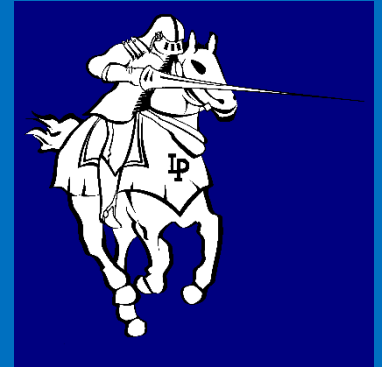




"BE A TREE: STAY GROUNDED. CONNECT WITH YOUR ROOTS. TURN OVER A NEW LEAF. BEND BEFORE YOU BREAK. ENJOY YOUR UNIQUE BEAUTY. KEEP GROWING." ~ JOANNE RAPTIS

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MAY 1, 2019

## Finite vs. Algebra 3

**Finite Mathematics** - Juniors who are taking Algebra 2 or Algebra 2 Advanced are eligible to take Finite Mathematics as a senior. Students who are not considering a STEM based career will learn a variety of mathematical concepts including set theory, matrices, statistics, and more. Generally, students earning an A or B in Algebra 2 should take Finite Mathematics as a senior. Students in Algebra 2 Advanced who are not going to be taking Pre-calculus Advanced are eligible to take Finite Mathematics.

**Algebra 3: Transition to College Math** - Juniors who are taking Algebra 2 and have met their graduation requirement of passing each semester of mathematics are eligible to enroll in Algebra 3. Algebra 3 has been designed in partnership with the College of DuPage and other local high schools to enable students of the course to test directly into a college credit bearing mathematics class with a qualifying ALEKS score and at least a C in Algebra 3.



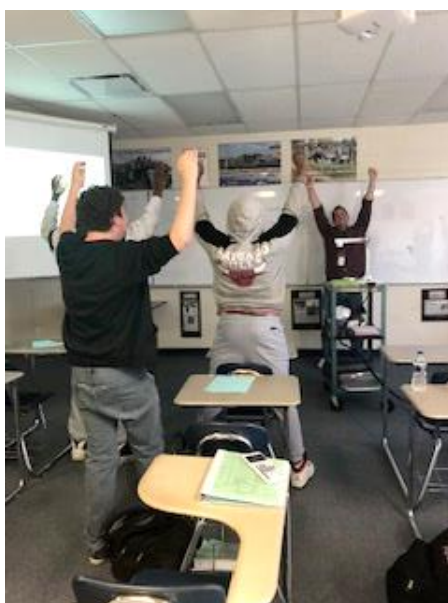
Students John Nellesen's Finite class working on My Math Lab



## Assorted Activities

This month we highlight some of the things taking place both inside and outside of the LP classrooms. Below are some examples of department happenings:

- **Alanda Mehic** attended an SEL Committee meeting and read an interesting article called, "[Anger Can Be Contagious – Here's How to Stop the Spread.](#)"
- **Taylor Chester, Jay Ivory, and Andrea Miller** – We went to a conference in Elk Grove, sponsored by the Institute for Educational Development. The title was "Increasing Students' Learning and Engagement in MATH using [EdPuzzle](#), [Quizizz](#), [NearPod](#), Escape Rooms and more". The speaker who was from Texas also talked about [WeVideo](#), [Doceri](#), [Screencastify](#), [Classkick](#), [Socrative](#), [Quizlet](#), [TeachersPayTeachers](#), [Mathbits](#), and [Padlet](#). She took us through each piece of technology and showed us how we can use in them in our classrooms, as she does in her own classroom.
- **Ashley Castellanos** – On Thursday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, I observed teachers at Buffalo Grove High School to see [Blended Learning](#) happening in classrooms.
- **Tom Kaberna and Gina Ratner** - Tom and I had a guest speaker come talk to our Double Algebra class in conjunction to the Happiness Advantage project that we are doing. (We are reading and exploring the Happiness Advantage with this class.) The parent is Sean West, Alan West's dad. Sean is a life coach and owns his own company. He primarily does workshops with corporations but tweaked what he does and came to our class. He was fantastic. He got the class up and moving doing some activities and had them engaged the whole time. We are hoping to bring him back again this year. I plan to see if he can come back and do more work with all of our students. I also plan to have him come next year for sure, as I am hoping to do this project again with at least one of my classes.



Sean West talking to Tom Kaberna's and Gina Ratner's Double Algebra class.

- **Rakhi Mistry** – I gave a presentation called "Mindfulness for Students and Educators." My presentation included activities that I currently use in my SpMath and SpGeometry classes, as well as self-care for teachers. Here's a mindfulness breathing activity to use in class: [One Minute Meditation](#). Also, I'm so honored to have been appointed National Education Association Yoga and Wellness Co-Chair. I'll keep you posted about the state and national level of the integration of Mindfulness and Yoga in schools! Lastly, the final Teen Resiliency Workshop until after the end of the school year is being held on May 18th from 1:30 PM-5:30 PM at the Health Department in Winfield. If you know of a student that would benefit from this workshop please reach out to me for more details!
- **Kristin Harrington** – Kristin was named the "Department Member of the Month" for her work with her own students as well as other math students. Tim Gard had asked his students who he should nominate and his students overwhelmingly selected Mrs. Harrington, because she is always eagerly helping students in math tutoring.



Kristin Harrington with the Lancer Trophy