History was made this past January when the Academic Center elected its very first official student council members. Student Council has been a long-term project in the Academic Center that finally came to fruition after months of planning with the election of a general membership and officer positions.

The Academic Center Student Council is composed of eleven members representing the sophomore, junior, and senior classes of the Academic Center. Students were elected based on academic excellence, leadership ability, and exemplary attendance. The general members of the council includes Adriana Berdecia Colon, Emily Warmkessel, Brian Strawhacker, Jeanette Abel, Itzanette Santiago, Tatiana King, and Allison Autrey.

The Student Council officers had to endure a more rigorous process in order to earn leadership positions in the council including Secretary, Treasurer, Vice-President, and President. Students seeking leadership positions not only had to meet the general membership requirements but were also tasked with delivering speeches to the student body. An Academic Center-wide election was then held where students had the opportunity to vote for their candidate of choice.

Some exemplary young adults will serve on Student Council in officer positions. They include Yohanna Arias as Secretary, Amaris Ramos as Treasurer, Haley Hammerly as Vice-President, and Victor Riche will serve as the first President of Student Council. The Student Council will be overseen by advisors Mr. Douglas Troxell and Mrs. Amanda Daraugh.

“Student Council is something I’ve been trying to bring to the Academic Center for close to ten years,” Mr. Troxell said. “So to finally see that dream come to fruition is extremely satisfying.”

The Student Council will help plan and execute student activities, organize fundraisers, and participate in community outreach projects. It’s the beginning of something special at LCTI.
January/February Perfect Attendance

Every month, the Academic Center rewards students who achieve perfect attendance. Students with perfect attendance earn an opportunity to enter a drawing where they can win a $5 credit to LCTI’s school store.

The winners of January’s drawing were Emma Bilheimer (Emmaus), Zachary Bolzau (Catasauqua), Andrew Briggs (Parkland), Daniel Kellner (Emmaus), Cristian Monet (Allen), Amaris Ramos (Dieruff), Logan Ruch (Emmaus), Itzanette Santiago (Northwestern), Ayana Santos (Dieruff), and Madison Schmidt (Parkland). A total of 103 students achieved perfect attendance in January.

The winners of February’s drawing for the school store credit were Yahanna Arias Rodríguez (Allen), Michaela Breslin (Emmaus), Dominik Deutsch (Parkland), Kody Dise (Whitehall), Zazule Felix (Allen), Elijah Garcia (Dieruff), Sara Geiger (Whitehall), Sugeyli Martinez (Allen), Isaiah Johri Santiago (Northwestern), and Tatiana King (Whitehall). A total of 116 students achieved perfect attendance in February. Congratulations to all of the winners in January and February!

New Staff Members

The Academic Center recently welcomed two new staff members to LCTI’s social studies department. Mr. Taylor Lindsey and Mrs. Cathleen Brown joined the staff of talented instructors.

Mr. Taylor Lindsey has five years of teaching experience and has worked previously at Apple, Staples, and as an independent farm contractor.

When Mr. Lindsey is not in the classroom he enjoys watching the Philadelphia sports teams, playing Dungeons and Dragons, and participating in Trivia Leagues.

Mrs. Cathleen Brown has previously taught U.S. History, World History, AP World History, Contemporary Issues, and Sociology. She most recently taught Social Studies and ESL courses at a school in Reading.

In her spare time, Mrs. Brown can be found quilting and traveling. She recently spent time traveling around Italy and this summer she’ll be visiting Scotland.

Both teachers look forward to successful years!
Second Marking Period Honor Roll

The Academic Center is proud to announce its honor roll recipients for the second marking period.

The first category is Executive Director’s Academic Excellence. In order to qualify for this honor, students must earn a 4.00 GPA or higher, have no grade less than a 90% in any class, and they must have earned a 90% or higher in their technical lab.

Students who earned this extraordinary achievement were: Sophia Almodovar-Fernandez, Rachel Bath, Peter Baxter, Adriana Berdecia Colon, Beaudyn Borger, Connor Christman, Jeffrey Confer, Emely Febles-Laboy, Nathan Gonzalez, Haley Hammerly, Sugeyli Hernandez-Martinez, Gabrielle Howorth, Zackary Lutz, Amanis Ramos, Jeremy Salabsky, Ayana Santos, Madison Schmidt, and Cooper Unangst.

The next category is the Principal’s High Honors. In order to qualify for this honor, students must earn a 3.75 to 3.99 GPA, have no grade less than an 80%, and they must have earned no less than an 85% in their lab.

Students who earned this impressive honor were: Samuel Albright, Mayln Arango, Allison Autrey, Emma Bilheimer, Guadalupe Camarillo, Christopher Camp, Bryan Carlo Berenguer, Chanielys Cortez, Jahneil Elvin, Jonathan Fink, Zander Frankenfield, Diamond Guzman, Gabriel Helmer, Keanne Herrera, Broc Hertzog, Isaiah Johri, Christian Krajcik, Symantha Missmer, Jean Orejuela, John Payne, Russell Rhodomoyer, Andrea Rodas Montes, Itzanette Santiago, Jeremy Santiago, William Stettler, Edwin Suarez, Justina Trotter, Charles Trusdell, Zane Tyler, Brandon Van Horn, Joseph Velez, Evan Walsh, and Deiana Williams.

The final category is the Academic Center Honors List. In order to qualify for this honor, students must earn a 3.25 to 3.74 GPA, have no grade less than an 80%, and they must have earned no less than an 80% in their lab.

Keanne Herrera (Masonry):

My decision to join the Academic Center is one that I don’t regret. There were many factors in my home school that were making me feel out of place. LCTI was always my favorite part of the day when I was in half day so when I thought about being in the Academic Center, it didn’t seem like a bad idea. Of course, I talked to anyone I could about the Academic Center before even joining it. When I finally transferred to full day LCTI, I was nervous but everyone was very welcoming. The teachers were all nice and seemed to make sure their students were well taught. The students were all nice and had genuine personalities. Everyone seemed to get along in their own ways, being real with each other and avoiding the small dramas. Seeing how everything was good vibes, it just made my decision easier.

Emely Febles (Print Technology/Graphic Imaging):

I was motivated to enroll in the Academic Center for a variety of reasons. Though my home school isn’t that bad, I found out that I benefited more in going to LCTI full day. The Academic Center challenges students to work to the best of their ability. Ever since I joined I felt like I needed to push myself even harder. I wanted to achieve higher grades, achieve honor roll more than once and just get good grades. I came here to better myself, to grow more confidence in my performance of skills shown through my academic grades. I thank the teachers in LCTI who supported me in this journey. They never stopped believing. Since they believed, I managed to believe in myself. I was able to push myself and try new things. I am a lucky girl to at least be in a school where the teachers are very supportive. They really care for the students and I know they want to see each and every single one of us succeed.
I also wanted to better myself and be in an accelerated class to prove to myself I am capable of handling any level of work. Being in the Academic Center has helped me improve my grades and become a good student. The teachers have been a great help here assisting students inside and outside of the classroom. All the teachers are chill and friendly, and the students are very welcoming, too.

Dylan Geno (Marketing):

Before I joined the Academic Center, I struggled to succeed academically. I didn’t really care how I did in the classroom because I was just focused on being an athlete. After I joined the Academic Center, I learned to put the student in front of athlete. After my freshman year, I wanted to take a chance on improving by joining the Academic Center.

Diana Estevez (Criminal Justice):

My first impression when I started the Academic Center was, “Wow! There are a lot more kids here than I thought.” There is such a diverse group of students who attend the Academic Center. There are students from every school: Allen, Dieruff, Parkland, Whitehall, Emmaus and the list goes on. The way the teachers teach is different but in a good way because it helps make the information stick. They also understand that standardized tests do not mean everything. Everyone is smart in their own ways. Even though they hold you to high standards, they help you with everything. I am really glad I came to the Academic Center. Everything about this place is great: the energy, the vibes, and the people. I recommend full day LCTI to everyone because it gives you a

Alison Autrey (Cosmetology):

It was a real “Oh wow!” moment when I began my classes in the Academic Center. Feeling like I mattered as a student and that I might just be able to succeed was just how it was. I found some really awesome people during the process and everyone gets along. I’m really glad that I attended the Academic Center for many reasons. I’ve learned so much, met really good people, and most importantly was recognized as a person. That is something I never could’ve said at my home school. I really recommend going to LCTI’s Academic Center. If you’re nervous about it, trust me, you should try it anyways. I’m sure the future will only make it better and it will feel good to be a part of something unique and different. It is so worth going and putting the little bit of extra effort. You will get more lab time, too, and that isn’t something to complain about.
Theme Days

Each month, the Academic Center Student Council sponsors a different theme day as part of its “Class Warfare” competition. Students are presented with a different dress-up theme and the goal is to have as many individuals as possible from each grade level dressed up in that theme. Whichever grade level has the highest percentage of competition wins the competition and earns points toward the ultimate goal, winning the Class Warfare competition and earning the winning grade level a waffles and ice cream celebration.

In December, students participated in Pajama and Ugly Sweater Day. January was Fancy Friday where students dressed in fancy clothes. Twin Day was held in February (and postponed several times due to snow). At the end of March, students will participate in Mismatch Day.

The Sophomore Class currently leads the class warfare competition, but it’s still anyone’s guess who will emerge as the ultimate victor!