



## **Sam Corban**

### **Class of 2021**

### **Senior Profile**

Sam Corban chose LEAF Charter School because, “It’s not super huge and not super small, I can work one on one with teachers, and the school offers lots of hands-on experiences.”

When he walked through the doors, he thought, “This is a cool place. I have never seen a school in a machine shop. I liked the connection between the students and teachers. This school is a lot different than most schools.”

Sam thinks the relationship between the students and the teachers makes LEAF special. At LEAF it is “easier to sit with a teacher if you need help or just sit with a teacher and have a good conversation. In most public schools, it is not as easy to do this.” Sam acknowledges Humanities teacher, Chris Becker and STEM teacher, Joe Quimby as two teachers who have been very easy to talk to, very understanding, and tell good jokes. “Chris always sends me cool history things because I am a history nut. Chris gives me new and uncommon perspectives of history. We have been recently learning about Jewish resistance inside of Germany. Jewish people formed groups and sabotaged the Nazis. I wasn’t aware of the resistance that took place inside of Germany and inside of the concentration camps.” In STEM class, “Joe talks about his experiences as a professional chemical engineer. Joe is very encouraging. I love science and Joe has made organic chemistry very interesting.”

When asked about favorite memories of his time at LEAF, Sam says he has lots. Sam has enjoyed playing frisbee outside with students and STEM teacher, Sean Marden during lunch. He loves helping LEAF property owner, Dennis Molesky, with projects around the school and seeing Dennis’ old Edison record player, that still works! He also enjoyed the French trip to Canada. He loved being outside of the US and experiencing another culture. The highlight of the excursion was the trip to the Sugar House. They had sugar on snow, square danced, and ate traditional Canadian food.

After graduation, Sam plans to attend Lake Region Community College to receive an Associates degree in Fire Science and achieve his dream job of being a career firefighter. He says fire fighting is in his family. His mother is an EMT and his grandfather was a firefighter. Sam is well on his way to achieving his goals. He has already joined his town’s fire department and is on-call. He attends twice a month training at the fire station and is taking a fire science class at Cheshire Career Center. Typically, he spends his Saturdays at the station helping to wash the trucks and sweep the bay.

Sam offers some advice to new students. “LEAF is not a traditional school. LEAF is an open community where it is a lot easier to have open conversations, talk about your opinion and listen to other people’s opinion which leads to a better understanding between people.”