



# Lewiston-Porter Intermediate Education Center September 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>Classical Music Month</i>		be	nice			<b>1</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Labor Day	<b>4</b> 	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> <i>Read a Book Day</i>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> Rosh Hashanah	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> IEC Parent Night 6:30—8:00 pm  PTA Meeting 5:30 CRC	<b>13</b> <i>Uncle Sam Day</i>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> American Legion Day	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> BOE Meeting 6:00 CRC  Yom Kippur	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> <i>International Peace Day</i>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> Autumn Equinox	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b>						be happy!

**Lewiston-Porter  
Intermediate Education Center  
Tina Rodriguez, Principal  
Phone: 286-7252 Fax: 286-7854**





# *From the Principal's Office*

*Mrs. Rodriguez*

## ***Welcome back!***

I would like to welcome all returning and new families to Lewiston-Porter Intermediate Education Center. I am thrilled to be back at the Intermediate Education Center for my second year.

We have many new experiences at hand for your children and the families this year. We will be using Seesaw. Seesaw is a student-driven digital portfolio. Teachers can empower students to create, reflect, share, and collaborate. Students “show what they know” using photos, videos, drawings, text, PDFs, and links.

In the Cafeteria, we will have the Golden Spoon award. The Golden Spoon Award is a school-wide competition to reward classrooms that demonstrate positive behaviors in the cafeteria. This monthly award is given out to one classroom in grades 3-5 that continually follows our school's expectations. The winning classroom displays a huge Golden Spoon in their room for the month.

In addition, students take part in a special dining experience with Mrs. Rodriguez. The winning classroom is announced at the assembly every month. In case of a tie, it will go to a lottery. It will be based on a point system. There will be 3 cups at the table all worth different points. Table points will be added up at the end of lunch and documented on a chart.

The mission of Lewiston-Porter Intermediate Education Center is to promote the quest for lifelong learning. Along this journey, we will be respectful, responsible, and resourceful individuals. This can be achieved through the cooperation of students, staff, parents and the community.

The IEC building will be implementing the IEC RULE OF 5. The rules of the school are as follows:

1. Follow adult direction
2. Communicate with respect
3. Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself
4. Bring all materials for class, including homework
5. Raise your hand and wait to speak.

I look forward to working with you. Please reach out with any questions, concerns and celebrations.

Sincerely,

Tina Rodriguez

## **September Character Trait**

**Rock and Roll Theme Intro: Leadership**

What does it mean to be a good leader?

# Home & School

Working Together for School Success

## CONNECTION®

September 2018



### SHORT NOTES

#### Attendance adds up

Students who attend school regularly tend to have better attitudes toward school—and they're more likely to read at grade level. Try to schedule your child's doctor and dentist appointments outside of school hours. Also, be sure to create a backup plan for getting her to school if she misses the bus or you can't drive her.

#### The importance of integrity

What would your youngster say if a classmate asked him to cheat? Talk to him about how to respond if he's pressured to share answers or let others copy his work. For example, he could say, "Let's study together so we both do well," or "I don't want to risk getting a zero."

#### DID YOU KNOW?

The average child with a parent in the military moves every two to

three years. Encourage your youngster to introduce herself to all new students. If you're a military family, contact your school liaison officer and the school counselor about programs available to help your child adjust.

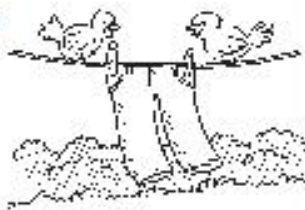
#### Worth quoting

"All the world is a laboratory to the inquiring mind." *Martin H. Fischer*

### JUST FOR FUN

**Q:** What has two legs but doesn't walk?

**A:** A pair of pants!



## A great beginning

The story of your child's school year is about to unfold. A strong opening chapter will help to set the tone for a great year. Try these strategies.

#### Introduce the characters

Your youngster's teacher will play an important role in his life this year. Write her a short note, and attach a picture of your family. You might mention your child's hobbies, favorite school subjects, and family members' names. Also, find out how the teacher prefers to be contacted. Getting to know each other now will help you work together in future "chapters."

#### Get to know the setting

Invite your youngster to tell you about his classroom, the library, and other places at school. What decorations hang on the walls? What books or games are on the shelves? When possible, see for yourself by going to events like book fairs and



math nights. *Idea:* Encourage him to draw you a picture of his classroom to hang on the refrigerator.

#### Enjoy the plot

Attend back-to-school night to find out what your child will learn this year. Then, plan family outings or activities related to the topics. If he'll study your state's history, you could visit historic sites. Or if there's a plant unit, let him help you work in the garden or plant seeds in pots.♥

## Routines that stick

Little habits make a big difference in the kind of day you and your youngster have. Here are things each of you could do to create routines for smooth days.

**Your child can:** Make a picture chart of what she needs to do every morning, afternoon, and evening. She might draw a backpack as a reminder to show you papers she brings home. A picture of a violin could prompt her to practice her instrument.

**You can:** Have her go to bed in time to get 9–11 hours of sleep and to eat a healthy breakfast in the morning. Set aside downtime after a busy day (perhaps 20 minutes when she gets home) so she'll be recharged for homework, chores, and family time.♥



# Strengthen social skills

School is more pleasant for everyone when children share classroom materials and compromise to solve problems. Consider this advice for improving your youngster's social skills so she learns to get along with others now and later.

### Practice sharing

Do activities with your child that require sharing. For example, color together, and let her



practice asking for the purple or the green crayon nicely. She could say, "May I use that when you're done?" And you might reply, "Sure, I'll give it to you as soon as I finish coloring this dragon."

### Learn to compromise

Your youngster and her classmates may disagree on how to approach a group project or a science experiment. Help her prepare by looking for ways to find middle ground at

home. Say she and a sibling argue over what book they'd like you to read at bedtime. They could take turns choosing a story every other night or ask you to read one chapter from each book. If they can't compromise, offer a suggestion like reading a book you pick.♥

## PARENT TO PARENT



# Outdoor magic

I used to play outside all the time when I was little, but my sons never seem interested in leaving the house. One day, while reminiscing with my sister about all the fun we had outdoors as kids, an idea struck me.

I labeled a bin "Outdoor fun" and put it near the front door. Then, I asked my boys to fill it with things to play with outside. They found a yo-yo, balls, a Frisbee, a jump rope, and sidewalk chalk. I added a magnifying glass, a jar for collecting rocks and other treasures, and a bucket and shovel for digging in the dirt.



Having this bin in plain sight reminds my sons how much fun it is to play outside. I love seeing them using their imaginations outdoors and getting exercise. And surprisingly, they're not asking for screen time as often.♥

### OUR PURPOSE

To provide busy parents with practical ideas that promote school success, parent involvement, and more effective parenting.

Resources for Educators, a division of CCH Incorporated  
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## Q & A

# Smart money management

**Q:** We've started giving our third-grade daughter a small allowance. How can we teach her to be responsible with her money?

**A:** Learning to manage money wisely will give your youngster financial skills to use throughout her life.

Encourage her to write a budget for herself. She could list inexpensive items she asks you to buy for her, such as hair accessories or slime-making supplies. She can also include something she wants to save up for and gifts she'd like to buy others for birthdays and holidays.

Help your daughter look up prices of the items. Then, she should decide how much money to save each week. Consider letting her open a savings account, too. You can show her how to check the balance—she'll feel pride as she watches her savings grow.♥



## ACTIVITY CORNER

# Attention stretchers

Boost your child's attention span with these hands-on ideas that use everyday materials:

- Create a "spiderweb." Have everyone stand in a circle with one person holding a ball of yarn. That person grasps one end of the yarn and tosses the ball to any other player. Your youngster must pay attention so he'll be ready when the ball comes his way. Toss it back and forth enough times, and your child will be delighted by a giant web of yarn!



- Try this classic game that requires focus. You'll need three cups and a small toy like a plastic frog. While your youngster watches, put the toy under one cup. Now slide the cups around for 30 seconds, constantly mixing up their order. Can your child tell you which cup the toy is under? Then, let him try to stump you. *Idea:* For a bigger challenge, increase the time or add more cups.♥



# *From the Nurse's Office*

Submitted by Gloria Klettke, RN

***Welcome back to the new school year!***

***Here are some reminders regarding Health Services in the IEC***

## **Medication in school**

Please do not send any medication to school with your child.

Medication must be dropped off by an adult. A current physician's order is required each new school year along with a parent's signature.

"Medication in school" forms are available by calling the health office or on line at [www.lew-port.com](http://www.lew-port.com) under Health Services.

The medication must be labeled with your child's name, and be in the original container from the pharmacy. Please ask the pharmacist for a second labeled, empty bottle to be used for field trips. This is a new New York State law for sending prescription medications along on field trips.

## **Mandated Physical Exams for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5th Grade and New Students to Lewiston Porter**

### **The grades in which physical exams are required has changed for the 2017-2018 year**

Student physicals are mandated by New York State for all children in 3rd and 5th grades and all new students to the Lewiston Porter School District. The physical must be dated after September 4, 2017. New York State allows physicals to be considered current up to one year before the start of the 2018-2019 school year.

Physical forms are available online at [www.lew-port.com](http://www.lew-port.com). Your child's primary care provider can fax the physical to the IEC at 286-7854.

It is best practice for your child to see their own physician. Please let me know when I can expect the physical to be completed if it has not yet been handed in. Thank you to all parents who have already sent in the required paper work.

## **Vision, Hearing and Scoliosis Screening**

Vision and hearing screening will be conducted in the Health Office for all new children to the Lew-Port district and for children in grades 3 and 5. Fifth grade girls will also be screened for scoliosis. Scoliosis screening has changed to screen only girls in 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade and boys in 9<sup>th</sup> grade per NYS law. If there is any concern about the results, parents will be contacted in writing to follow up with their child's health care provider for further testing.

**Please call me or e-mail me with any questions or health concerns.**

**286-7284 or [gklettke@lew-port.com](mailto:gklettke@lew-port.com)**

**The IEC Health Office is accepting clothing donations of the following items  
in all sizes:**

**T-shirts, elastic waist pants & shorts, and girl's leggings**



# *Health & Wellness*

Submitted by Dana Thompson

Intermediate school classes will be participating in a Health & Wellness program with Mrs. Thompson throughout the school year. Each class will receive 10 sessions about topics related to physical and emotional health during puberty. A parent permission slip will be sent home with the students. Parents will have the opportunity to allow their children to participate in the health program or opt-out from the health classes. Children who do not participate in the classes will be allowed to work on class assignments in an alternate location. If any parent has additional questions regarding the program, please call Mrs. Thompson at 286-7201 or email [dthompson@lew-port.com](mailto:dthompson@lew-port.com).

### **Topics discussed in 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> grade include:**

- The role of family/self-esteem
- The endocrine system and the role of hormones in growth & development
- Gender differences in puberty
- Personal hygiene
- Nutrition & physical activity
- Puberty changes
- Cyber safety
- Infections/HIV & AIDS

### **Topics discussed in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade include:**

- The role of the family
- Personal body safety
- Nutrition & healthy eating
- Healthy snacking
- Cyber safety/bullying
- Hygiene

Students will keep a journal for the classes, and will be asked to reflect on topics discussed each week. Students are also encouraged to leave questions in the “question box” each week on anything that is discussed that requires further explanation.

## Lew-Port Teachers Give Back

This summer, donations and school supplies made their way from Lewiston to India. Ms. Plewa's summer included travels to India and a stop at the Tibetan Children's Village. TCV is a school in Dharamsala, India which educates and cares for over a thousand Tibetan children. They operate solely on donations and sponsorships. Ms. Plewa asked her teacher friends at the IEC that if they had any extra school supplies she could bring them to TCV. There were also several teachers at the PEC, MS and HS who sent supplies. She received 50 pounds of supplies, as well as monetary donations. Altogether, including Ms. Plewa's own family and friends, more than \$500 was raised for the school. The primary teachers loved the crayons, colored pencils and markers.



Ms. Plewa toured the school campus and met teachers and administrators, and of course, many children. As luck would have it, she was asked to fill in for an absent teacher, and she subbed a few English classes: "It was one of the most amazing highlights of my trip."

Over the years, Ms. Plewa has collected holiday gift donations from TEAM PLEWA families contributing over \$1,200. What a generous community of teachers and families we have at Lewiston-Porter. Ms. Plewa thanks you all !!!



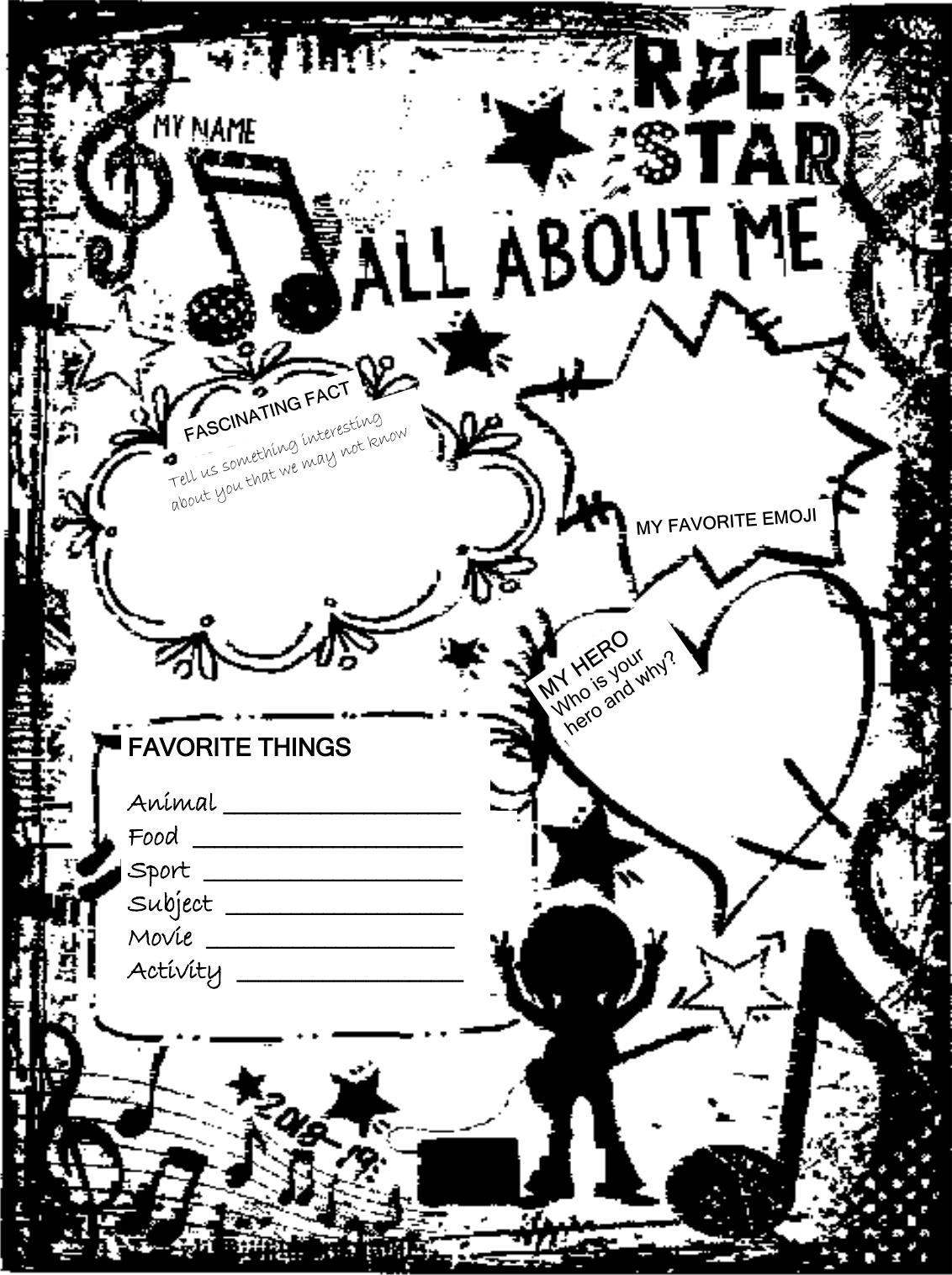
**Get to know your IEC Rock Stars! Please take a minute to get to know your teachers. In the main foyer of the IEC, your teachers have completed a "Get to Know You" activity. You will enjoy reading all about the teachers. If your child has not yet completed a "Get to Know You" sheet (on the following page), please have them complete the activity and send it to the main office.**

### *Did you know ...*

**Uncle Sam Day** celebrates a symbol of America. The officially recognized theory of how Uncle Sam emerged dates back to soldiers stationed near Troy, NY during the War of 1812. Barrels of meat they received were stamped "U.S". The supplier was Samuel Wilson, who soldiers referred to as Uncle Sam. The first image of Uncle Sam appeared in 1813. In 1989, the U.S. Congress chose September 13th as Uncle Sam Day because "Uncle Sam" Wilson was born on September 13, 1776 in Troy, New York.

The American Legion was granted its federal charter by Congress on September 16, 1919. It was established to assist veterans returning from World War I. Since then, it has grown and supported veterans of all wars, and veterans of peacetime as well. The American Legion currently has over 3 million member veterans, at more than 14,000 posts worldwide. They provide a social community and mutual aid to all members. While the American Legion was formed in 1919, it wasn't until 2009 that this special day was created. On September 15, 2009, Congress proclaimed September 16th as **American Legion Day**.

**The Autumn equinox** signals the beginning of Fall. It is the point where there is exactly 12 hours of daylight and 12 hours of darkness at the equator. If you live anywhere else, you will see a little bit more or less than 12 hours of daylight. The daylight hours are dwindling, and will continue to do so until the Winter Solstice, the shortest day of the year and start of winter.



# ROCK STAR

## ALL ABOUT ME

MY NAME \_\_\_\_\_

FASCINATING FACT

Tell us something interesting about you that we may not know

MY FAVORITE EMOJI \_\_\_\_\_

MY HERO  
Who is your hero and why?

### FAVORITE THINGS

- Animal \_\_\_\_\_
- Food \_\_\_\_\_
- Sport \_\_\_\_\_
- Subject \_\_\_\_\_
- Movie \_\_\_\_\_
- Activity \_\_\_\_\_

2019-20



## School Attendance

The IEC school day begins with the students getting off the bus at 8:45 a.m. If you are driving your student in, they should also arrive at 8:45 a.m. Classroom announcements begin at 8:55 a.m.

Any student arriving after 8:55 a.m. will be considered tardy.

Afternoon dismissal is at 3:30 p.m.

Any students leaving prior to 3:25 p.m. will be considered an early dismissal.

Regular attendance at school is vital if a student hopes to do well. Our school district has adopted an attendance policy based upon our District's education and community needs, values and priorities. The School District has determined that absences, tardiness and early departures will be considered excused or unexcused according to the following standards:

**Excused:** An absence, tardiness or early departure may be excused if due to the following, or other such reasons as may be approved by the Board of Education.:

- Personal illness
- Illness or death in the family
- Impassable roads due to inclement weather
- Religious observance
- Quarantine
- Attendance at health clinics
- Approved school field trips
- Approved college visits
- Military obligations
- Required court appearances

**Unexcused:** An absence, tardiness or early departure is considered unexcused if the reason for the lack of attendance does not fall into the above categories (e.g., family vacation, hunting, babysitting, haircut, missing the bus or oversleeping).

A student who is absent from school, for all or part of a day, must provide a valid written explanation, including the date and a specific reason for the absence/tardiness, signed by a parent/guardian. The written excuse is given to the attendance clerk upon returning to school. A student who is absent due to an appointment is encouraged to be in attendance for as much of the day as possible. Until a valid excuse is received, the absence will be considered unexcused.

### **Notification Process**

To help increase attendance and decrease tardiness or early departures, written notification from the principal will be at 7, 14 and 21 absences. The teacher will call the parent/guardian after 10 absences. Written notification of possible retention will occur at 28 absences. With the progression of written notification, meetings will be established between parents/guardians and school personnel to discuss and implement strategies up to, and including, denial of grade level promotion.

Please call the office if your child will be absent, so that an attendance verification call will not be necessary.

## SCHOOL LUNCH

The Lewiston-Porter School District cafeteria serves breakfast and lunch to interested students. Both the breakfast and lunch programs at Lewiston-Porter are provided by a private food service firm.

- Breakfast and lunch menus are sent home with students at the beginning of each month, and are available on the school website.
- Breakfast is available.
- Students may choose a hot lunch or 'a la carte' items.
- Snacks, cookies and ice cream are available on limited days. Please call the school at ext. 7288 if you would like restrictions placed on your child's account.
- Food allergies should be reported to the school nurse and kitchen staff.
- You may prepay your child's lunch account at any time through MySchoolBucks.com, or checks payable to the Lewiston-Porter Central School District sent to school with your child.
- The cost of breakfast is \$1.75, reduced cost is \$.25
- The cost of lunch is \$2.10, reduced cost is \$.25
- Free/Reduced School Meals information is sent home at the beginning of the school year. An application may be requested at any time by calling the office.

In the event a student does not have lunch or lunch money, it is the District practice that he/she will be allowed to charge a lunch for that day. Please send payment with your child to the **IEC Main Office** on the next school day to reimburse the main office for the provided meal.

Lewiston-Porter is using **myschoolbucks.com**, an online service allowing you to pay for your student's school meals online, using your credit/debit card or electronic check.

If you have any questions regarding our food service, please call Anna Thomas, Food Service Director, at 716-286-7288.

**A reminder to parents:**

*Please only drop off students if you see a staff member at the arrival doors between 8:45 and 8:55 a.m. (and for safety, only on the curb side)*

**All students being dropped off AFTER 8:55 a.m. MUST be brought into the office and signed in by an adult.**

**Please remember that students should arrive no earlier than 8:45 a.m. or 8:00 a.m. for tutorials.**

**If your child is absent, please call the office to let us know.  
Thanks for your cooperation.**

**For the safety of all our students,  
everyone will be asked for picture ID each time you visit the IEC.  
We also encourage parents to refrain from walking students  
to their classrooms and lockers.**

**Thank you for helping us to keep our students safe!**

**YMCA Before and After School Program  
held at the PEC  
Call: YMCA Niagara Falls 285-8491**