

# LABRAE LOCAL SCHOOLS

2020 Community Newsletter

## 2020-2021 School Calendar

August 21 <sup>st</sup> -28 <sup>th</sup> .....	Teacher Professional Days
August 31 <sup>st</sup> .....	School Starts
September 7 <sup>th</sup> .....	Labor Day-No School
October 8 <sup>th</sup> .....	Parent Conferences {Early Release}
October 9 <sup>th</sup> .....	NEOE Day-No School
November 3 <sup>rd</sup> .....	Teacher Professional Day {No School}
November 25 <sup>th</sup> .....	Thanksgiving Break {No School}
November 30 <sup>th</sup> .....	Classes Resume
December 21 <sup>st</sup> .....	Christmas Break-No School
January 4 <sup>th</sup> .....	Classes Resume
January 18 <sup>th</sup> .....	MLK Jr. Day-No School
January 22 <sup>nd</sup> .....	End of First Semester {Early Release}
February 11 <sup>th</sup> .....	Parent Conferences {Early Release}
February 12 <sup>th</sup> .....	No School
February 15 <sup>th</sup> .....	Presidents' Day-No School
April 2 <sup>nd</sup> .....	Easter Recess-No School
April 6 <sup>th</sup> .....	Classes Resume
May 21 <sup>st</sup> .....	Graduation {Packard Music Hall}
May 27 <sup>th</sup> .....	Last Day for Students {Early Release}
May 28 <sup>th</sup> .....	Teacher Professional Day

For more information on the school calendar, visit LaBrae's website. For detailed information by building, please view the Calendar of Events link on the LaBrae Local Schools' website.

## From the Superintendent

by Anthony J. Calderone

The onset of the COVID-19 pandemic this spring brought unforeseen challenges to LaBrae Local Schools, and public education in general. The pandemic brought adversity upon our schools and our families that many of us could never have envisioned. I congratulate our students, parents, and staff for handling the adversity with grace and flexibility, and for making the best of very unfortunate circumstances.

As we turn our attention toward the coming school year, LaBrae is faced with the challenge of developing a plan for reopening that attempts to meet the needs of all learners, and yet, provide a safe learning environment for our students and staff.

This summer has been a whirlwind of activity as District staff prepare for the new school year. LaBrae is making daily progress readying our facilities with the necessary supplies and equipment to ensure a safe learning environment. Additionally, parent feedback provided in the last few months has been instrumental in helping to identify areas of improvement, and we expect to be much more effective as meeting the instructional needs of our students this fall.

As we plan our return, it is important for our community to know that we have three instructional phases for use during the 2020-2021 school year. LaBrae and its families have to be prepared to move seamlessly among those phases as public health circumstances warrant. Moreover, below you will find the likely attendance models LaBrae will use as guided by Ohio's Public Health Advisory System. In each of these phases health and safety protocols for students and staff will be practiced. Lastly, please know that these plans are always subject to change, as warranted.

This school year will continue to bring challenges. Our partnership in educating LaBrae youth has never been more important. Together, we can endure, improve and thrive!

## LaBrae Attendance Models Aligned to Ohio's Public Health Advisory System

This information is intended to provide a possible framework of attendance according to the public emergency conditions. Any transitions to a different attendance model will be made with plenty of advance notice.

### Ohio COVID-19 Risk Level Guidelines for the Public

LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3	LEVEL 4
<b>Public Emergency</b> Active exposure and spread. Follow all current health orders.	<b>Public Emergency</b> Increased exposure and spread. Exercise high degree of caution. Follow all current health orders.	<b>Public Emergency</b> Very high exposure and spread. Limit activities as much as possible. Follow all current health orders.	<b>Public Emergency</b> Severe exposure and spread. Only leave home for supplies and services. Follow all current health orders.

All Students, Every Day

Blended Learning

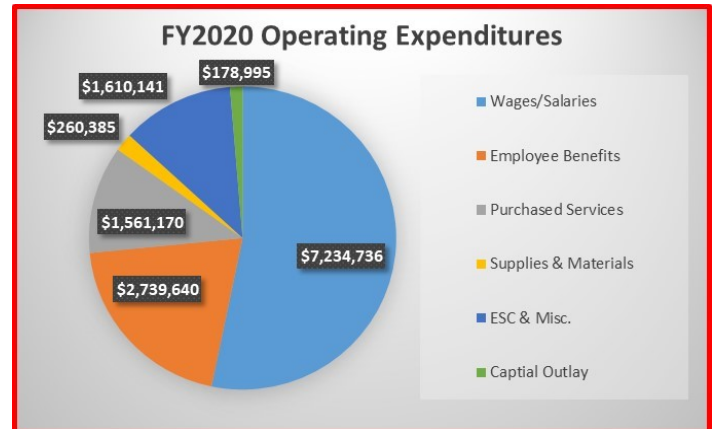
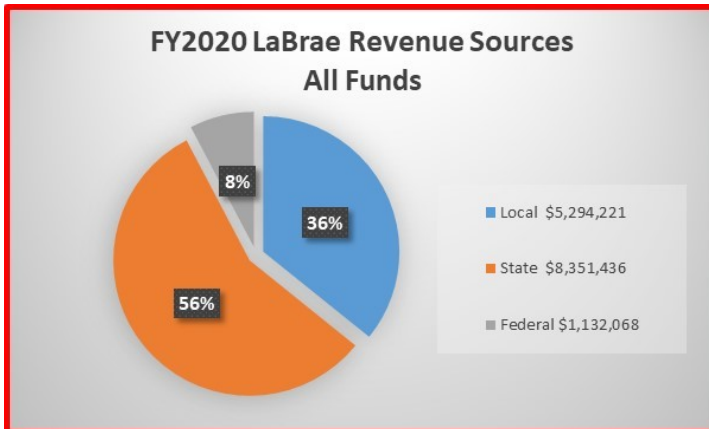
100% Remote

To Access LaBrae's School Restart Plan Visit: [LaBrae 2020-2021 Restart Plan](#)



## News from the Treasurer's Office

### LaBrae FY2020 Financial Summary



### LaBrae School Funding

Due to the financial challenges confronting state revenues during the pandemic, Ohio cut state funding to schools by \$300 million in the last two months of the fiscal year, May and June of 2020. To LaBrae, this reduction translated to a loss of \$150,741. Ohio has informed schools that the funding cut percentages implemented at the end of the last fiscal year, will be in place for the current fiscal year, which began July 1<sup>st</sup>. One silver lining is that the funding reduction for FY2021 will be spread out over the entire year giving the district time to adjust accordingly compared to the abrupt loss of \$150,741 in two months.

Additionally, the LaBrae is naturally seeing an expected slight uptick in the delinquency rate of property tax payments in March, and LaBrae expects that trend to continue with the August second half property tax payments.

With the passage of the federal government's CARES Act in the spring, LaBrae received \$310,000 in COVID-19 relief funds. Part of the CARES Act also gave Governor DeWine emergency relief funds to be used at the Governor's discretion. In July, the Ohio Controlling Board approved the Governor's distribution of \$100 million to Ohio schools, of which LaBrae received \$59,883, which was allocated to help schools pay for costs associated with COVID-19.

LaBrae is using the aforementioned funds in line with the objective of the law's passage. Thousands of dollars have already been spent to help the District prepare for the return of school. Personal protective equipment for students, staff and LaBrae facilities, as well as sanitization equipment, supplies, and technology have been purchased so that LaBrae is prepared for the reopening of school.

Also, the original stimulus funds were intended to maintain employment, and districts are permitted to use the funds to sustain current staffing levels. LaBrae is using approximately \$260,000 in federal relief funds to cover the budget cuts, and these funds will help LaBrae maintain current staffing levels through the coming school year.

### LaBrae Shares A Treasurer with Mathews Local Schools

In June, the boards of education for Mathews Local and LaBrae Local finalized an agreement to share a school treasurer. Mr. Brad Panak, the current treasurer at Mathews Local, will serve as the treasurer for both school districts. With LaBrae seeking a treasurer with the announcement of Carol Jones' retirement, and the LaBrae Board's attentive eye on fiscal stewardship, the Board made a commitment to this innovative opportunity in an effort to save money. The agreement is a trial agreement for FY2021. If successful, both boards of education are willing to commit to a longer term agreement following the trial year. Mr. Panak's full cost of employment, which includes insurance and benefits is \$116,208, which the districts will share in a 50-50 cost sharing model. LaBrae will pay \$58,104, which results in a FY2021 savings of \$47,233 compared to the FY2020 treasurer employment costs.



## Bascom Security Remodel

The LaBrae Board of Education in the spring of 2020, approved a project to remodel the office space at Bascom Elementary. The objective of this decision is to improve security at Bascom by redesigning the main entrance to resemble a modern secure entrance expected in modern-day school buildings. The security design also calls for a redesign of adjacent office spaces to accomplish the appropriate traffic flow and location of personnel to improve security, building access, and office efficiency.

The new design will create a foyer just inside the main entrance. This foyer will be secured and deny access to the rest of the building. No longer will visitors to Bascom be able to enter the building and have the freedom to gain access to all parts of the building.

Parents and visitors will be able to conduct business with the office through a pass through window located in the foyer. Should parents or visitors need further access, the office staff will permit them to enter the office using a secure entry system.

The clinic will be adjacent to the main office and offers a more open space, and it allows office personnel to more easily supervise students when the nurse is in other buildings.

There were four contractors that bid the project. Bids ranged from a high of \$192,943 to as low as \$146,700. Murphy Contracting of Youngstown was the winning bidder as the firm came in approximately \$30,600 less than the next highest bidder. Final expenses, which will include changes to specific designs in the original plan will result in a final price tag for the project of \$156,000.



The newly designed security lobby of Bascom Elementary School construction being completed.

## Jones Heads a List of Retirees

Carol Jones, LaBrae Schools' treasurer, retired from LaBrae this summer after 49 years of service to the district. Mrs. Jones, a LaBrae community resident, began her career shortly after the merger of schools in 1970, and it has been one of impeccable service and accomplishment. Her numerous Auditor of the State Awards marked her excellence in accounting and have afforded LaBrae many years of fiscal stability.



Jones

Moreover, LaBrae has several teachers who retired at the conclusion of the school year. All of LaBrae's retiring educators have made a lasting impact on the students they served, and for that, the LaBrae community will be forever appreciative of them..



Adair

Mrs. Margie Adair, Middle School Counselor, retired after 38 years of service to LaBrae. Prior to her counseling role, Mrs. Adair spent many years in the classroom and coordinating LaBrae's 6th grade camp.



Stanovcak

Mrs. Jo Stanovcak, a LaBrae Middle School Language Arts teacher, retired at the conclusion of her 34 year of service. In addition to her classroom teaching, Mrs. Stanovcak has served students as a club advisor and also as cheer coach.



Farone

Mrs. Brenda Farone, LaBrae High School teacher, retired after 19 years teaching math. Mrs. Farone also admirably served students as an advisor for many clubs and activities, most recently as an advisor for the RoboVikes.



Harkabus

Ms. Milajeane Harkabus, LaBrae Intermediate Principal, came to LaBrae after many years of service as a teacher at James A. Garfield and an administrator at Newton Falls. In her 16 years of service, LaBrae Intermediate experienced excellent student achievement and students were able to benefit from many new programs.

The LaBrae Board of Education is extremely grateful to these ladies for their years of excellent service and reminds them that they are Once a Viking, Always A Viking!







**LaBrae Local Schools**  
1001 N. Leavitt Rd.  
Leavittsburg, Ohio 44430  
<https://labrae.school>

**Note: This edition of the community newsletter is only offered digitally. The District decision to forego the printing and mailing of the newsletter was made to reduce expenditures and save money.**

## **LaBrae Local Schools' Directory**

Main District Phone Number: 330.898.0800

Main District Address:

1001 N. Leavitt Rd.

Leavittsburg, Ohio 44430

*(Address for: BOE, LaBrae HS, LaBrae MS, & LaBrae Intermediate School)*

Board of Education Offices:

Superintendent's Office: 330.898.1393

Treasurer's Office: 330.898.2408

Fax: 330.898.6112

Bascom Elementary: 330.898.3041; 330.898.1448 (F)

1015 N. Leavitt Rd.

Leavittsburg, Ohio 44430

LaBrae Intermediate School: 330.898.4569; 330.898.7808 (F)

LaBrae Middle School: 330.898.8599; 330.898.7808 (F)

LaBrae High School: 330.898.2721; 330.898.7808 (F)

LaBrae Transportation Department: 330.989.0231

LaBrae Food Services Department: 330.898.5863

### **2020 LaBrae Board of Education**

Mr. Russell Sewell, President

Email: [rusty.sewell@labrae.school](mailto:rusty.sewell@labrae.school)

Mrs. Karen Ancell

Email: [karen.ancell@labrae.school](mailto:karen.ancell@labrae.school)

Mrs. Diane Duncan

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Mr. Tim Gibson, Vice President

Email: [tim.gibson@labrae.school](mailto:tim.gibson@labrae.school)

Mr. Gary Morton

Email: [gary.morton@labrae.school](mailto:gary.morton@labrae.school)

### **Connect with LaBrae Schools On Twitter**

LaBrae Schools: [@LaBraeSchools](https://twitter.com/LaBraeSchools)

LaBrae HS: [@LaBraeHS](https://twitter.com/LaBraeHS)

LaBrae MS: [@LaBraeMS](https://twitter.com/LaBraeMS)

LaBrae Intermediate: [@LaBraeIntSchool](https://twitter.com/LaBraeIntSchool)

Bascom Elementary: [@LaBraeBascom](https://twitter.com/LaBraeBascom)

LaBrae Athletics: [@LaBraeAthletics](https://twitter.com/LaBraeAthletics)

Guidance Department: [@LaBraeGuidance](https://twitter.com/LaBraeGuidance)

Food Services: [@LaBraeCafe](https://twitter.com/LaBraeCafe)



In an effort to better connect with our community, LaBrae Local Schools joined Facebook in the spring. Please visit our page [@LaBraeSchools](https://www.facebook.com/LaBraeSchools), and give us a follow to keep up with news from LaBrae.

