September 2022 Administrative Reports

Primary Education Center (attached)

Intermediate Education Center (in-person)

Middle School (attached)

High School (in-person)

September 2022 Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2022 NEWSLETTER



PARENT NIGHT SEPTEMBER 22, 2022

You are cordially invited to our annual Parent Night on Thursday, September 22, 2022 for grades K-2. Please enter and exit through the PEC Main Entrance. Mrs. Larson and Mrs. Krecisz will also be available throughout the evening if you have any questions. We may also be reached at <u>tlarson@lew-port.com</u> or <u>akrecisz@lew-port.com</u> or 716-286-7222. The PTSA will be selling spirit-wear in our main foyer.

What will be discussed at the Parent Night?

This program will be a general informational meeting and is a wonderful opportunity for you to build positive school and family connections. Each teacher will describe their teaching and learning environment. They will also talk about what a typical day is like for your child in school, including schedules, on-line resources, special field trips and projects. Teachers will explain how you as a parent can become more involved in your child's education.

You will have an opportunity to meet with support teachers (reading, math, speech, occupational therapy, social worker and the school psychologist); consultant teachers, as well as the special-area teachers (Physical Education, Library Media, STEAM, Vocal Music, Art &

Mandarin Chinese Enrichment). These teachers play an integral part in your child's development and it would be beneficial to meet with them to learn about your child's program. Please refer to the schedule on the back of this letter for your child's grade-level meetings.

*Please note that

Private parent/teacher conferences will be held on December 9th, at which time it is appropriate to ask any questions you wish concerning your child's educational needs and progress in a confidential setting. You may also request a meeting at any time to discuss your child's educational goals and progress.

We look forward to partnering with you for a successful school year!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Larson, Principal & Aliscia Krecisz Lewiston-Porter Primary Education Center Elementary Program Coordinator



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Would you like to become a parent volunteer for your child's school?

You are most welcome to join us in creating a rich and positive learning environment for our children.

We believe that volunteers are vital members of the community of learners at the Primary Education Center. All of us benefit from the work you do by enriching the lives of our children and staff. As a volunteer, you are essential to the success of our program.



We will be holding a parent volunteer orientation on Parent Night, Thursday, September 22 at 5:15 p.m. in the Primary Education Center Library. This orientation is mandatory for all parent volunteers.

primary Education Cente September 2022										
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat				
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4	5 Labor Day District Closed	6 First Day for Grades 1 &2 UPK & Kindergarten Appointments. Day 1	7 UPK & Kindergarten Appointments Day 2	8 First Full Day for UPK & Kindergarten Day 3	9 Day 4	10				
11	12 BOE Work Session @6 pm, CRC Boardroom Day 5	13 Early Release for Elementary Students 8:40- 2:25 Day 6	14 Day 1	15 Day 2	16 Day 3	17				
18	19 Day 4	20 Day 5	21 Day 6	22 Parent Volunteer Orientation @ 5:15, PEC Library. Parent Night @ 6pm Day 1	23 First Day of Autumn Day 2	24				
25	26 Regular Board Meeting @ 6 pm, CRC Boardroom	27 PEC Picture Day	28	29	30					
	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 1					

THE PEC IS A PLACE WHERE EVERYONE BELONGS!







BRING YOUR BEST SMILE Picture Day For Primary Education Center Is scheduled for Tuesday, September 27, 2022 Picture Day event's Order Code is 72359XB



NEW OPPORTUNITIES & FACES AT THE PEC

There are many new exciting faces and lots of fun changes on the LP campus. Many teachers are transitioning into new roles this coming school year. Jacey Diez has joined the

kindergarten team and has been planning all summer with her team to prepare for this transition. Darcy Allender and Ann Marie Oliverio have joined the 1st grade team. Leah Khatib will be returning as a long term substitute in 2nd grade. Kristen Maggi and Miranda Schultz have looped to 2nd and 1st grade, respectively. Leah Jasek will be returning as our probationary 2nd grade teacher. Katie Eckstein and Sonja Marchetti have transferred to the IEC. We wish all of our staff success in their new positions as they grow in new directions.

As a result of these new opportunities, we are welcoming new teachers, a new office secretary and a new school psychologist to the PEC!



ADRIANNA AMMERMAN - 8:1+2

Adrianna Ammerman was born and raised in Amherst, New York. After graduating with an undergraduate degree in History from SUNY Brockport and receiving her New York State teaching certifications in General Education and Students with Disabilities, she lived in New York City for 8 years and worked as a teacher for the New York City Department of Education. Ms. Ammerman's teaching experiences also include teaching English to students in Gwangju, South Korea and working as a teacher for Jewish High Holidays at Park Avenue Synagogue in New York City. During her time in New York City, Ms. Ammerman attended CUNY Queens College program for Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages. She graduated with her masters degree in Applied Linguistics. She currently resides in Grand Island, New York with her 2 cats named Luna and Stash. This is her 1st year teaching at the Lewiston-Porter Central School District and she is thrilled to be here! Ms. Ammerman loves the Lewiston community and can often be found in town sipping coffee at "Orange Cat". This year Ms. Ammerman will be working as a Special Education Teacher in the PEC.



MACKENNA DALY -KINDERGARTEN



CARRIE ZODA - KINDERGARTEN

Mrs. Zoda has been a fourth grade teacher for 8 years and started her teaching career in

first grade. This year she will enter the exciting world of Kindergarten. She is excited to begin a new adventure with her kindergartners. She has taught in private schools in Hamburg and Orchard Park. She is excited to be working in her home school district at the PEC.



ALLISON BLOCK - ICT



RACHEL STIFFEN – SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST

Rachel Stiffen is from Burnt Hills, NY. She graduated from the University at Buffalo in

May 2022. She is excited to begin her first year as a School Psychologist at Lew-Port. She is looking forward to a great school year at the PEC!























SAVE THE DATES FOR FUN RUN 2022: OCTOBER 10-21...THE X FACTOR IS COMING TO LANCER NATION...STAY TUNED!









INFORMATION FROM THE STEAM TEAM!

Dear Families,

The STEAM room is full of designers, engineers, and amazing STEAM learners! We are always using a variety of materials to create prototypes as we identify solutions to problems and create new inventions.

Most of the time we use simple materials to design, build, and test our ideas. We are currently looking for items that you may have at home to stock (and keep stocked throughout the year) our classroom.

We hope you can support our STEAM learning by donating some household (and other) items. Your recyclables and overstocks can be used for lots of projects in the STEAM room.

Useful items to have in the classroom are:

*cardboard boxes - example: cereal, cake mix... (broken down for easy transport and storage)
*paper towel and toilet paper tubes
*bubble wrap and other packing materials
*egg cartons
*paper, plastic, styrofoam cups
*paper, plastic, styrofoam plates and bowls
*cotton swabs
*pipe cleaners
*paper lunch bags
*rolls of aluminum foil
*rolls of tape (any type)
*rolls of twine, string, yarn
*anything you think is good (and safe) for classroom building

Thank you in advance for your help!

LEADER IN ME AT THIS SCHOOL, WE BELIEVE EVERY CHILD CAN BE A LEADER! LEADER IN ME STAY TUNED FOR FUTURE LEADERS



WELCOME TO LEADER IN ME

Each new school year brings opportunities for academic growth and growth in all areas of development. Although children must be knowledgeable when they graduate, they must also be healthy, engaged, responsible, and caring people.

We're grateful you're here at our school and we're excited to partner with you and your child. As a *Leader in Me* School, we believe that every member of your family has greatness and we can't wait to learn and grow from you! Leader in Me (LIM) is an evidence-based, comprehensive school-improvement model - developed in partnership with educators and Franklin Covey - that empowers students with the leadership and life skills they need to thrive in a global community.

Our school has chosen to operate through a uniquely different lens. *Leader in Me* is about empowering your child to reach their full potential while ultimately finding their voice. As a school, the staff in this building have made five core commitments to your child. We call these our Core Paradigms. In these paradigms you will find the belief and way we view all students. At this school we see that:

*Everyone is a leader.
*Everyone has genius.
*Change starts with me.
*We empower students to lead their own learning.
*Educators and families partner to develop the whole person.

Not only do these paradigms apply to your student, they apply to all of us!

Leader in Me provides our school with the vision and language to lead the school in a way that addresses all areas of development. As each child discovers and develops their unique gifts and talents, they are given opportunities to lead. As leaders, they become active, engaged partners in their own education, and their self confidence, responsibility, and initiative grows.

The children quickly understand the benefits of different gifts and talents; they learn to listen to new ideas, work together to achieve results, and motivate one another to be the best.

Parents as Partners

As a *Leader in Me* School, one of the 5 Core Paradigms is that parents and teachers partner to support the whole child. What this means is that we value you as your student's first teacher. You know your student best. Oftentimes it's easy to assume that teachers are the only ones who are responsible for a student's academic and social success in school. As a parent of a *Leader in Me* student, we believe that you are a valuable member of our Learning Team. You have an important role in the educational journey of your student. Researcgshows that when parents are engaged in their student's education, the student's success, academically and behaviorally, increases significantly.

Partnering is about communication and relationships. We want to honor your family's culture, beliefs, and circumstances. We want to communicate with you about what is happening in school, but that is only one part of effective communication. We encourage you to share your opinions, ideas, and background. We believe that all of us have unique gifts and talents. If you are doing something at home that works well for our student, that you are proud of, or simply a fun fact about your family, share with us. Your input and voice is important!

Let's keep the communication lines open! We may have questions or concerns. Let's create space to ask questions and listen to each other. We want to be there for you! Just like you, we can't do this alone. We must come together as a Learning Team to support your student and ensure they have every opportunity for success.

We look forward to our partnership!



PARENT PORTAL!

If you are a parent/guardian that has not yet had an opportunity to set up your parent portal, please take some time to do so as soon as possible. Having access to parent portal and using the app can be an extremely helpful way to receive important information regarding your child's grades, missing assignments, and other important updates. This is especially true for parents of students in grades 3-12. It can also be used to verify your contact information as

you'll see in the next section. To access the parent portal, visit our website and click on the icon that looks like the image you see pictured here on the right.

If you are trying to reset your username or password, there is a link on the sign-in page. Follow the prompts and check your email. Sometimes it may find its way into your spam box. Once you get the email you should be able to reset your account.

If you are new to Parent Portal, you should have received a letter that would give you access codes to get connected. If you did not get that letter, or if you experience difficulty getting signed up, you may call your child's school for assistance.

<u>Click this link to visit the Parent Portal Resource Page on our website. Here you will find</u> everything you need. I have also included some resources for you here: 1. Links to the apps: <u>PowerSchool App</u> (Google Play Store) <u>PowerSchool App</u> (Apple Store)

- 2. Video on how to get set up with PowerSchool (see below).
- 3. Written instructions are also available here.

*Parents will need a working email address, and a PowerSchool Access Code. This is provided by the school at the start of the year. If you need that information, please contact the main office of your child's school. For the app, you will also need the district code **CSXQ**.

Updating Contact Information in Parent Portal

It is absolutely vital that you ensure that the district has up-to-date contact information in PowerSchool. You will miss out on important district communication if there is not an accurate email and/or phone number listed. It is a good idea to have an email listed for each parent/guardian whenever possible. Usually documentation is sent home from each building describing how to set up your parent portal account and/or how to update your information. <u>Click here for a short tutorial.</u>

<u>When a district-wide communication is sent out (usually on Friday afternoons) it is shared in</u> <u>several ways:</u>

- A. Email is sent to each parent/guardian listed.
- B. A link posted on our district webpage.
- C. A link texted to each parent/guardian listed.
- D. A link is posted on Twitter <u>@LewPortCSD</u>. Please follow us!
- E. A link is posted on our Facebook page

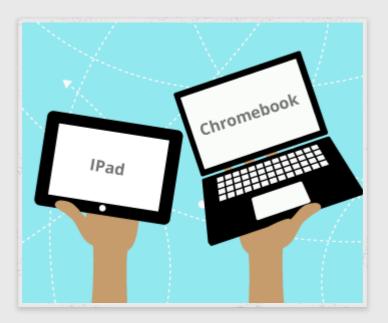
F. A copy is shared on our Family App which can be downloaded <u>here for Android</u> and <u>here for Apple</u>.





DIGITAL EQUITY

- NYSED is requiring that districts collect information from families regarding their technology access at home. This data will assist school districts in making sure that all families have equitable access to educational resources.
- Earlier this year many families completed a survey that helped to jumpstart this process. As a result we were able to assist families that were in need of internet access.
- Now we have the ability to store this information securely and confidentially in PowerSchool so that we have a thorough understanding of our student population.
- Students in grades 6-12 will be given time to log into their student portal and complete the short survey. As parents, you will have the opportunity to review and edit those responses if needed.
- We ask that parents of students in grades K-5 log into their parent portal and respond to questions on behalf of their children.
- <u>This presentation</u> will walk you through this very simple process.
- Thank you in advance for your help with this. If you are unable to to complete the survey electronically, please call your child's school and we can record the information for you.



TECHNOLOGY AT HOME

Lewiston-Porter is a 1:1 school district. That means every student has a device assigned to them to facilitate learning. In grades 3-12 all students are assigned a Chromebook. In grades K-2, all students are assigned an iPad.

From the start of the school year, students in grades 4-12 bring their Chromebooks home on a nightly basis. Students in these grade levels benefit from having the device for study, review, homework, projects, and communication with teachers.

Students in grades K-3 keep their devices in school for the first two months. The requirements for work at home are significantly less and we don't want to burden the students or parents with the task and responsibility of caring for an expensive device if it is not completely necessary. As November approaches we will provide more information about sending devices home in an effort to prepare for possible emergency weather/closing days.

Last year we provided parents the option to accept or decline devices for this purpose. Some parents felt that if we were closed for a day or two they could use the technology they have at home for remote instruction (computer, laptop, tablets, phones). Others accepted the device so they could ensure their child had something to work with in case school closed. Please keep an eye out for this information in mid October and choose the option works best for you.



MOBILE HOTSPOT

At Lewiston-Porter we have made a strong effort to ensure that all students have equitable access to digital materials while their at school and while they're at home. To that end, we have partnered with T-Mobile to offer free mobile hotspots to families that are in need.

If you would like to request a hotspot please complete the form below.

Click here to complete a request form.

Here are some helpful phone numbers for people to reach out to:

Child Protection Services (CPS) Niagara County Department of Social Services: 716-278-8650 Mandated Reporters: 1-800-635-1522 Public Callers: 1-800-342-3720

Domestic Violence Hotlines Lockport: 433-6716 Niagara Falls: 285-6984 North Tonawanda:692-5643 National: 1-800-799-7233

Crisis Services hotline(24 Hours) Niagara County: 285-3513 Erie County: 834-3131

Haven House, Ellicott Street #451 Buffalo , NY 14203: 884-6000

Rape Crisis Services-YWCA of Niagara, 32 Cottage St. Lockport, NY 14094: 343-2858

Family Justice Center: Services for Domestic Violence Victims 330 North Forest, Amherst, NY 14221 :634-4309

Reminder!

Sometimes learning is messy! Please make sure your Child has an extra set of weather appropriate Clothing in their locker.





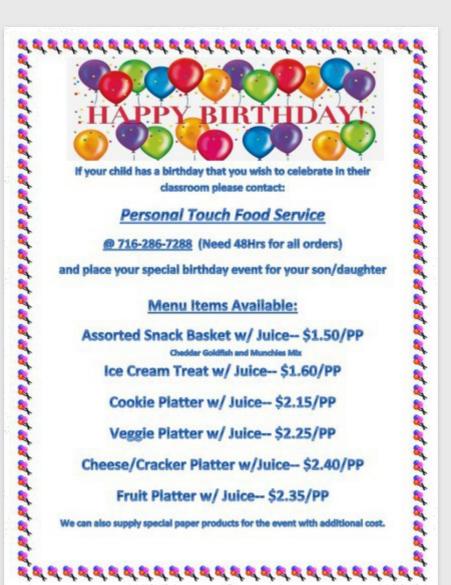
Wear-n-Share Clothing Closet

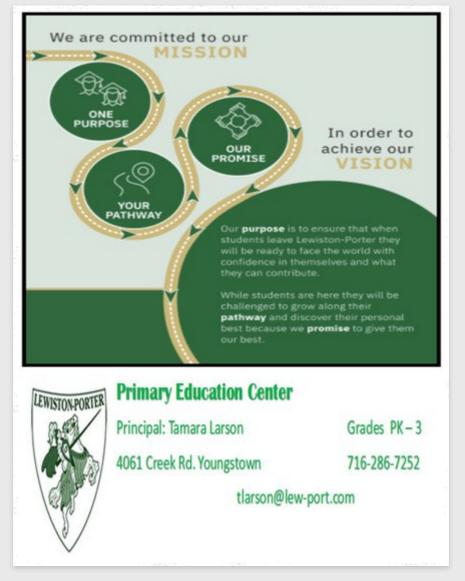


Mondays: 11-1 pm Wednesdays: 11 am - 1 pm & 6 - 8 pm Sundays: 11 am - 1 pm

> Lew-Port Community Resource Building 4061 Creek Road Youngstown, NY 14174

intercommunityservices.org







Board Notes

Monday, September 26,2022

General

- The start to the 2022-2023 school year has been outstanding in my opinion. As you may or may not be aware, we used the first early release day on September 13 as an opportunity to "reset" the culture of our building. The Restorative Practices Summer team of teachers that include Kevin Kirsch, Kim Alexander, Nina Calarco, Liz Buck, Stephanie Bond and Claire Marshall worked many hours over the summer to set up the process for the day. We ran a modified schedule and started the day with a Lancer Round Table and Community forum in the High School auditorium. Later, students participated in team building activities with their NEST/CREW and showed off their CREW flags and CREW names. It was a great day and we got some very positive feedback from students and the staff. We anticipate that we will be doing up to 5 more of these types of days throughout the year that we will use for this type of team building and culture resets.
- We used the Community Forum/Lancer Round table to establish our school expectations. Here is a link to the slides that we reviewed with the students: <u>ERD 9/13/22 slides</u>
- The expectations were also shared with parents in our <u>2022 Welcome back Student/Parent letter</u> as well as at <u>OPEN HOUSE/MEET THE TEACHER</u> that was held on Wednesday, September 7 for 6th Grade and Thursday, September 8 for Grades 7 and 8.
- The building was open to ALL Parents/Guardians on the evening of the corresponding grade levels and we had a decent turn out on both nights. We will offer a "Virtual Open House", similar to what was offered last school year, that can be accessed on our web page any time. This information is now available on the Middle School website under the Parent and Student resources tab.

Good To Know

- AIMSWeb Fall benchmark testing in ELA and Math was completed on 9/14 and 9/15. We are finishing up make ups and reports will be printed and mailed home to parents soon.
- October 3 October 7 will be our Middle School Spirit week in conjunction with Homecoming week at the High School. The week will culminate in a Pep Rally for students and we will be having a modified schedule on Friday, October 7 in order to accommodate the activities. More information on themed days will be coming soon.
- Clubs and activities are back in full swing with our International Connections, Chess Club, Builders Club and Student Council all seeing great participation numbers.
- > October 3-October 7 Spirit Week
- > October 7 Pep Rally
- > October 10 No School Columbus Day/Indigenous Peoples' Day
- > October 11 Early Release Day
- > October 28 No Students Superintendent Conference Day

Please let me know if you have any questions, thoughts, or concerns. Andy

"YOU CANNOT DO A KINDNESS TOO SOON, FOR YOU NEVER KNOW WHEN IT WILL BE TOO LATE." -RALPH WALDO EMERSON