



News from the Principal

Once a Slicer, Always a Slicer

August 2018

Welcome to the 2018-2019 school year and welcome to another great opportunity to work together to prepare LPHS students for the post-secondary world. Here in LaPorte the school, parents, and the community are working together to give students learning opportunities today that prepare them for tomorrow.

I am excited about many productive community partnerships and programs that are developing this school year at LPHS. "Hire A Slicer," Slicer Champions Mentor Program, Guiding All Kids counseling initiative, programming in the Performing Arts, and more career development initiatives demonstrate the community's and school's shared interest in our student's future. The onset of the state's new graduation pathways also gives our students opportunities beyond a single test to demonstrate college and career readiness. LPHS is earnestly putting together an implementation plan so students can take advantage of new graduation options.

It is going to be a productive school year. This month's newsletter has some beginning-of-year info to help you know what is happening in our school and you can also find lots more in the summer newsletter. All newsletters are posted on our school website.

In Hallway 2 I had this quote painted on the wall. "The journey is better than the inn." Let us seek results and outcomes, but not forget to enjoy the journey along the way. Have a great school year!

Go Slicers!
Ben Tonagel

State Mandated Curriculum Consent

On July 1, 2018, the state passed Senate Bill 65 which requires parent consent to curriculum addressing human sexuality. We have listed this information for you on Parent Access in Skyward. Please log into your Skyward account (contact the school if you have not set up an account), go to Parent Access (<http://www.lpcsc.k12.in.us/parents/>) and follow the link on the home page of Parent Access indicating that there is a new form that needs to be completed. The form is available through the "Online Forms" tab on the left side of the Parent Access screen. If you have more than one child, a form must be completed and submitted for each child.

Bell Schedule

LPHS will be making some adjustments to the bell schedule for the 2018-2019 school year. The start and dismissal times will remain the same, but the schedule will now include Slicer Resource Time every day of the week. Slicer Resource Time is a multi-resource period organized by graduation cohort. SRT is used for school-wide college and career readiness activities, graduation cohort activities and lessons, study time, and more. With the change to semesters where students take seven classes at a time, our staff feels SRT is supportive to students. With these goals in mind, each SRT day of the week will be dedicated to certain activities. Students will be using Canvas on their chromebooks for the school wide activities. More info will be shared with students in the upcoming SRT times.

Chromebook Rollout

Chromebooks were distributed to returning students during Open House and during these first few weeks of school. The chromebook rollout went very well. This school year Mrs. Taylor and Mr. Fettinger are

managing chromebooks and the S.O.S Center in the media center.

All paperwork must have already been turned in or with the student when they pick up their chromebook. Students need both papers in order to be issued a chromebook. For grades 10-12, students must have their cases with them. If a student didn't turn in the charger at the end of the year, they will need to bring it with them or they will have to pay for it.

To help students and parents, an optional maintenance plan is available. Parents have an opportunity to purchase the optional maintenance plan through Sept. 4 for \$30.

Students can use the Service on Site (S.O.S) Center in the Media Center to get help with their chromebook. Student interns help service all school devices while getting valuable career experience.

Students and parents are reminded of the requirement to keep the chromebook in the provided case at all times. The chromebook is school owned while the case is student owned. Students may decorate their case, but not the chromebook. Thank you for your assistance!

PSAT

PSAT Testing is scheduled for Oct. 10 for grades 9, 10, and 11. LPHS administers the PSAT school-wide because it is a comprehensive assessment that measures necessary skills and knowledge for college and career readiness and success. The PSAT allows us to monitor student progress over their high school years and helps students prepare for the SAT. It provides insight for remediating student strengths or deficiencies for college and career readiness.

Results from the PSAT also provide students with information on how to prepare for the SAT. Students are able to see their score reports for strengths and weaknesses and what was wrong and why. Using a free instructional resource (Khan Academy) students can build their own practice plan

that is tailored to their academic needs. Students should set this up to practice for the SAT. The best part is it is free!

The PSAT also helps guide the course selection process. Results from the PSAT will help students and the school increase AP participation through a tool called "AP Potential." Students can ask their counselor if their PSAT results indicate they are ready for an Advanced Placement course.

Attendance Policy

LPHS is in Year 2 of an overhauled attendance policy that eliminated the excessive absence (EA) policy and changed to a performance based policy. In the updated policy all unverified absences result in an attendance/participation grade reduction. Parents are asked to report all absences to the school in a timely manner to verify student attendance. Student tardies to class also count in the policy. LPHS is striving for 95% or higher attendance and punctual, college and career ready students.

School Pictures

All school pictures were taken during the week of Aug. 20. Students received one printed ID badge to be put in the chromebook case. A second ID badge will be passed out with lanyards at a later date for students to wear as identification during the school day. This procedure is being put in place to increase safety. Information about the ID badge requirement will be disseminated to parents in another communication.

Performing Arts Center Building Project

Construction progress on the new Performing Arts Center is noticeable. Each day we are getting closer and closer to completion. Construction crews have moved to the interior after the drive and sidewalks were poured. Door #16 is open for student drivers. Parent drop off/pickup should continue to use Door #9. We anticipate having another student dismissal door after the PAC is completed. We do not have a finish date yet, but we are getting closer.

GoSlicers.com

Keep up to date on Slicer athletics, stories, & activities at GoSlicers.com. <http://goslicers.com/>

Library Media Center Hours

Beginning Aug. 27 the Media Center and Service on Site Center times will change to better accommodate students. The library will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m Monday-Thursday. On Fridays it will close at 2:45 p.m. Please note the S.O.S. is closed during Slicer Resource Time.

Student IDs 2018-2019

Students received one printed ID card during pictures in August and will receive another ID and lanyard in the coming weeks. In an effort to improve safety LPHS staff and students are required to wear an ID with a school-issued lanyard during the school day. As a matter of school safety, all staff, students, and visitors need to display identification during the school day. Each chromebook case has an ID slot for students to put their ID in to help with organization.

Welcome Foreign Exchange Students

LPHS is excited to welcome a new group of foreign exchange students for the 2018-2019 school year.

Montanan Gulpanich (Thailand)

Lilly Kahn (Germany)

Remi Berard (France)

Barbora Parcová (Slovakia)

Niels Gärtner (Germany)

Nestor Valero Fuertes (Spain)

Marlene Schuller (Germany)

Parent Drop Off/Pick-Up & Student Parking

Parents are reminded that parent drop-off is off of 6th Street at Door 9. Please pull up as close to the “drop off” sign as possible. This helps alleviate traffic congestion on the street and four-way corner and is safer for students as they exit the car and walk to the building. The parent drive is a one-lane route that exits south. New signs and traffic cones will be added to aid traffic flow. Thank you for your help in having a safe and orderly arrival/dismissal

AskRose Homework Help

Rose-Hulman’s homework hotline is now called AskRose Homework Help. AskRose.org, telephone: is 877-Ask-Rose. Students can get assistance through -chat, email, tutoring by appointment, face-to face virtual group tutoring, and, of course, telephony.

LPHS Counseling

College Fair at PNW: Wed, October 3, 6-7:30 p.m.
Dworkin Student Center

College GO Week: LPHS will participate in College GO Week September 17-21. Students will be doing activities in Slicer Resource Time, there will be on site college admissions, trivia, and more.

All grades are welcome to financial aid night, but senior parents are highly encouraged to attend. A meeting will take place September 18, 6-7 p.m. in the cafeteria.

FASFA opens October 1. Looking to hold parent meeting, not settled on date for speaker.

Please be careful to watch college application deadlines, check admission websites for exact dates. November 1 is a common deadline to qualify for merit based scholarships.

Counselors will be meeting with juniors and seniors individually to review graduation progress. We will be working in SRT to review graduation requirements for all students.

Slicer Health Clinic

The Slicer Health Clinic is scheduled to open soon and will provide health care services on the high school campus. Services will be provided by the LaPorte Physician Network. The clinic will be open 7:30 a.m.- 4:00 p.m in conjunction with the school calendar. The clinic is supported by a grant from the Healthcare Foundation of LaPorte. Email SHC@lph.org with questions or to enroll your student. Medical consent forms can be found on the

district's website:

<http://www.lpcsc.k12.in.us/parents/forms.asp>