

# ***LPS District Update***

## ***LAE Meeting***

### ***2/14/2023***



#### **Artist of the Week**



**Alligator in the City** Marker, Oil Pastel

**Alaina Guzman**  
Oliver Elementary School



# ACCESS Testing Continues



- Our multilingual students have been hard at work
- We have almost 6,000 students who are coded as multilingual and who are required to complete ACCESS
- The ACCESS testing window has been extended to after February break

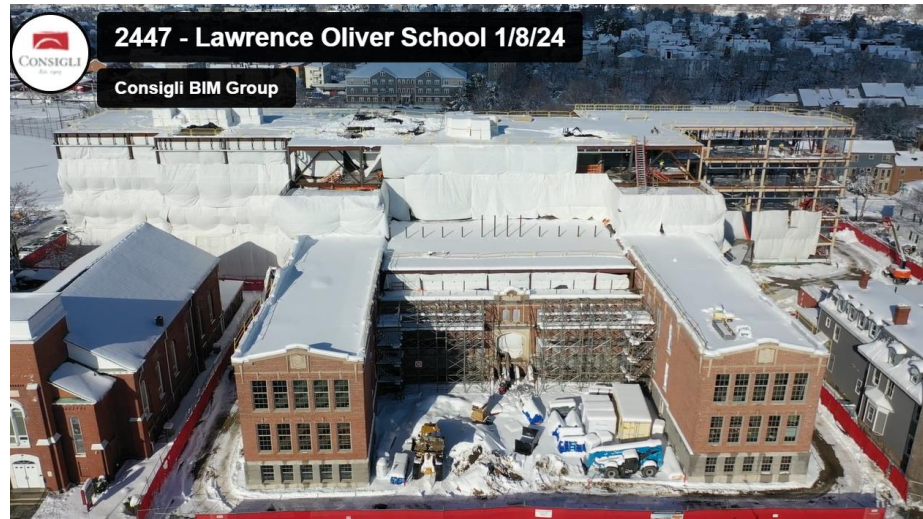
# ***Congratulations, Dr. Spash!***

- As many of you know on January 12th, our Deputy Superintendent, Dr. Melissa Spash, was unanimously selected to serve as Superintendent of Schools in Natick
- This is a great honor, as the process was rigorous
- We thank Dr. Spash for her exemplary service to the Lawrence Public Schools as a teacher, middle and high school principal, assistant superintendent, and deputy superintendent over the past 14 years
- Job well done!!!!



# Building Projects Update

- Impressive progress at the Oliver and Leahy sites continues
- Structural steel is more than 50% complete at the Leahy site (top picture), where we videoed our LPS Winter Update
- At the Oliver site, work is also progressing – the construction crane has been dismantled and is off site and the building has been tarped (bottom picture)





# ***Lawrence Family Public Academy Update***

- On Thursday, January 11th, there was a boiler issue at LFA that necessitated school closure on January 12th, 18th, and 19th
- DOE Policy for kindergarten: acceptable so long as it provides a minimum of 425 annual hours of structured learning time
- LFA's instructional hours for the year were 1,240; without the three days of closure, the 1,219 hours of structured learning time far exceed the required 425 hours



# Internet Safety Presentation

- On January 17th, the Leonard School hosted their Family Potluck
- School Resource Officer Hendrick attended to give students and families a presentation on social media and internet safety
- In addition, there was food, music, and a selfie station



# ***MCAC over at HLC***

- On January 17th our partners at GEAR UP Massachusetts were at the High School Learning Center to assist students with college applications
- Massachusetts College Application Celebration events have occurred since 2012
- GEAR UP helped LPS seniors complete 462 college applications





# ***Working in Collaboration with LTU***

- At the invitation of the Lawrence Teachers Union, several district staff attended the Center for School Improvement Leadership Institute January 18-20th
- The focus was providing course pathways for students that lead to college and career readiness, along with conversations on how to increase vocational education opportunities for students





# Luis Salgado with LHS Theater

- Choreographer and director Luis Salgado worked with LHS Theater on January 19th
- Our students worked on scenes and body movement with Mr. Salgado
- LHS Theater is still hard at work on their upcoming performance



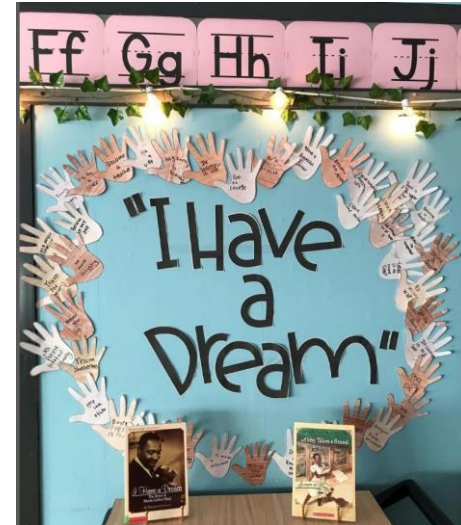
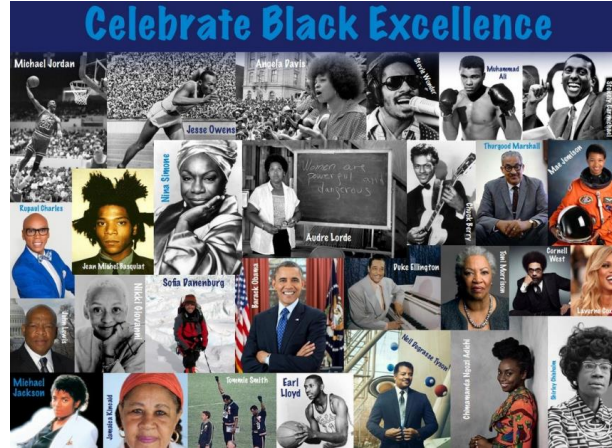
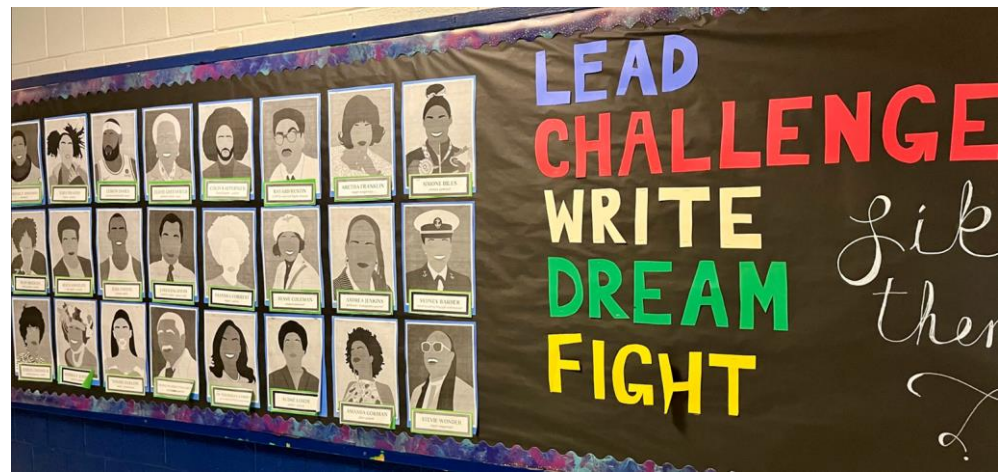
# GLTS Information Session

- On Wednesday, January 24th we were able to join our colleagues Betzy, Brenda, and Susan from Greater Lawrence Technical School at the Lawrence Public Library
- Middle school families were given general application information about GLTS, as well as specific information about career and technical education
- Families also got an introduction to the After Dark Program



# Black History Month

- Our schools continue to recognize and celebrate black history throughout February
- Schools do this in a number of ways, including history projects and presentations, artwork, and literature featuring black authors and subjects





# National Girls & Women in Sports Day

- This is an annual observance during the first week in February
- Sports celebrations are held across the country
- Five events for basketball, soccer, volleyball, swimming, and floor hockey were held across the city through a partnership between Everyone's a Player, the Mayor's Health Task Force and LPS
- On Saturday, February 3rd the Junior Celtics Academy held a basketball clinic at Lawrence High School
- The clinic was attended by girls in grades five through eight who participate in LPS Intramurals through our partnership with the Play Ball Foundation



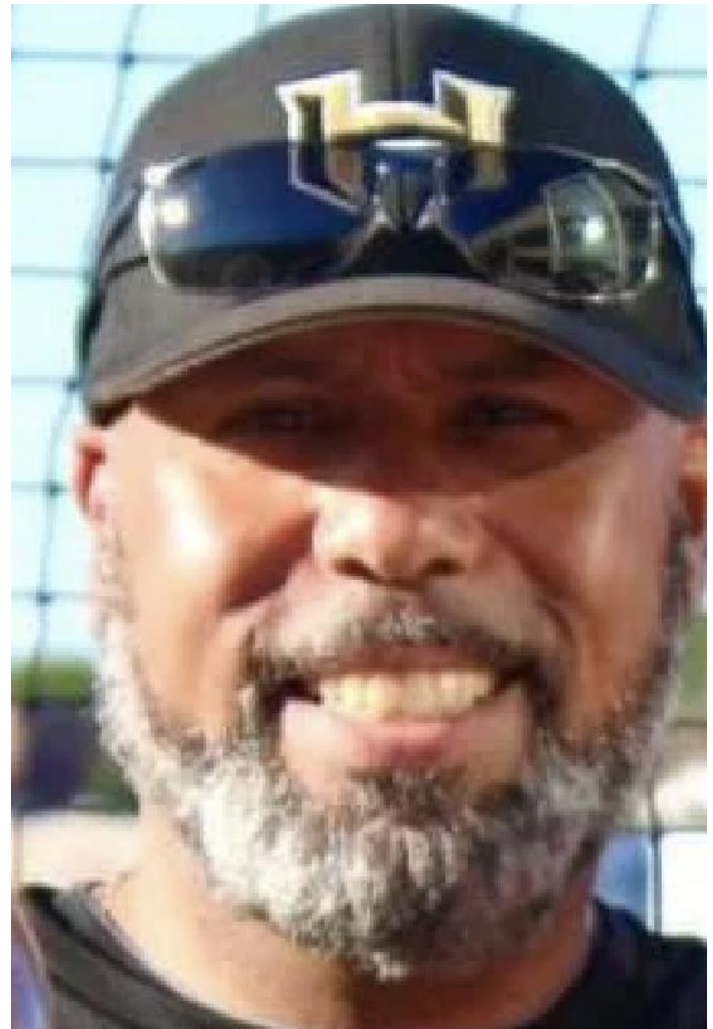
# Middle School Musical Theater Festival

- On Saturday LPS put on a great day-long show in the Performing Arts Center
- 9:00 am Arlington Middle School: *Finding Nemo Jr.*
- 10:00 am Oliver Middle: *Little Mermaid Jr.*
- 11:00 am Spark: *Beauty and the Beast Jr.*
- 2:00 pm Guilmette Middle: *The Addams Family School Edition*
- 3:00 pm Parthum Middle: *Willy Wonka Jr.*
- 4:00 pm Wetherbee: *Matilda Jr.*



# LHS Football Update

- Our Athletic Department recently conducted interviews for the LHS Head Football Coach position
- The interview and selection process took two weeks and identified Emilio Colon to be the next Lancer head coach
- Emilio is a 1990 graduate and LHS Hall of Famer
- He was also an NCAA All American at the University of Maine
- Extensive coaching experience





# Al Horford Visits the Bruce School

- Al Horford and Melisa Valdez from the Boston Celtics visited students from the Bruce School on February 5th
- Al spoke about moving to the US from Puerto Plata and the importance of teamwork
- Melisa is the Celtics' In-Arena host, and spoke about representation and her experiences when moving to the US from the Dominican Republic
- Students were able to participate in shooting and dancing challenges to win basketball sneakers and Celtics tickets



# Celebrating Seniors

- Our basketball teams are celebrating their seniors
- Congratulation to Igor, Joendy, Obbie, Adriel, and Jaiden from the boys squad
- Congratulations to Kelsie, Savannah, Arianna, and Jailani from the girls squad; their senior night is in progress as we speak



# South Lawrence East Sweetheart Dance

- Last Friday night, SLE hosted their annual Sweetheart Dance in a packed cafeteria
- Students danced along to the Cha Cha Slide, the Macarena and other fun songs
- Special thanks to Chris (Class of 2016) and Yomayra (Class of 2013) for taking a picture





# LHS Cheer in Action

- Our Lancer Cheer Squad did a great job representing Lawrence at the National High School Cheerleading Championships
- They traveled to Florida to be able to compete at Disney in Orlando
- They will be at the winter invitationals at Milford High School this weekend

