

# Auer Time @ LPMS

December, 2019

## Pillar 1 - Teaching and Learning

- On **Friday, 12/13**, there is no school for students, K-12. This is a District Wide Parent/Teacher conference day. Here at the Middle School, this day is designed to allow for parent conferences as necessary. Please remember that conferences are able to be scheduled at any time during the year and you do not have to wait until signs of trouble with grades. Contact the Guidance office at [bvandeusen@lew-port.com](mailto:bvandeusen@lew-port.com) or **(716) 286-7208** if you would like to schedule an appointment. Each grade level team has scheduled time during the day that all core teachers are available to meet. Teachers are also usually available for conferences after school 2:40 - 3:10 and they are also available for phone conferences at your request. Please remember that education is a partnership between the school and each family. All of our teachers are available to work with students as necessary after school and with prior arrangements. Make sure to reach out to individual teachers and/or school counselors to schedule a team meeting or a time to sit and talk about strategies that might help improve your child's school performance.
- Just as a reminder, report cards are electronic and are NOT printed or sent via mail. Grades and attendance can be accessed through the Powerschool Parent Portal at anytime. A link to the portal can be accessed from our District web page at [www.lew-port.com](http://www.lew-port.com). Report cards can also be accessed by using your parent created Powerschool account. If you need assistance in setting up this account or have questions regarding access, please contact the Guidance office at [bvandeusen@lew-port.com](mailto:bvandeusen@lew-port.com) or **(716) 286-7208**.
- After School Assistance Program is continuing for those students that had two or more failing marks for the second Quarter (15 week mark) or who continue to struggle. As a reminder, each grade level has a designated day each week for ASAP: **Monday - Grade 8** **Wednesday - Grade 6** **Thursday - Grade 7**
- Be on the lookout for more information regarding our participation in ***One District, One Book***. We are excited that our 6th grade will now be a part of this initiative designed to create a shared reading experience across an entire school community. Students will choose a children's novel, a copy of the book is provided to every student and participants follow a common schedule across the district. Each family reads that book together at home. *Every family in your school community reads the same book at the same time*. This initiative has been very successful at both the PEC and IEC and we are very excited to include our 6th graders
- Don't forget to accept invitations you receive via email to join Google Classroom! If you have a registered email address with Lewiston Porter, will should have received an automated invitation email to join Google Classroom. Please accept this invitation so your email address can be populated with your child's Google Classroom account. This will allow you to receive notifications from your student's teachers. This also will allow you to receive important information regarding One District, One Book as well.
- If you are not connected to your child's Google Classroom already, and you do not get an automated invitation, please contact the middle school guidance office at [bvandeusen@lew-port.com](mailto:bvandeusen@lew-port.com) or **(716) 286-7208**. We will need to obtain your current email information so you can be registered to Google Classroom. Thank you and we look forward to working together with you using Google Classroom.

## Pillar 2 - Leadership

### ★ Student leadership

- Students in Mrs. Golden's 6th grade math classes have been working on a *Digital Breakout EDU* "Family Gathering" problem solving math activity using chromebooks. Working in pairs, the students needed to solve 5 problems with each correct answer unlocking the next problem. The math problems were centered around calculating the cost of a holiday meal using unit rates. Following this activity, the students used local shopping ads to calculate their own Thanksgiving feast. What a great way to create excitement about using math skills in real world situations!
- As they say, *"It's the most wonderful time of the year!"* That also means that it is concert season for our students that participate in Band, Orchestra and Chorus. They get to show off their outstanding talents to family and friends at our Winter concerts. Great job to all of our talented musicians!

- Concert #1, which includes Grade 7 and Grade 8 Band, Orchestra and Chorus, was held on **December 3**.
- Concert #2, which includes Grade 6 Band, 5th and 6th Grade Orchestra, Grade 6 Chorus and the Middle School Jazz Band will be held on **December 10**.
- Our WEB 8th Grade student leaders will be hosting a Holiday appreciation breakfast for our faculty and staff on Friday, December 20. Leaders will prepare breakfast and greet our faculty as a token of appreciation for all that they do. The WEB (Where Everybody Belongs) program is designed to help implement a structure that connects every incoming 6th grader with a caring 8th grader from their first day of school through the end of the year. Part of the program is to also help create a climate of caring and to help foster a deeper connection to both the school and to their peers. Thank you to our 8th Grade WEB leaders for making our spirits bright!
- National Junior Honor Society meeting dates have been set. Please look for a letter from Ms. Wright to NJHS members with important information. **The National Junior Honor Society will have mandatory monthly meetings held in the library from 2:40pm-3:10pm on the following Thursdays: 1/9, 2/6, 3/5, 4/2, 5/7, 6/4.**

#### ★ Teacher leadership

- Our third annual Holiday Celebration will be held on **Friday, December 20 from 1:15 - 2:35**. Teachers in each grade level volunteer to run a 20 minute activity in an available room (own room or other available area). Activities range from arts and crafts, minute to win it games, holiday themed games, a holiday movie and others. Students will sign up for each activity they want to participate in and the time slot of their choosing during lunch periods on Wednesday and Thursday prior. Approximately 20 students will be allowed per activity per block of time. Students in each grade level will sign up for 4 events that they would like to participate in during that time. Just a fun way to celebrate the holidays

## Pillar 3 - Community and Culture

- Our Strategic Planning for the District wide Strategic plan continues forward as we gather information to help guide the development of the 5 year plan. This process provides opportunities to gain feedback from students, teachers/faculty, parents, and community members through the use of 1:1 interviews, focus groups and student shadowing. Parents, we are still looking for anyone that would like to be a part of our 1:1 interviews to provide this committee feedback on our District. We will listen and record your thoughts and ideas and then, as a whole, the Strategic Planning Committee will develop a responsive plan that is focused on the needs of our community. **If you would like to be a part of this process by giving feedback on our school and/or District, please contact me via email at [aauger@lew-port.com](mailto:aauger@lew-port.com) or call my office directly at (716) 286-7201 to set up 1:1 interview time that would be convenient for you. You can also reach out to Mrs. Barile in the District office at [mbarile@lew-port.com](mailto:mbarile@lew-port.com) or call (716) 286-7266 to set up an appointment to be interviewed by any member of our Strategic Planning Team.**
- Lewiston-Porter is pleased to announce that we will begin using the Raptor Visitor Management System to strengthen our program of building safety for students and faculty. Part of keeping students and faculty safe is knowing who is in our buildings at all times, and the Raptor system will allow us to do that. The Raptor system will better allow us to screen visitors, contractors, and volunteers in our schools and provide us with a safer environment for our students and staff. Upon entering a district building, visitors will be asked to present an ID such as a Driver's License, which can either be scanned or manually entered into the system. If a parent or guardian for any reason does not have a US government-issued ID, a school staff member can manually enter the person's name into the Raptor system. Lewiston-Porter Middle School is excited to be piloting this system effective **January 1<sup>st</sup> of 2020**, as part of a school safety grant. The District anticipates bringing the other schools on campus online at the beginning of the next school year
- Don't forget to follow us on Twitter! @LewPortMS and if you see something great with our students or staff, share it with us using #lewport!

## Upcoming Dates/Events

(Subject to change. Please use other sources to confirm/verify)

December 10 - 6th Grade Concert - Band/Chorus - 7pm HS Auditorium  
5th/6th Grade Orchestra  
December 13 - No Student Attendance - Parent/Teacher Conferences  
15 Week Marking Period ends  
December 20 - Holiday Celebration Activity Day - 1:15pm-2:35pm - All Grades  
December 23-Jan 1 - No Student Attendance - Winter Recess

*Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!*

*Enjoy your time with family and friends!*