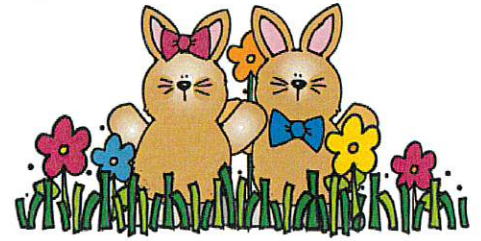


The Leigh Legend



April 2021



The Legend is a Newsletter for the patrons of the Leigh Community School District #39. The Legend is printed by the Educational Service Unit #7. Submit article suggestions to Monica Hake at Leigh High School at 487-2228 or mhake@leigh.esu7.org.

From the Principal's Desk:

I will let you in on something: I am on Facebook nearly every day. Here is the ironic part; this is mostly for school. We put a great deal of information on the Leigh Community Schools Facepage and I personally add a solid chunk of the content. We also have a link to our school Facebook page on our webpage (leighcommunityschools.org) at the bottom of the Quick Links section. Our school twitter page is also linked on the homepage. I would personally like to remind everyone to use our homepage, Facebook page, and Twitter pages to see all the many wonderful things happening in our school. For example, noting that we had eight (8) students earn a top three placing at the NECC Scholastic Day or how seventh grade students filmed themselves doing different dances to represent molecular motion in varying states of matter.

Now, what all do we have happening as we move into April:

State conventions for FBLA, FCCLA, and FFA are coming up. These events will be held virtually. While Covid cases are down and vaccinations are being done, the decision to move to a virtual format was done months ago as preparations are done far in advance of the events. We have many students involved in the programs and competitions.

Track is off and running while golf is in full swing. The first golf invite is March 29th while the opening track meet is March 30th. Keep positive thoughts for good weather on those days. We have had many indoor practices to start the season.

Less than two months of school left. It promises to be action packed.

LEIGH COMMUNITY SCHOOLS ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020

This **Annual Report 2019** includes informative demographic, curriculum, and assessment data. The Leigh Community Schools District submits this report to the patrons of the District to help you understand and evaluate your school system. Through this report, we can take pride in our accomplishments and continue to grow in areas of improvement.

An important aspect of our school cannot be displayed in a chart and that is the positive daily interaction of staff and students. The school serves as a focal point for our community. Our teachers live in our community and have a strong personal and working relationship with students and parents. The Board of Education, administrators, teachers and support staff invite you to visit your schools and to get involved in the public education of the Leigh Community Schools students.

If you have any questions regarding the annual report, please contact Superintendent, Stephanie Petersen at (402-487-3301) spetersen@leigh.esu7.org



LEIGH COMMUNITY SCHOOLS MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Leigh Community Schools is to foster a positive educational culture where: STUDENTS thrive, TEACHERS guide, ADMINISTRATORS lead, PARENTS support and the COMMUNITY is the foundation for all. WE ARE LEIGH!

Learning Empowers Individuals to Great Heights



Follow us at:

- ❖ www.leighcommunityschools.org
- ❖ Facebook: LeighCommunitySchools
- ❖ Twitter: @LeighSchools
- ❖ nep.education.ne.gov (provides entire profile)

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Kamin Held, President	Megan Folken
Ryan Hoffman, Vice President	Drew Machmueller
Julie McMullin, Treasurer	Travis Went
April Brabec, Board Secretary	Matt Wietfeld
Nate Higby	Josh Urban

ADMINISTRATION

Stephanie Petersen – Superintendent/Elementary Principal
Troy Holmberg – H.S. Principal/Activities Director

SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

- ❖ New Junior High/High School Building completed Aug. 2020.
- ❖ Nebraska State Accredited Early Childhood Education Program
- ❖ Title One Services K-6
- ❖ College & Career Readiness
 - Dual Credit and College Credit courses offered
 - 19-20: 7 out of 10 seniors, and 9 out of 12 juniors took college credit courses
- ❖ John Baylor ACT Prep
- ❖ 1:1 technology in grades 3-12.
- ❖ Activity Participation 98% in grades 9-12
- ❖ NWEA MAP Testing
- ❖ Attendance Rate District 95% State 94%
- ❖ Graduation Rate District 100% State 88%

CERTIFIED TEACHERS

- ❖ Leigh Community Schools employs 20 certified teachers. Eight teachers have their masters. Leigh's average years of experience are 13.6 with an average salary of \$52,480. The statewide average for years of experience is 13.96 years and the state average salary is \$55,479.





DISTRICT GRADE MEMBERSHIP																
GRADE	PK	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	TOTAL	
2014-2015		23	16	15	13	16	16	12	14	11	11	10	11	14	183	
2015-2016		13	21	18	17	16	16	18	12	11	11	12	9	12	189	
2016-2017	32	16	14	21	16	18	19	15	16	14	12	11	13	10	227	
2017-2018	37	16	13	14	22	16	19	18	16	16	14	12	11	11	235	
2018-2019	30	17	14	12	15	22	16	16	18	14	16	14	10	12	226	
2019-2020	39	21	16	15	13	14	20	20	16	19	14	16	12	11	246	



*Free & Reduced district numbers 25.61%, state numbers 45.6%.

*Mobility district numbers 2.75%, state numbers 3.67%.

*Special Education district numbers 4.83%, state numbers 15.56%.

*ACT district composite score 22.7, state composite score 20.



SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT GOALS

Reading Comprehension Plan – All students will increase reading comprehension by building a balanced literacy approach focusing on informational text across curricular areas.

Mathematical Performance Action Plan – All students will improve mathematical performances on assessments.

DISTRICT LEVY & DISTRICT VALUATION

	General Fund	Special Building	Bond Fund	Total Levy		VALUATION
2017-2018	0.6	0.135		0.735	2017-2018	\$468,830,424
2018-2019	0.619	0.134		0.754	2018-2019	\$468,402,966
2019-2020	0.6623	0.0103	0.151	0.824	2019-2020	\$453,496,693
2020-2021	0.726	0.0105	0.153	0.891	2020-2021	\$442,932,633



2020 H.S. One-Act Cast



Leigh Community School
Board of Education
Regular Meeting
March 8, 2021

President Kamin Held called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Verification of Notice by Kamin Held (Published on March 3rd, 2021 in the Leigh World Newspaper & Posted on March 3rd, 2021 at Leigh Community Schools and at the Leigh Post Office)

Recognition of Open Meetings Law by Kamin Held

Secretary Brabec read the roll call. Present were Folken, Held K, Higby, Hoffman, Machmueller, McMullin, Went. Absent were Urban J, Wietfeld M.

Also present were Superintendent Petersen, Principal Holmberg and Secretary Brabec.

Excuse Absence of Urban J and Wietfeld M

Review and Approval of Agenda

Public Comment – None

Principal's Report – Presentation by 3 Juniors: proposal to drive during lunch open campus; MAP Challenge; ACT & PreACT Testing; Student of the Month; Speech District Competition; Spring Practice; Wrestling Schedule; Turf for Batting Cage; Mini Bus Options.

Superintendent's Report - Tractor Lease; March 4th Professional Development; COVID Vaccinations; Emergency Operation Plan through NDE; State Aid Calculation; Co-op Committee Meeting.

Consent Agenda approved the February 10th, 2021 meetings minutes, Treasurer's Report & Bills/Payroll.

Approved the contracted ESU7 Special Education Services.

Discussion Item: Annual Report.

Approved a '21-'22 Math teaching contract to Andrew Bachman; Approved the resignation of Mrs. Karen Hillen, guidance counselor, with regret and thanks for her years of service.

Discussion Items: 3000 policies; Snow Days.

Approved a 3% increase for the '21-'22 classified wages excluding the head of maintenance position.

Discussion Items: New HS – working on a plan for public weight room access; items in garage; old gym/AG shop interest; gym floors; Board members do a walk-through of new school.

Moved by Folken, seconded by Hoffman to adjourn at 7:52 p.m. All present voting "aye". Motion carried.

Next regularly scheduled meeting will be at 6:30 pm on Monday, April 12th, 2021 at the Leigh Elementary Conference Room.

April R. Brabec
Board Secretary

Counselor's Notes:

By Karen Hillen

The past month has been very busy and productive for our students and teachers. As part of their guidance lessons, the 5th and 6th grade classes have been taking part in "Leadership Summit" which is a program presented by the Colfax County Extension Service. We have certainly enjoyed having Julie Kreikemeier, extension educator here to present the lessons. The 6th graders also took part in a half day program called "Secrets of Service on the Job" which was also part of the Nebraska Extension Service programs. Through this program they learned knowledge and life skills needed for enhancing ethical and responsible behavior in the business world and community.

At the high school level, some of the students have been involved in academic contests such as the ESU7 Quiz Bowl competition and the NECC Academic Contest. The Quiz Bowl team consisting of Cassidy Hoffman, Emily Loseke, Calvin Wemhoff, Kanyon Held, Justine Thompson, Kyle Holmberg and Aubrie Hanna traveled to Central City for the ESU Quiz bowl. They were very competitive at this event and finished within the top 6 teams out of 19 teams involved in the event. Some of these same team members competed at the Conference Quiz Bowl on March 29. Results will be posted in next month's newsletter. On March 17, 30 of our high school students took part in the NECC scholastic contest which was a virtual event this year. We also did well in these events finishing in 4th place against 31 schools in Class D. The following students finished within the top 3 in their respective test and will be awarded a medal and certificate: Kyle Holmberg 1st in Physics, Zoey Van Dyke 1st in Library Usage, Albert Diaz 2nd in World History, Calvin Wemhoff 2nd in American History, Emily Loseke 2nd in English Composition, Audie Tejkl 3rd in Computer Literacy, Kayden Schumacher 3rd in Child Development/Parenting, Kevin Becerrill 3rd in Spanish as home language.

With the arrival of spring also comes the arrival of state testing for our students. The Juniors took the state mandated ACT test on March 23. Sophomores will be taking the Pre-ACT on April 15. This is the first time in several years that we have done this test and by doing so we are hoping to better prepare our students for the ACT. Students in grades 3-8 will be taking the annual NSCAS (Nebraska Student-Centered Assessment System) test. This year's tests will be slightly different due to effect of Covid-19 on the educational process throughout the state and nation. It will be a transitional test that represents the state's efforts to minimize the impacts of instructional time related to Covid-19 and will assist with a transition to an adaptive assessment which will begin in with the 2021-22 school year. Elementary students and parents will be informed of the testing dates via notes sent home from their teachers. Junior high students and parents will be notified via the school calendar and/or daily bulletin. Please try to be aware of the dates and make every effort possible to have students in school on these dates so that we do not need to schedule make-up times. We also encourage students to have a good night's rest and a good breakfast so they are ready to mentally focus on the tests.

High school students will soon be needing to think about classes they will want to take during the next school year. Information about classes and schedules will be made available to students with in the next few weeks. Current juniors and seniors have the opportunity to earn college credits during the summer or school year. Central Community College offers a \$250 tuition scholarship for the summer classes. The college also offers many opportunities for students to take dual credit courses during the school year. In April a representative from CCC will be coming to our school to assist students with registration for fall classes. There are also scholarship opportunities available for these classes. Check with Mrs. Hillen, counselor, for more details.

Students planning to go into the health care industry have some unique opportunities as well. Central Community College offers CNA (Certified Nursing Assistant) training for students. A program called Project HELP is available to assist students with some of the financial costs of this training. The Northern Nebraska Area Health Education Center offers some information on health care careers and job shadowing opportunities. Check with Mrs. Hillen for more details.

As spring weather arrives it can bring challenges to students and teachers as we all try to stay focused on academics amidst the many activities and the yearning to enjoy the outdoors and the longer days. Please help your students stay focused and on task as we finish out the last few months of school.

EducationQuest Foundation

College Planning Bulletin

A monthly college planning guide for Nebraska high school students

April 2021

Juniors...attend this webinar to stay on track to college!

Join our free "[College Planning for Juniors](#)" webinar to learn about the admissions process, campus visits, college costs, types of financial aid, and how to find scholarships.

Pick the date that works best for you and register today!

[Tuesday, March 23, 6:00-7:00 p.m. CT](#)

[Thursday, March 25, 10:30-11:30 a.m. CT](#)

[Tuesday, April 6, 7:00-8:00 p.m. CT](#)

[Thursday, April 8, 2:00-3:00 p.m. CT](#)

[Spanish Programs](#)

[Wednesday, March 24, 10:30-11:30 a.m. CT](#)

[Wednesday, March 24, 6:00-7:00 p.m. CT](#)

Seniors...It's decision time!

Here's how to make your final college decision.

Compare your college acceptance letters, financial aid award notifications, and campus visit notes. List the pros and cons of each school using the following criteria:

Location – Is the college too close? If you come home every weekend, you won't experience true campus life. Is the college too far away? If so, you may not make it home as often as you'd like.

Cost – Can your family afford the school? What can you expect for financial aid beyond your freshman year? Did you receive renewable scholarships? How much in [student and parent loans](#) will be needed to cover expenses?

Academic program – Which college offers the degree program that best fits your career interests? What happens if you change majors? Does the college offer other degree programs that interest you?

Student life – Does the school offer activities you will enjoy? If you plan to live on campus, do you like the housing arrangements? Will you have an opportunity to work on or near campus?

Make your final decision by **May 1** and then notify the colleges you're rejecting so they can offer your spot, and financial aid, to another student.

April "To Do" List

Seniors

- ☐ Continue applying for [scholarships](#).
- ☐ Make your final college decision.
- ☐ Start purchasing dorm essentials.
- ☐ Start looking for a summer job.

Juniors

- ☐ Attend a [College Planning for Juniors webinar](#).
- ☐ [Register](#) by April 8 for the May 8 SAT.
- ☐ [Register](#) by May 7 for the June 12 ACT.
- ☐ Start looking for [scholarships](#).

Technology and Learning



Shout Outs:

Jamboard

Miss Remmereid's Intro to Business class tried Jamboard as their exit ticket activity. It's similar to Google Slides or Drawings but much easier to add and edit simple text boxes and images. Teachers can find it in their google apps list.

<https://jamboard.google.com/d/1VDiK4F0-71Xd7W2WMTCHvopIqkxs7RX6OmTQX3hxyw/edit?usp=sharing>

Mrs. B. Wietfeld's 5th graders are working on creating storyboards using Pixton.com to demonstrate their knowledge of their vocabulary terms and story telling skills. They created comic scenes to tell a story while using their vocabulary terms within.

Here is our class picture we made using our avatars we created on Pixton



Mrs. Loseke's third grade zoomed with Nebraska Agriculture in the Classroom to learn about chickens and identify chickens by traits. A fun fact: The PreK & 3rd graders have chicks in incubators right now baking in their classrooms.

Mrs. Fischer and Mrs. Held's classes Zoomed with the author [Vanessa Lafleur](#) who wrote the Dystopian book Hope for the Best. She spoke about the writing process and what it takes to write a novel while working at a full time job. She also answered questions from the students. What a great experience for our kids!! Her sequel comes out in November!

Rylee Olson and Natalie Brabec are making a powerpoint presentation on the Vision Board that will be used for our Elementary Music Program. It will include dates and pictures from the past 100 years of our Leigh Community Schools. I just gave them a script of the program, and they are taking it from there! Great collaboration - I'm excited to see it! ~Mrs. Settje

- Continued on next page

— Technology Tips continued from previous page

Miss Pokorney made breakout rooms for her **science classes**. Such fun was had and prizes were found! Great way to be creative unplugged!

Jayden's Resources:

Chemistry- <https://platform.breakoutedu.com/game/candy-chemistry>

Biology- <https://platform.breakoutedu.com/game/where-on-earth-did-the-water-go>

Physical 1- <https://platform.breakoutedu.com/game/forces-of-flight>

Physical 2- <https://platform.breakoutedu.com/game/newtons-laws-of-motion>

General- <https://platform.breakoutedu.com/game/periodic-puzzler>

"Biology Broke Out! It took them closer to 2 periods to break out. (I may have helped stall a bit ;))

Champions- Kyle H, Dalton, Albert, Mason, Dylan"

"Chemistry broke out in 1.5 periods. Chemistry Break Out Winners- Justine, Maddie, Calvin, Logan, Audie, Kennedy"

Breakout Pictures: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1kDAY6ePEKpOljCyBazhZF9dG5k3WOnXC>

Notes from Mrs. Fischer's English Classroom

This has been another exciting year in Room 142, and I feel very fortunate to have such industrious, hard-working students in such a wonderful new school! Here's what's happening in the English room!

This is my first year teaching non-college credit **senior English**. I have five fun seniors who just finished reading and studying Shakespeare's *Macbeth*. Trevor Zulkoski lended his voice to the tragic hero Macbeth in class, and Rylee Olson voiced Lady Macbeth. Layne Krutz, Jose Aguirre, Kyleigh Rayback and I had fun voicing the rest of the characters. They are now studying the portrayal of a tragic hero and comparing the classic drama to modern-day adaptations.

This is also my first time teaching the **freshman speech class** (which ended at Christmas). I very much enjoyed this class, as students learned public speaking history and ethics as well as nonverbal communication before diving into public speaking. They then completed an introduction, demonstrative, informative, and persuasive speech. There are some amazingly gifted speakers in the freshman class, and I was so proud of the group of girls who joined the LHS speech team in February!

—Continued on next page

- Continued from previous page

The **sophomore English** class recently finished reading the science fiction classic *Fahrenheit 451*. Written in 1953, this novel predicted a fast-paced future world where firemen burn houses and books instead of putting out fires, and the shallow society is so wrapped up in technology they have forgotten how to think and question and feel for themselves. The sophomores looked at similarities between the novel's predictions and modern society's censorship, "cancel culture," and control of the media. They even documented their experiences going "media-free" (no smart phones or computers except for homework) for two days.

The **8th grade Reading class** is currently studying bias, fake news, propaganda, and the use of logical fallacies to develop an argument. We studied reliable sources, the use of positive and negative connotation for subtle bias, and even instances of propaganda today and throughout history. For any lovers of *The Office*, they also identified 15 types of logical fallacies used in arguments made by Michael Scott and Dwight Shrute from the show as part of this unit. Finally, they learned proper outline format for taking notes when reading non-fiction as they read about the different types of bias. Before the unit is over, they will also create their own fake news story.

The 8th graders also had the chance to Zoom with an author earlier this month, which was a neat experience! Thank you so much to Mrs. Hollatz for seeking out this opportunity!

The **8th grade Writing/Language class** is writing descriptive essays since we weren't able to finish that unit last year due to Covid-19. They are also concurrently taking part in the annual March Madness Poetry Unit where they read, write, and recite poetry. By the time they are finished, they will have a poetry portfolio with over 13 different types of poems, and we will crown our annual Poetry Recitation Champion. The kids face off head to head in a double-elimination bracket and recite poems in front of the class using good volume, vocal variety, posture, gestures, eye contact, and facial expressions. The class votes on the preliminary rounds and a panel of teachers votes on the final champion. The champion earns their 8th grade picture on Mrs. Fischer's wall of fame for all to see forever and ever!

The **7th grade Writing/Language class** finished studying sentence structure and parts of speech earlier this semester, and now they are studying the 6 Traits of Writing and writing descriptively using imagery and the five senses. They are currently working on using good word choice by always striving for action verbs instead of linking verbs and avoiding my list of "Banned Words" such as "go, walked, said, got, nice, good, bad, pretty," etc. As Mark Twain said, "*The difference between the right word and the 'almost' right word is the difference between lightning and a lightning bug!*" In addition to word choice, they are also working on developing strong sentence fluency by varying the way they start their sentences and varying the length of their sentences. They will soon write descriptive essays to finish out the unit.

Finally, the **Journalism** students have been keeping busy writing basketball, speech, and wrestling articles for the website and Leigh World. Now that the winter season is over, we hope to have a bit more extra time to use our investigative reporting skills to write information to help update the Village of Leigh website.

It's hard to believe that the fourth quarter has already begun. We will make the most of the time we have left this year in Room 142!

Calendar Events April 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
All dates and times are subject to change—please refer to the school web site at: leighcommunityschools.org or the Leigh Community School Facebook page for further information or to see what's happening at Leigh Community Schools.						
4	5 NO SCHOOL 2:00 p.m. Var. TR @ David City Aquinas 6th Grade VB Practice @ Old H/S Gym	6 FCCLA Highway Cleanup after school, followed by Chapter Mtg-approx. 6:00 p.m.	7 State FFA Convention - Virtual	8 3:00 p.m. JH TR @ Wisner/Pilger State FFA Convention - Virtual	9 State FFA Convention - Virtual	10
11	12 FBLA State Leadership Conference FCCLA - Virtual State Leadership Conference 4:00 p.m. B GOLF Dual @ Humphrey	13 10:00 a.m. Var. TR @ Lyons/Decatur FBLA State Leadership Conference FCCLA - Virtual State Leadership Conference	14 EHC Art Show @ Nielsen Center in West Point FBLA State Leadership Conference 9:00 a.m. B GOLF Invite @ Leigh	15 3:45 p.m. JH TR @ Madison Pre ACT Testing - Sophomores	16 Alumni Tournament	17 Alumni Tournament
18	19 7:00 p.m. Jr/Sr High Pre-Contest Music Concert @ Clarkson	20 4:00 p.m. B GOLF Triangular @ North Bend 11:00 a.m. Var. TR @ Madison 11:00 a.m. JH TR @ Battle Creek	21 Spring Activity Pictures @ Clarkson	22 1:00 p.m. JH TR @ Lyons/Decatur	23	24 9:00 a.m. B GOLF Invite @ Pender District Music Contests @ Columbus High School
25	26 2:00 p.m. JH TR @ Humphrey	27 1:30 p.m. B GOLF Dual @ Leigh vs Madison 11:00 a.m. Var. TR @ Humphrey St. Francis	28	29 10:00 a.m. B GOLF Invite @ Humphrey St. Francis 7:30 p.m. FCCLA Banquet 4:00 p.m. Northeast Nebraska Track Classic in Norfolk	30 6:00 p.m. FFA Banquet	

April 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Milk is included with all menus	All Breakfasts include fruit or juice		1 NO SCHOOL	2 NO SCHOOL	3
4 Easter Sunday	5 NO SCHOOL	6 BR: Cereal, Cereal Bar L: Corn Dog, Fr. Fries, Baked Beans, Applesauce	7 BR: PB&J L: Chicken Tender/Bun, Broccoli, Tri Tater, Peaches, Cookie	8 BR: Cereal & Poptart L: Pulled Pork/Bun, Chips, Gr. Beans, Pears	9 BR: Roll L: Pizza, Lettuce, Bread Stick, Strawberry Cup	10
11	12 BR: Cereal Bar, Yogurt L: Breaded Beef Patty/Bun, Mashed Potatoes, Corn, Mixed Fruit	13 BR: Cereal, Rice Krispie Bar L: Taco, Refried Beans, Bread Stick, Pineapple	14 BR: Breakfast Sandwich L: French Toast, Sausage Patty, Hash Brown, Applesauce, Juice	15 BR: Cereal, NutriGrain Bar L: Popcorn Chicken/Bun, Swt. Pot. Fries, Peas & Carrots, Mand. Oranges, Cookie	16 BR: Muffin L: Mac & Cheese w/Ham, Garlic Bread, Broccoli, Peaches	17
18	19 BR: Cereal, Cereal Bar L: Spaghetti, Bread Stick, Gr. Beans, Tropical Fruit	20 BR: Pancake Sandwich w/Sausage L: Ham & Cheese, Chips, Baked Beans, Pineapple	21 BR: Cereal, Poptart L: Sloppy Joe, Broccoli, Swt. Pot. Fries, Fresh Apples	22 BR: Cereal, Bun, Cheese stick L: Chicken Fajita, Spanish Rice, Hash Brown, Mand. Oranges	23 BR: Glazed Donut L: Pizza, Lettuce, Peas & Carrots, Pears, Brownie	24
25	26 BR: Cereal, Rice Krispie Bar L: Pork Patty/Bun, Mashed Potatoes, Corn, Peaches	27 BR: PB&J L: Hamburger Tater Tot Casserole, Garlic Bread, Gr. Beans, Applesauce	28 BR: Cereal, Yogurt L: Hoagie, Chips, Cheese Stick, Carrots, Strawberry Cup	29 BR: Cinnamon Roll L: Hamburger or Cheeseburger, Potato Wedges, Baked Beans, Fresh Oranges, Cookie	30 BR: Cereal, Muffin L: Chicken Patty/Bun, Swt. Pot. Fries, Broccoli, Mixed Fruit	

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