



News from the Principal

Once a Slicer, Always a Slicer

October/November 2018

Thanks for reading this edition of my parent/community newsletter. The fall colors and time change are reminders that the seasons are changing and the school year is advancing. Change is upon us.

Change is hard. Whether adjusting to eLearning, preparing for new graduation pathway requirements, getting used to a new bell schedule, wearing IDs, or adjusting to daylight savings time, change isn't easy! As a school we trying to turn the corner with some of these topics by demonstrating a willingness to work and learn through new challenges together. More than ever today's workforce requires employees to demonstrate new skills of adaptability, time management, and problem solving. Many of the changes that happen at school today can help students establish a foundation for how to face future challenges in the workplace that are sure to be more demanding and will require more grit and perseverance. Change is not easy, but it can develop in us many of the skills and behaviors that will be needed for future opportunities.

I believe in my students and school and the life-long learning being demonstrated day-in and day-out with change.

Go Slicers!
Ben Tonagel

150 Acts of Service to Celebrate 150 years

LaPorte High School is holding a "Sesquicentennial Service Challenge" from October 22-November 16 in honor of its 150th anniversary. Each SRT is challenged to complete 150 acts of kindness to demonstrate what being a Slicer is all about. We welcome parents and community/business groups to

join the service challenge. What a great way to show kindness to others!

Business & Community Engagement Event

On Wednesday, Nov. 28 4-5pm at the LPHS Performing Arts Center there will be a special event for the community to learn about the graduation pathways and all the ways the business/community can get involved at LaPorte Community School Corporation. Guest speakers Blair Milo, Secretary of Career Connections and Talent and Ben Carter, IDOE Director of Workforce and Innovation will address guests.

Campus Identification

All staff and students are expected to display identification during the school day. Safety is a shared responsibility and it starts with identification on campus. Students have been provided an orange lanyard that must be worn to display their ID. A second ID was also provided to put in the chromebook case. Starting Nov. 12 students will not be permitted hallway passes without having their ID. If a student does not have their school-issued ID, they have two options:

1. Obtain a temporary ID from Student Services. The temporary ID must be turned in at the end of the school day.
2. Go to the media center to purchase a replacement ID from Mr. Fettinger.

Identification procedures are common in any business, place of work, or industry. Identification is just one measure that is in place to help create a safer environment.

eLearning

LPHS is preparing for official eLearning days in January and March 2019 by conducting a practice eLearning day on Nov. 13, 2018. On Nov. 13

students will report to school as normal and will complete eLearning activities throughout their schedule using Canvas.

To prepare for eLearning our staff and students have been learning to use Canvas with their chromebooks. Canvas Learning Management System is being integrated into each course at LPHS much like Google has been over the past several years. While Google is a great resource that is used heavily at LPHS, Canvas is the official resource system that will be used by students to log into their work via the Chromebook for eLearning days. By having a blend of electronic and face-to-face activities, students are practicing skills that are needed in today's world.

On Nov. 13 LPHS staff and students will be conducting a practice eLearning day. A practice day can help prepare for the eLearning days in 2019 by having staff and students conduct eLearning while in attendance at school. Our staff and students will practice using Canvas and then reflect on how well the electronic activities went and how we might adjust for the real eLearning days in Jan. and March 2019.

In order to get as much feedback as possible, we will need participation from students. The administration and staff request that parents not call off their student from school unless there is a legitimate need. Full student attendance participation on Nov. 13 in the eLearning activities will help staff and students plan for future eLearning experiences.

Per the LPCSC Calendar, student eLearning days are scheduled for Jan. 21 and March 18.

Please contact any administrator, counselor, or staff member with any questions about upcoming eLearning.

A Message From Ivy Tech

We can help you apply for grants, scholarships, loans, and other financial aid. Ivy Tech Community

College offers an excellent education, and charges the lowest tuition rates in the state while doing so. But for many, financial aid remains the key to funding that education, by helping you pay for everything from tuition to books to supplies.

You might be eligible for a lot more assistance than you'd expect-including scholarships that don't need to be paid back. But before you can get the money you may be eligible to receive, you'll need to know the steps you need to follow (and the dates you need to follow them by).

We know this process can be a little confusing, especially for first time students. But we will do everything we can to get you all the help you need. Stop by the Michigan City Campus for assistance today!

Simply walk-in to speak with our financial aid representative to get started on the next steps!

Financial aid representative:
Byron Hooper
219-879-9137 X6286

School Based Health Clinic

Use of the new Slicer Health Clinic is picking up as word spreads that students can obtain a variety of health care services at school. The clinic is available for routine visits, vaccinations, and more. It is located in the main commons near the nurse's station. New illuminated signage will be installed soon. Parents can find out more at http://www.lpcsc.k12.in.us/health_clinic

Healthy Communities of LP County JUUL Information Session

Electronic cigarettes are a concern to parents and educators. There are many dangers associated with electronic cigarettes and tobacco products including the JUUL. Many experts believe parents need to be informed about how these products are being marketed to youth and the long term health concerns associated with today's cigarette. With this end in mind, there will be a JUUL information session on Nov. 13 from 3:30-4:30 in Meeting Room B at

LaPorte Country Public Library, Main Branch. The session is open to students, parents, and the community.

All JUULs and electronic cigarettes are strictly prohibited at LPHS. Student possession of electronic devices and juuling supplies or use of the devices and supplies are subject to school discipline.

SEA 355

The Indiana General Assembly recently passed legislation regarding child abuse policies and instruction. SEA 355 requires the Department of Education to provide materials and guidelines for child abuse and child sexual abuse response policies and reporting procedures. It also expands the grade levels for child abuse and child sexual abuse education in schools from grades 2-5 to K-12. LPHS has had anti-bullying presentations through SRT, internet safety instruction for all grades through an assembly, and a positive choice assembly. Soon LPHS will provide age appropriate and research and evidence-based instruction on child abuse and child sexual abuse to meet the new legislation.

P/T Conferences

LPHS held the first of two school year P/T conferences on October 17/18. The next P/T conference at LPHS will be March 14, 5-8 p.m. As a reminder parents can sign up for conferences through their Skyward accounts.

“Choices” Safety Assemblies

On Oct. 26 LPHS 9th and 10 grades attended a special assembly for Red Ribbon Week. “Choices for Today” led by former NFL player William Green (Cleveland Browns), challenged students to make great choices and believe in themselves. William told students that “life is 10% what happens to you and 90% how you respond to it” and he shared how he has overcome many life tragedies. Thanks to the Choice for Today team and Slicer Support Services for making this event possible for our students.

LPHS Door Access and Campus Safety

With ever increasing efforts to improve safety, door access is being managed to provide a safer campus. Parents and students are advised that the building will be closed before school until 6:55 a.m. (regularly scheduled practices are an exception and are managed by the coaching staff of each specific practice). Students who ride the bus and who are dropped off earlier than 6:55 a.m. will be permitted to enter the cafeteria where a staff member will be supervising.

Students are reminded that LPHS operates a closed campus meaning that when students arrive on campus in the morning they are to enter the school and stay until dismissal. Bussed students, parent drop-offs, walkers, and student drivers are expected to remain on campus once they arrive. Students are not permitted to leave school grounds. Loitering on nearby street corners, walking to the convenient store, or just “hanging out” off school grounds is not permitted. We are asking for the cooperation of our students and parents with these expectations and procedures.

Performing Arts Center (PAC) Traffic

The Performing Arts Center area is open and the space is available to help with traffic on the “F” side of the building.

Before School: Parents will continue to drop off at Door 9 and proceed south towards the PAC. Traffic can exit on either side of the PAC “U” drive. The parent drive is not meant for two lanes of traffic.

After School: Parents who pick up students after school are urged to use the full drive that runs parallel to the building on the “F” St. side. Students can now exit the school at Door 13 so cars should line the entire drive towards the PAC. The PAC now provides two additional exits so traffic can exit more efficiently.

Chamber Hiring Event

LPHS participated in the Chamber of Commerce Hiring Event held at the Civic on Oct. 17. The event

gave some of our seniors the opportunity to learn about local positions and careers as well as having a greater awareness of local businesses. Business and community engagement is one of our school's major initiatives as we aim to help all students develop their post-secondary plans.

Work Ethic Certificate

This week in Slicer Resource Time students were made aware of the opportunity to complete the Work Ethic Certificate program. The program is designed to strengthen and recognize employability skills in students. The certificate is a regionally based program that is supported through the Center of Workforce Innovation. Local and regional employers and universities recognize this credential as evidence of community service and demonstrated employability skills. LPHS has about 65 students complete the program and received Work Ethic Certification. Employers and universities in our region and across the state recognize the Work Ethic Certificate. It looks great on a resume and/or a college application! The intent to participate form is due to each student's SRT teacher or to Mrs. Huff in Student Services.

Trick or Treat for Special Olympics

LaPorte High School held the Trick or Treat for Special Olympics on Oct. 25. The event is led by Slicer Student Athletic Council and is part of the IHSAA's Champions Together Program. This year's event raised a record \$3438 for Special Olympics! Congratulations to the Student Athletic Council and thanks to all the families who attended for their support and to the LPHS teams and clubs for participating in the event. Here is a video recap: <https://youtu.be/73Oj2ZZTTL0>

Graduation Pathways

Students who have attempted to pass the graduation qualifying exam (ISTEP), but have not passed have additional opportunities to meet graduation requirements with the state's new graduation pathways. The new graduation pathways provide additional options beyond a single test to qualify for a diploma. The graduation pathways have three

requirements: earn required credits, learn and demonstrate employability skills, and show postsecondary readiness competency in one of eight ways. Information on the graduation pathways is posted on the school's website. Check out the General Info sheet or the Checklist document.

ASVAB

Has your student mentioned taking another assessment at LPHS? He/she might have been referring to the ASVAB which LPHS is offering as an option for students to meet the new graduation pathways (box 3). The ASVAB is a multiple-aptitude battery, broken into eight to ten sub-tests, that measure developed abilities and help predict future academic and occupational success in the military. Students who have not passed the ISTEP may possibly benefit from the ASVAB. The test is given at LPHS on October 16, December 19, April 29, June 15. Parents/students should contact a school counselor with any questions about the ASVAB for their graduation pathway plan.