

Lagrange Middle School Newsletter

March 2021 Edition



Mr. Eric Schetter, Principal

eschetter@acsdny.org

**Ms. Sharon LaDue,
Associate Principal**

sladue@acsdny.org

**Mr. Christopher Quaranto,
Assistant Principal**

cquaranto@acsdny.org

110 Stringham Rd.
Lagrangeville, NY 12540
(845) 486-4880

www.arlingtonschools.org

Upcoming Events

Building Equity Team Meeting 3.3
| 3:30pm-4:30pm
3.17 | 5:30pm-7:30pm
(Google Meet Link)

MST Fair
3.6 | 8:30am-12:00pm
(Virtual)

Board of Education Meeting
3.9 | 7:00pm-9:00pm
3.23 | 7:00pm-9:00pm

PTA Meeting
3.10 | 7:00pm
(Google Meet Link)

AHS Spring Equity Conference
3.10 | 6:30pm - 8:00pm

A Message from the Principal:

It's hard to believe it is already March and we are quickly approaching the halfway mark of the third quarter. As we begin this month, we also begin the transition of creating more in school instruction for our students here at Lagrange Middle School. Beginning this month, students will begin following the new secondary bell schedule adopted by the district as well as begin the alternating of in person instruction for blue and maroon cohorts on Wednesdays. To say that we are truly excited to be welcoming students back into the building five days a week would be an understatement.

Although we are ready for this transition period, we know that the changing of bell schedules and calendars has been a stressful obstacle over the course of this school year. Please be assured that in this month's newsletter we are providing you with the information required to ensure a successful transition with the new schedule. Please be sure to review the new bell schedule and the March calendar with your child to ensure their success moving forward.

This month's newsletter also marks my last newsletter as building principal of Lagrange Middle School. On Friday, March 26th, I will be officially retiring from the Arlington Central School District. In my absence, assistant principal, Ms. Sharon LaDue, will be serving as the Interim Principal of Lagrange Middle School for the remainder of the school year. Having worked with Ms. LaDue for almost twenty years, I can assure you that the Lagrange Middle School community will be in good hands.

I would like to personally take this opportunity to thank everyone who has made the past twenty-five years in Arlington some of the best and most memorable years of my life. Although I am excited for this new chapter in my life, I will always miss my Arlington family and look back in fondness on the many memories I have created with all of you over the past twenty-five years. Thank you for your constant support and I look forward to hearing about all of the future successes of the Arlington Central School District.

Important Information for March:

New Bell Schedule (Beginning 3/8):

MS BELL SCHEDULE <small>(Updated 3/8)</small>	
ENTRY	7:20 - 7:30
1 -	7:30 - 8:10
2 -	8:14 - 8:49
3 -	8:53 - 9:28
<i>Break (3)</i>	<i>9:28 - 9:34</i>
<i>Break (4)</i>	<i>9:37 - 9:43</i>
4 -	9:43 - 10:18
5 -	10:22 - 10:57
6 -	11:01 - 11:36
<i>Break (6)</i>	<i>11:36 - 11:42</i>
<i>Break (7)</i>	<i>11:45 - 11:51</i>
7 -	11:51 - 12:26
8 -	12:30 - 1:05
9 -	1:09 - 1:44
Dismissal	1:44 - 1:50

Please Note:

This bell schedule will be the only bell schedule utilized for the remainder of the school year. This bell schedule will be used for both hybrid and remote days moving forward.

Please be aware that due to new state guidelines and the district's ability to potentially offer students the opportunity for more in person instruction time, these schedules could potentially change. Any and all changes will be communicated to parents and families as soon as possible through the School Messenger system. Please be on the lookout this month for any communications regarding schedule changes that include more in person instruction time for your child.

March Calendar:

(Note: Alternating Wednesday's Beginning Week of 3/8)

Middle School Schedule
March 1, 2021 - March 26, 2021

Quarter 3	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 5 (Mar 1 - Mar 5)	Blue Cohort at school Other Cohorts Live Online (B day)	Blue Cohort at school Other Cohorts Live Online (C day)	All 3 Cohorts Live Online Wednesday Schedule (D day)	Maroon Cohort at school Other Cohorts Live Online (A day)	Maroon Cohort at school Other Cohorts Live Online (B day)
Week 6 (Mar 8 - Mar 12)	Blue Cohort at school Other Cohorts Live Online (C day)	Blue Cohort at school Other Cohorts Live Online (D day)	Maroon Cohort at school Other Cohorts Live Online (A day)	Maroon Cohort at school Other Cohorts Live Online (B day)	Maroon Cohort at school Other Cohorts Live Online (C day)
Week 7 (Mar 15 - 19)	Blue Cohort at school Other Cohorts Live Online (D day)	Blue Cohort at school Other Cohorts Live Online (A day)	Blue Cohort at school Other Cohorts Live Online (B day)	Maroon Cohort at school Other Cohorts Live Online (C day)	Maroon Cohort at school Other Cohorts Live Online (D day)
Week 8 (Mar 22 - Mar 26)	Blue Cohort at school Other Cohorts Live Online (A day)	Blue Cohort at school Other Cohorts Live Online (B day)	Maroon Cohort at school Other Cohorts Live Online (C day)	Maroon Cohort at school Other Cohorts Live Online (D day)	Maroon Cohort at school Other Cohorts Live Online (A day)

Happening at Lagrange Middle School:

Spotlight on Black History Month



Guidance Corner:

To schedule a meeting with your child's teachers, please reach out to their guidance counselor.

P: (845) 486 – 4884

F: (845) 350 – 4146

6th Grade:

Mr. Spadaro: A-K

Ms. Mesuch: L-Z

7th Grade:

Ms. Baldelli: A-Ka

Ms. Paolo: Ke-Z

8th Grade:

Mr. Spadaro: A-E

Ms. Mesuch: F-Li

Ms. Paolo: Lo-R

Ms. Baldelli: S-Z

Contact Information:

Ms. Baldelli:

pbaldelli@acsdny.org

Ms. Mesuch:

smesuch@acsdny.org

Ms. Paolo:

apaolo@acsdny.org

Mr. Spadaro:

vspadaro@acsdny.org

This past month, teachers at Lagrange Middle School immersed their students in engaging activities centered around celebrating influential black persons. From ELA to Music, students had the opportunity to learn about various influential black figures that helped to shape the course of history and pave the way for future generations. Continue reading to explore the many wonderful lessons the students at Lagrange Middle School participated in throughout this past month.

7th Grade Math:

Teachers: Ms. Ellie Samson and Angelina Vazquez (Team 5)

Students in 7th grade math on Team 5, honed their skills evaluating expressions to participate in an activity based on three influential female black scientists: Katherine Johnson, Dorothy Vaughn, and Mary Jackson. Students worked as "human computers," much like these three women did for NASA, to apply their knowledge of evaluating expressions. Students were also introduced to the inspiring story of how these women helped to calculate the famous flightpath of astronaut John Glenn.

Audio Included

Hidden Figures Mathematics Activity.

In June 1941, during World War II, President Franklin Roosevelt looked to ensure the growth of the space program and began recruiting African-Americans with college degrees to work for NASA. While they did the same work as white workers, African-Americans were paid less and had to use separate dining halls and bathrooms. Three brilliant African-American women at NASA -- Katherine Johnson, Dorothy Vaughan and Mary Jackson served as the brains behind one of the greatest operations in history: the launch of astronaut John Glenn into orbit, a stunning achievement that restored the nation's confidence, turned around the Space Race and shocked the world! The women worked as human computers. Before electronic computers, the term "computers" referred to people rather than machines. "Computers" would perform complex mathematical calculations by hand. The women's job was to trace, in extreme detail, a spacecraft's exact path from liftoff to splashdown. Astronauts use math in order to make precise mathematical calculations, from how the spacecraft leaves Earth's atmosphere to how the astronauts pilot the craft. Designers use math to calculate distance, speed, velocity, and their own safety when preparing for a space mission.

Audio Included

Your Mission

TASK: Work as a "Human Computer" to evaluate various expressions for the next space mission. These expressions will help calculate plans and expectations for the next space exploration. Be sure to use the *Order of Operations (R.E.M.D.A.S.)* to have accurate calculations.

Spotlight on Black History Month (cont.)

8th Grade Band:

Teacher: Mr. Stephen Ryan

Students in 8th grade band spent this past month researching innovative and influential black musicians. Students were able to choose their own musician and then create a Google Slide to present to their classmates outlining important information and facts they learned through their research. To view some of these informative presentations that students had the opportunity to share with their classmates click the link below.

[The Future of Black History Month Presentations](#)

8th Grade Chorus:

Teacher: Gianna Tucci

Students in 8th grade chorus had the opportunity this month to explore different genres of music and discover the influence that black musicians have had on various types of music. From learning to sing African music from Nigeria to exploring the genre of rap, students had the chance to uncover a wide variety of ways in which the black community has influenced music all over the world.

Eh Soom Boo Kawayá

- From Nigeria
 - Hundreds of languages
 - 250 different ethnic groups
 - 3 broad language groups
- Capital City: Abuja
- English Translation: "The clouds are gathering paddle faster"
- From the Efik/Ibibio people in the South of Nigeria.
- This song was originally a sailing song

The slide also features a map of Africa with Nigeria highlighted in red, the Nigerian flag (green, white, and green vertical stripes), and an aerial photograph of the modern city of Abuja.

6th Grade ELA:

Teacher: Ms. Laurie Bryant

Students in 6th grade ELA spent this month learning about a heroic group of former African American slaves that risked their own lives to save the lives of others from shipwrecks off of the North Carolina coast. This brave group of men are known as the Pea Island Life Savers and their story of courageous heroism is finally being recognized after hundreds of years. Teacher, Laurie Bryant, in conjunction with the Pea Island Cookhouse located in Manteo, North Carolina, has been developing a curriculum to help educate students about this often-unrecognized group of heroes. Students had the opportunity to learn about the story of the Pea Island Lifesavers and the importance of their legacy.

Legacy of the Pea Island Surfmén

Pea Island's Station 17 remained an all-African American station until its closure in 1947, with generations of men proudly serving. The last keeper of the Pea Island station was **US Coast Guard Lt. Herbert Collins**, whose grandfather Joseph Berry had served under Richard Etheridge.

Descendants of Pea Island surfmen continue to keep the American oceans and coastlines safe by serving in the United States Coast Guard. You might even say Richard Etheridge himself still serves. The men of Station 17 were honored in 2012 when a new US Coast Guard cutter ship was named the **USCGC Richard Etheridge!** The ship and crew now patrol the waters off south Florida.

The slide includes a photograph of the USCGC Richard Etheridge (WMEC-906) at sea.

Spotlight on Black History Month (cont.)

8th Grade French

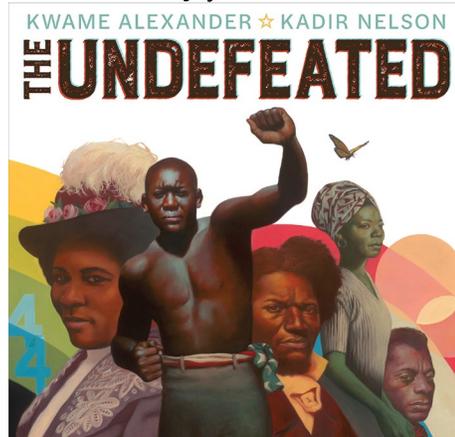
Teacher: Ms. Mary Tetreault

Students in 8th grade French completed projects this past month about influential Franco-African persons. Students had the opportunity to explore their assigned individual and learn more about their significant contributions.

6th – 8th Grade ELA/Library

Teacher(s): ELA Teacher & Librarian, Ms. Rachael Klein

Students in all grade levels had the opportunity to visit the Lagrange Middle School Library. Working with their ELA teachers and librarian, Ms. Rachael Klein, students had the opportunity to discover the poem, 'Undeclared,' written by Kwame Alexander and illustrated by Kadir Nelson. Students participated in a lesson in which they analyzed various aspects of the poem and had the opportunity to discuss important issues with their classmates in regard to race, social justice, and the lasting impact that various events have had on shaping the Black community. Students have also had the opportunity to utilize the many amazing resources and books that our Lagrange Middle School library has to offer. Ms. Rachael Klein has created several displays highlighting important Black figures and authors for students to enjoy.



6th Grade Social Studies

Teacher: Ms. Elyssa Napoleon

Students in 6th grade Social Studies had the opportunity to learn about the life, legacy, and impact of baseball player, Jackie Robinson. Students learned of how Jackie Robinson broke the color barrier for minorities in major league baseball and they discussed his lasting impact on the sport. Students watched videos and participated in class discussions that highlighted Jackie Robinson's influence in paving the way for other minorities in the sport of baseball.



Important Information for the 3rd Marking Period:

Please be aware that the end of the five-week period for the third marking quarter will be on Friday, March 5th. Parents and guardians will have access to student progress reports through [School Tool/Parent Portal](#) on Friday, March 12th. Please be sure to check your child's progress through School Tool/Parent Portal on a regular basis to ensure the academic success of your child. If your child is struggling please reach out to their guidance counselor or individual teachers.

Resources for Women's History Month:

The month of March marks the beginning of a month-long celebration of Women's History. Please feel free to use the following resources with your children to help promote discussion and learning of the many valuable contributions' women have made throughout history.

[Teach It! – Women's History \(National Park Service\)](#)

[Activities to Celebrate Women's History Month](#)

[Women's History Month](#)

How to Get Involved at LMS:

Parent Teacher Association (PTA):

The LMS PTA is a collaboration of parents, teachers, and students that work together to facilitate family participation in the school community. The PTA meets monthly to discuss community building initiatives to help benefit the students, faculty, staff, and LMS community as a whole. If you are interested in joining the LMS PTA feel free to attend the next meeting, contact lagrangemiddleschoolpta@gmail.com for more information, or visit the [PTA website](#).

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's):

Q: How can my child get involved in after school activities?

A: We are currently exploring options for after school activities and the possibility of beginning spring sports. Please be on the lookout for communication regarding after school clubs and the potential for spring sports to begin at the middle school level.

Q: How can my child receive extra help or support if they are struggling with their schoolwork?

A: The best way for students to receive support if they are struggling is to reach out to their teachers. Students can reach out to their teachers using the Google Classroom platform or by emailing their teachers using their [student email](#) account.

Q: My child's school issued Chromebook is not working. How can I get their Chromebook fixed?

A: If your child is experiencing issues with their district issued Chromebook, please visit the [Parent Technology Help Desk](#) to fill out a Google Form to help assess and resolve the issue. The Parent Technology Help Desk hours are from 8:00am-4:00pm every Monday through Friday.

Resources for Parents/Students:

[School Tool/Parent Portal](#) – The Arlington Central School District uses School Tool to manage student records. The Parent Portal (School Tool) provides parents and students with secure online access to see a student's

- Emergency Contacts
- Daily Attendance
- Course Schedules
- Progress Reports
- Report Card Grades
- Grades 3 - 8 NYS Assessment Scores
- NYS Regents Exam Scores
- Assignments



In order to access the Parent Portal, parents must complete the parent [registration sheet](#) and return it as soon as possible. FOR SECURITY PURPOSES PARENTS MUST RETURN THE FORM IN PERSON TO THEIR CHILD'S SCHOOL. PLEASE BRING A DRIVER'S LICENSE OR PHOTO ID. PARENTS AND STUDENTS SHOULD READ THE PARENT GUIDELINES CAREFULLY.

If you have any questions or have any problems accessing the Parent Portal, please email our [Parent Portal Help Desk](#).

[Google Classroom](#) - The Arlington Central School District has adopted the Google Classroom platform for use during remote and hybrid instruction due to COVID-19 closures. Each student has an account that is linked to their district login credentials. Please visit classroom.google.com to login. Special note: if using any device other than a district provided Chromebook, the student must include @acsdny.org at the end of their username to login. If you have forgotten your username and/or password, it can be found under the parent portal listed next to “eye color” and “hair color” in their profile.

[Student Email](#) – As of September, all Arlington students have been issued and can now access email using their Arlington login credentials. Students should use the same login information they use to login to their Chromebook when they are attempting to access their school email. This is a great resource for students to use to keep in touch with their teachers and to reach out for help when needed.

[Current Daily Bell Schedules \(Hybrid Model\)](#)

[2020/2021 Code of Conduct](#)

[2020/2021 Grading/Report Card Schedule](#)

Helpful Links:

[2020/2021 District Calendar](#)

[Board of Education](#)

[COVID-19 Hub](#)

[Free/Reduced Lunch Program](#)

[Parent/Guardian Notification Regarding Computer Usage](#)

[Medications-in-School Letter](#)

[Emergency Health Information](#)