

Auer Time @ LPMS

November, 2019

Pillar 1 - Teaching and Learning

- We have now completed the first marking period at the Middle School. On **Friday, 11/22** there is no school for students, K-12. This is a Teacher Data input/Data analysis day here at the Middle School. From this day, teachers will be meeting and strategizing as to how to help those students that are finding difficulties with their learning. As a reminder, all 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. Report cards can also be accessed by using your parent created 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 or **(716) 286-7208**.
- After School Assistance Program has started for those students that had two or more failing marks for the first Quarter (10 week mark). We have expanded this opportunity to any students who may not failing, but with borderline grades. Thank you to our guidance office and Mr. Ingraham for communicating with students and families to let them know what days students would be staying after. 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. All of our grade level teams have scheduled time during the school day to meet at your request. You might also schedule a meeting time on Parent/Teacher Conference Day on **Friday, December 13**.
- In case you didn't know, we added Eighth grade general music to the master schedule this year being taught by Mr. Mark Marinnacio. The official name of the class is Music Production, which is a 20-week course, culminating in students recording their own songs and releasing them. This entails programming drum sounds, keyboarding, lyric-writing, using digital audio workstations and teamwork. Look out for their creations around January and again in June!
- We are excited to announce that our 6th grade will now be a part of the **One District, One Book**. This program is designed to create a shared reading experience across an entire school community. Students 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
- On **November 30th**, all parents that have not accepted previous invitations via email to join Google Classroom, and have a registered email address with Lewiston Porter, will receive 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. 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
 - Builders Club spearheaded a food drive to collect non-perishable items for the St. Vincent dePaul Society and the Ransomville Care-n-Share Food Pantry. Items were collected from October 28-November 14 and Advisory classes competed to see which group could collect the most food. Congratulations to Ms. Richley's Advisory class for collecting the most!
 - A "shout out" to our MS Builders Club for being recognized by the Youngstown Recreation Commission and Brian Harrison for their outstanding work as student volunteers at the 2019 Children's Halloween Party at the Red Brick this year. Great job Mrs. Oddy and students!

- Congratulations to our Junior High Area All-State students: Sarina Singh, Jack Scully, and Lilya Teal. These students traveled to Pioneer Central School District at the beginning of November to participate in the Area All-State Ensembles. Area All-State is a step above all-county and brings together the top student musicians from Erie, Niagara, Chautauqua, and Cattaraugus counties. Well done!
- Teacher leadership
 - A group of teachers participated in staff development training at Orleans/Niagara BOCES on November 21 relating to Restorative Practices. We are making our Advisory period a focus for the continued addressing of the social/emotional needs of our students. We feel that by making some key adjustments in this period of the school day will give us the opportunity to support our students their social/emotional growth. This subgroup of our Building leadership team has been taken on the task of specifically look at what we can do to improve this time in our school day. We have met once and are planning on meeting again on November 22 to make a plan for training and revisions to the Advisory program that is a significant component in our work on the social/emotional component of middle school students.

Pillar 3 - Community and Culture

- National Junior Honor Society induction ceremony was held Monday, November 18 in the HS auditorium @ 6:30. This year, part of the application process included the option for students to submit a video clip instead of an essay. What a fantastic way to include technology into the process!
- Our collaborative partnerships with Niagara University continues in full force! We just completed our Mock interview with the students from the Niagara University Methods classes on Wednesday, November 6. Great feedback from students and faculty! We will be meeting with Dr. Foote and others from NU on November 14 to discuss plans for the Spring semester and how we can continue to support the education of our future teachers.
- Our Strategic Planning empathy interview phase is well under way. This phase includes 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 aauer@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 or call (716) 286-7266 to set up an appointment to be interviewed by any member of our Strategic Planning Team.**
- 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

- November 22 - Faculty Data Planning Day: No Student Attendance K-12
- November 27-29 - Thanksgiving Recess - No Student Attendance
- December 3 - 7th/8th Grade Concert - Band/Orchestra/Chorus - 7pm HS Auditorium
- December 6 - Vaping Presentations 6th/7th/8th Grades - MS Cafe
- December 10 - 6th Grade Concert - Band/Chorus - 7pm HS Auditorium
5th/6th Grade Orchestra
- December 13 - 15 Week Grades & Parent/Teacher Conferences: No Student Attendance
- December 23-Jan 1 - Winter Recess

Happy Thanksgiving!

Enjoy your family and friends!