

# LMS Board Report

Gert Nesin, Principal

## 5-day In-Person Learning

6th Grade starting on April 26, 7th grade starting on May 3, and 8th grade starting on May 10

Some recent changes and developments allowed Leonard Middle School to move ahead with planning a 5-day return for all of our students. Those developments were as follows:

- 1) Teacher vaccinations for all RSU #34 teachers (who wish to have one), coordinated our always-awesome nurses and PCHC.
- 2) Removal of recommendation for deep cleaning, because latest research shows that risk of spread through contact with surfaces is virtually nonexistent
- 3) Emphasis from the state to reduce distances between people to as little as 3 feet, if needed

Our teachers will be fully vaccinated by April 23, which allows us to start 5-day in person the following school day—April 26. We staggered the return of the grade levels to allow focused support and adjustments for each grade level as they return, as well as time for each grade level to establish academic and safety routines. (More on next page)



### 8th Graders Teaching Art

Mrs. Nickerson is helping the students teach painting. Here, Gabe is teaching his classmates, Bob Ross-style.



### Preparing a Poster

6th grade students are learning about endangered animals



## 5-Person Learning (con't)

Families will have a fully remote option for the remainder of the year. We will designate specific teachers to work with fully remote students, so that fully remote and in-person students can get the full attention and support of their respective teachers.

Space is always a challenge for us. We will fill every space in the school to capacity, with mostly 4-5 foot distancing, and with multiple uses at different times for many of our rooms. Our new cafeteria would be a tremendous help to us during this time. We're just a few months off! We will have and use our outdoor spaces as the weather warms up.

We will continue with several of our safety precautions; masking, hand washing, distancing to the greatest possible extent, and added distance while eating. We will continue to eat breakfast and lunch in classrooms, but have to expand to extra rooms to assure 6-foot distancing while masks are off.

We've got a great deal of work ahead of us—room assignments, schedules, routines, breakfast and lunch spaces, and even finding safe places for teachers to eat. Nevertheless, we are very excited to be working in person with kids 5 days a week.



**Our new cafeteria from the inside—bigger than it looks!**

## FABULOUS FELTED COYOTE AWARD FOR TRIMESTER 2

Lori Townsend was chosen as our Fabulous Felted Coyote Awardee. Our goals for Trimester 2 were to help students find, celebrate, and build on their small successes, and to use Holistic Self-Assessment (HSA) data to recognize and grow from identified strengths.

Mrs. Townsend creates weekly learning boards to address a variety of academic needs and interests, communicates regularly with families, and investigates new ways to get her students engaged. During this extended time of remote learning, Mrs. Townsend has committed the time and energy to continue her own professional growth and practice.

