for throwing another incredible honor roll ice cream celebration.

Excitement is in the air as students and coaches gear up for the Spring sports season!



High School News



LTHS SPRING MUSICAL

"The Addams Family" the Musical!

Tickets are now on sale for LTHS Theatre Company's production of "The Addams Family" the Musical.

Click on the link below Addams Family picture for a little preview of the show!



[Addams Family Preview](#)

*Order your ticket(s) using the link below.

<https://lthsdrama.booktix.com/>

LTHS Wrestling

Our Lacey wrestlers had a tremendous advancement at Regions. We qualified six wrestlers to the NJ State Tournament in Atlantic City, which breaks the school record of Four. We had a Region Champion in **Killian Coluccio** and all of our boys battled their hearts out throughout the tournament. The six wrestlers who advanced to the State Tournament are:

Killian Coluccio
Brendan Schuler
Aidan Flynn
Riley Gutierrez
Michael Colon
Mike Seeley



Teacher of the Year

Congratulations to Keena Frechette
Lacey Township High School
Teacher of the Year!





LTHS Jazz Band Competitions

Show your support for the LTHS Jazz Band! All performances are open to the public.

Tickets are available on site for all the events.

- Friday March 21: Southern Regional High School Jazz Festival; Performance Time 7:05pm
- Friday April 4: Somerville High School Jazz Festival; Performance Time TBD
- Saturday April 5: Jackson Liberty High School Jazz Festival; Performance Time 2:40pm
- Friday April 11: Lacey Township High School Jazz Festival; Performance Time 9:30pm
- Saturday April 26: TIA Region 7 Championships @ Lawrence HS; Performance Time TBD
- Wednesday May 7: All-Shore Jazz Festival @ Monmouth Regional High School; Performance Time TBD
- Tuesday May 20: LTHS Spring Concert Performance

LTHS Community Art Project

"Creativity meets Coffee" - The Community Art Project, a collaboration between LTHS Art students and Starbucks. Each student expressed their talent by creating a unique cup that was voted on by the community. The winners of the contest received gift cards.

Congratulations!

Gracie Kiernan (1st place)

Jordan Slevin (2nd place)

Sara Martinez (3rd place)



SENIOR OF THE MONTH

NATALIE K. McGOVERN

The administration and faculty of Lacey Township High School have enthusiastically awarded March 2025 Senior of the Month to Natalie McGovern!

Natalie's exceptional intelligence, remarkable ambition, and unwavering dedication make her a standout recipient for this senior honor.

From academic achievements to extracurricular excellence, Natalie exemplifies what it means to be an outstanding student. As a leader in the rigorous STEM Academy, Natalie has maintained a 4.452 grade point average and is ranked 8th out of 298 students, positioning her in the top of her graduating class. Her intellectual curiosity is evident in her exemplary academic performance, where she consistently excels in challenging coursework and demonstrates a deep understanding of complex subjects.

Beyond her academic prowess, Natalie is a natural leader who has made significant contributions to our school community. She has been actively involved in the National Honor Society as Tutoring Chair, in the Student Government Association as Executive Board Vice President, and a member of LTHS Interact Club. Natalie has been a remarkable athlete on our women's varsity soccer team where she was named Captain and has received ample awards including "MVP" in her 2023 season. Natalie also participates in varsity Winter & Spring track. Natalie's leadership and initiative have driven positive change and her commitment to service and her passion for helping others reflect her holistic approach to personal and professional growth. Natalie's ability to balance multiple responsibilities while maintaining a positive attitude and a supportive demeanor speaks volumes about her character. She is a role model for her peers, demonstrating that excellence is achieved not only through intelligence but also through kindness, integrity, and perseverance.

It is evident that Natalie is a well-rounded individual with a strong academic record, has exemplary leadership skills, and a deep commitment to community service. I am confident that Natalie will continue to excel and make significant contributions in the next chapter at Monmouth University studying biology and playing Division 1 soccer! In recognition of her outstanding achievements and her exceptional contributions to our Lacey community, we wholeheartedly endorse Natalie McGovern as March Senior of the Month.

Congratulations, Natalie!

SENIOR OF THE MONTH

DIEGO ANDRADE

The administration and faculty of Lacey Township High School have enthusiastically awarded March 2025 Senior of the Month to Diego Andrade!

Diego is a truly multifaceted individual. He is an active and enthusiastic participant in our TV Studio, WLTS-TV21, where he demonstrates a strong work ethic and a keen understanding of media production. His contributions have been invaluable to the success of our programming.

Beyond his work in the studio, Diego is an award-winning independent filmmaker. His films display a remarkable level of artistic vision and technical skill, showcasing his ability to tell compelling stories through the medium of film. His dedication to his craft is evident in the quality of his work and the recognition he has received.

Furthermore, Diego is a gifted music artist and multi-instrumentalist. His passion for music is palpable, and he possesses a natural talent for creating and performing. He brings a unique and vibrant energy to his musical endeavors.

Diego's commitment to excellence, his creative drive, and his willingness to contribute to our community make him an exceptional individual. He is a positive and reliable member of the Lacey family, and his contributions have enriched our community in countless ways.

Diego is wished the best as he continues his education and a sincere congratulations on being chosen as March's Senior of the Month!

VOCATIONAL SENIOR OF THE MONTH

ARIANNA GREENE

The administration and faculty of Lacey Township High School have enthusiastically awarded Arianna Greene as our Vocational Senior of the Month for March 2025. It is truly an honor to stand before you today as we recognize an outstanding student for her dedication, hard work, and incredible contributions to both her school and community. Arianna embodies the spirit of leadership, compassion, and excellence in everything she does, and it's clear that she is making a positive impact wherever she goes.

Let's start by looking at Arianna's involvement in the Surfrider Club, where she's spent the last four years organizing and participating in beach sweeps. Her commitment to preserving our environment and maintaining the beauty of our coastlines is something we can all admire. Whether it's picking up trash along the shore or educating others on how they can help, Arianna's passion for environmental sustainability is truly inspiring.

But Arianna's dedication doesn't stop at the beach. She has also been an integral part of our Tennis Team for four years, earning a well-deserved place on the Varsity Team during her junior year. Her sportsmanship, discipline, and leadership on the court serve as an example to all her teammates. Through countless hours of practice, Arianna has shown that hard work and perseverance lead to success—not just in sports, but in all aspects of life.

In addition to her athletic and environmental work, Arianna has shown incredible compassion through her involvement in FCCLA, where she helped organize ribbon sales for cancer awareness and fundraising efforts. Her efforts have contributed to the battle against cancer and have made a tangible difference in the lives of those affected by the disease. She also worked with the Knights of Columbus, participating in events like catering for autistic adults, where her kindness and care were felt by all.

Arianna is not only involved in community service, but also works with the company FeelingBlue, where she has contributed ideas for creating substantial, eco-friendly clothing. Her forward-thinking approach to fashion, combined with her environmental concerns, shows how Arianna is not only focused on the present but is looking toward a better, more sustainable future. Arianna's work, whether on the beach, on the court, or in her service to others, demonstrates a level of commitment, empathy, and leadership that is truly exceptional. She does all of this with grace, humility, and a fierce desire to make the world a better place.

So, it is with great pride that we recognize Arianna Greene as our Vocational Student of the Month. Arianna, thank you for everything you do. You inspire us all to be better, to work harder, and to care more deeply. We are lucky to have you in our community.

UNSUNG HERO JORDYN MARTIN

For the month of March, the senior class would like to recognize Jordyn Martin as our Unsung Hero.

Jordyn is a passionate student who exemplifies what it means to be a go-getter. While exceeding expectations in the classroom, she also shines outside of it.

Besides her good grades and her position as Vice President of DECA here at school, you can probably find her on the football field for varsity cheer, something she has dedicated herself to for most of her life.

Jordyn's determination to succeed and capability to do so makes her a great pick for our Unsung Hero. Keep up the great work!