

# LION PRIDE



## DRYDEN MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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### *Dryden Games 2019*

The 5th annual Dryden Games were held on Tuesday, May 28 at TC3. Despite the rain and cold, ten athletes from the middle school competed alongside 43 athletes from the Dryden School District and 20 athletes from the area BOCES. Students competing had a great day with an opening ceremony torch relay in which our own Luca Ditommaso ran a leg with a huge smile on his face. (continued..)

### *8th Grade Living Environment*

8th grade living environment students finished their trout in a classroom experience with a trip to Treman State Park in Ithaca. Mr. Lee's tank finally decided to sustain and keep brown trout alive for a few weeks here towards the end. It's been a long road with this mini-ecosystem in our classroom.

The students are finishing up their last unit on the human body and they finally got to dissect a fetal

pig, which they all seemed to enjoy despite some of their anxiety about some of the process.

The students are also designing an experiment and writing their last lab report on muscle fatigue and exercise using clothespins and completing the last NY state mandated biology lab:

Making Connections. We will end the year with tons of review and the Living Environment

Regents Exam will be Tuesday, June 18th at 12 noon. They will be prepared and ready!







## Dryden Games 2019 Continued..

The shirts were designed by JJ Strickland, a middle school student. Students competed in sprint races, javelin, club and discuss throw, shot put, distance and soccer kick, and a slalom course. All of our students walked away with a handful of medals and wonderful memories of a day spent enjoying friends and family. A huge thank you goes out to Ms. Gillette, Adaptive PE teacher, who put in

countless hours preparing for this event. She was helped out by a dedicated committee that met throughout the year to plan. The students representing Dryden Middle School were Luca Ditomaso, Isaiah Erickson, Evan Freeman, Tyler Head, Jack Kehn, Eddy King, Riley Mentipty, JJ Strickland, Elias Stillwell and Maia Tennant. 🐾



## DMS Counseling

As we look towards the end of the school year, the Counseling Office wanted to address the topic of accountability. It is understandable that parents/guardians are protective of their children; they know their children better than anyone, and can be a wonderful advocate for students. Parents/guardians understand their children's strengths and shortcomings,

and help their children navigate life's obstacles. Unfortunately, we are noticing that many parents/guardians will often attempt to eliminate obstacles to success for their child in an attempt to bolster a favorable outcome. This compromises a valuable learning experience and an opportunity for their student to build resiliency. (continued next page....)

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*The Dryden Middle School mission is to promote the core values of excellence, integrity, and creativity.*

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## Dryden Dairy Day

Grades 7 & 8 Band students are preparing for Dryden Dairy Day, June 8, 2019. Please do NOT be late for the rehearsal, which will begin at 8:00 a.m. Marching dress, Dryden purple on top and khaki shorts/pants on bottom is expected, as-is proper footwear, (NO flip-flops).

The parade begins at 9:30 a.m. Parents, please help remind your young musician to: get a good night's sleep, eat a good breakfast, and drink plenty of water. Also please plan on meeting your musician at Montgomery Park with a bottle of water to re-hydrate at approximately 10:00 AM. This may require you to miss other parts of the parade, but will help ensure that no student gets sick at this parade.





## DMS Counseling Continued...

Everyone makes mistakes, and mistakes often create the most meaningful learning experiences!

When the school contacts parents/guardians it is because we want to connect with them in an effort to be a unified team to address any concerns. We are looking for support as well as reassurance that the message the school is communicating is encouraged at home. Children internalize their parent/guardian's reaction to the school, and it impacts the respect they have for the rules and expectations at school. This may undermine the school's ability to prepare students to be responsible, respectful, and safe adults.

If your child comes home stressed about a situation that happened at school, please consider finding out more information before responding and/or drawing conclusions.

Asking clarifying questions often creates a better understanding of the situation. Questions such as, "were you following the classroom expectations?" or "what role did you play in this situation?" offer opportunities for insightful discussion. While it may seem that the school is not intervening appropriately, we are addressing the situation carefully and with the understanding that students should be developing the skills needed to one day navigate difficult situations on their own.

Remember, we want to help. The more support and communication we have from parents and caregivers the better we are able to help and support our students. Thank you for all that you do to support your student! 🐘

*Lion Pride*



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