



# News from the Principal

*Once a Slicer, Always a Slicer*

## September 2018

The new school year is well underway and staff and students are working hard to make the most of a fast and busy schedule. The 7-period bell schedule undoubtedly is keeping us on our toes!

How do we adjust when there does not seem to be enough time in the day? I think a simple answer to this question is to “put first things first.” This action comes from a book I frequently cite: “The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People” by Stephen Covey. With limited time we need to make sure that our daily actions and resources serve our goals and ambitions. What are three or four things that matter most to moving you towards your goals? Are you making time to accomplish your “first things?”

The move to a 7-period day is challenging everyone to manage time more efficiently, but by identifying a few most important things, we can be sure to use our time so that it has the greatest impact on our goals.

Go Slicers!  
Ben Tonagel

## 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.

## 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. Students are expected to take care of their school provided IDs. 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.

## Food Service Charge Policy

The Food Service Dept. will begin to enforce the charge policy as of October 1st. Having a charge policy and proving that it is being implemented is required by the IDOE. A separate communication has been sent home with students about the policy. Parents are directed to the Free and Reduced Meal application at <http://www.lpcsc.k12.in.us/foodservice/>.

## School Photos

School photos were passed out to students in SRT. If a parent is missing any pictures, they can use the direct number for HR Imaging: 815-433-1869 | Mon-Fri: 9am-4pm CST. Picture retakes are Oct. 11 for underclassmen and seniors will have retakes Oct. 10-12.

## Ivy Tech

Ivy Tech will have an open house at the Michigan City campus on Thursday, Sept. 27 to bring attention to students, parents and adults of the great opportunities Ivy Tech Community College has to offer. Ivy Tech offers adult classes in the evenings at LPHS in addition to many dual credit offerings to high school students during the school day.

*From Ivy Tech...* What Does A Community Have to Offer You?

The answers may come as a surprise. Many people think they know what community college has to offer, based on information that's either outdated or wrong. This misconception leads people on the wrong path to reaching their educational and career goals. Ivy Tech Community College offers:

- More than 100 transfer programs with in-state and out-of-state schools
- More than 31,000 students transferred last year.
- Every year we serve over 170,000 students.
- Largest institution of higher learning in Indiana.
- Average class size of 22 students.
- Quality education from instructors working in the fields they teach.

Enrolling at Ivy Tech Community College is a decision that makes perfect sense educationally and financially and we offer you 2 paths to a better future:

- Want a career as soon as possible? Ivy Tech offers over 150 programs which means you can get an associate degree or certificate ranging from accounting, to computer science, to nursing, to design technology. All while enjoying the state's most affordable tuition.

- Want a bachelor's degree without a mountain of debt? Start at Ivy Tech, then transfer your credits in business, education, liberal arts and dozens of other fields to a four-year school. You can enter as a junior, and then graduate with a bachelor's degree in a couple more years...saving you upwards of \$10,000.

Whatever your goal is, Ivy Tech Community College can give you a smarter start to reaching it! Get more answers from our Frequently Answered Questions list at [IvyTech.edu/FAQ](http://IvyTech.edu/FAQ). You can also apply now for free at [IvyTech.edu/applynow](http://IvyTech.edu/applynow).

For further information or to make an appointment, please contact the Vice Chancellor of Enrollment and Director of Admissions

Arelia Bradley

Phone: 219-879-9137 ext.6236

Email: [abradley79@ivytech.edu](mailto:abradley79@ivytech.edu)

## College Go Week

LPHS recognized College Go Week the week of Sept. 17-24. Here is a recap of the activities and events:

- On Monday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, College Go Week began with a variety of activities. Mr. Hunter from the Electrical Joint Apprenticeship & Training Committee was available outside of the cafeteria during lunch periods to provide information and answer questions in respect to electrical careers.
- Tuesday, September 18<sup>th</sup>, Southwestern Michigan College and the American Art Academy hosted a lunch and learn. Also, the US Army was outside of the cafeteria during lunch periods to answer questions in respect to requirements to serve. Lastly, a financial aid workshop was held in the evening from 6 -7 pm in the cafeteria. Important information for seniors and parents of

seniors to prepare for completing the FAFSA for colleges and scholarships was given.

- Wednesday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, an optional question and answer on the college application process, including common app concerns, was held in the cafeteria during SRT.
- Thursday, September 20<sup>th</sup>, Purdue Northwest was here in the counseling office to provide on-site admissions from 10:25 – 12:05. Students had to apply online beforehand at <https://discover.pnw.edu/apply>
- Friday, September 21st, Students were encouraged to find the “hidden” college banners located throughout the school building and bring to counseling for a prize (maximum 1 banner per student).

### **Constitution Day**

LaPorte High was excited to recognize Constitution Day in the month of September by having Judge Alevizos as a guest speaker in our Government classes. Thank you, Judge Alevizos!

### **Slicer Resource Time**

With the change in the bell schedule students are meeting in their SRTs five times per week. In an effort to support students academically while guiding them towards college and career readiness, a basic structure is being followed:

- Mondays are normally “housekeeping” days. Surveys and other tasks are common on Mondays.
- Tuesdays are study halls days. With 7 classes per day, students need this time to get some work done. Orange passes are permitted on Tuesdays.
- Wednesdays are also study hall days. Students can use their orange passes to go to another teacher.
- Thursdays are college and career readiness days. A school-wide activity is common on

Thursday to help students take the next step towards their post-secondary plans.

- Fridays are another study hall day.

### **Student Directory Information Release & Military Opt Out Form**

All parents have access to an opt out form through their Skyward Family Account. Student directory information must be released to any recruiting representative of any military service or academy who requests it unless the parent or student provides a written request stating no student directory information is to be given to a military recruiting representative. LPHS parents can complete the request by logging into their Skyward account and declining the release of student directory information.

### **School Based Health Clinic**

The Slicer Health Clinic is now officially open for high school students. 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. With flu season around the corner we expect the clinic activity to increase. Parents can find out more at [http://www.lpcsc.k12.in.us/health\\_clinic](http://www.lpcsc.k12.in.us/health_clinic)

### **P/T Conferences**

The first of two P/T conferences is scheduled for October 17 from 5:00-8:00 p.m. and Oct. 18 from 11:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m. Parents will be able to sign up for conferences through their Skyward accounts in a few weeks. Be on the lookout for an email with further directions.

### **INSOURCE**

An INSOURCE meeting is set for October 11th at Educational Services Center from 6:00-7:30 PM. INSOURCE, DOE and Local Special Education will be sponsoring the event to help families support students with disabilities.

### **Senior Capstone**

This year, there will be two (2) capstone days in congruence with the semester scheduling. Capstone days are provided to seniors as a way to plan for the future through the completion of graduation/career ready activities. Students will follow updates for capstone through their Canvas SRT. Students should be acquainted with the Canvas website through their other courses as well.

The first senior capstone day is Oct. 10.

Complete one of the following before October 10th

1. Document a college visit on SRT Canvas that was completed from May 31st- October 10th. If completing a college visit during school times, make sure to fill out the College Visit Form from the attendance office.
  - Previously had attended the summer college workshop that was hosted by the school counseling department.
  - Use Indiana's Next Level Jobs tool to connect to a career training program using the Workforce Ready Grant: <https://www.nextleveljobs.org/Job-Seeker/How-It-Works>. Document evidence of this career task by taking a screenshot and submitting it to the SRT Canvas
  - Submit a resume to "Hire a Slicer" <http://www.hireaslicer.com/> and have it approved. Once it is approved on Hire A Slicer, the assignment on Canvas will be updated.
2. On October 10th
  - Log into Canvas and complete assignments for your class periods 1-7.
  - Please note: AK Smith seniors will need to report to AK Smith at your regular time.

### **Performing Arts Center Ribbon Cutting Ceremony**

Parents and the community are invited to a special ribbon cutting ceremony for the new Performing Arts Center during the evening of Oct. 16. The specific schedule is still being worked out. Parents will also be able to tour the PAC during Parent/Teacher conferences on Oct. 17. We are excited to show the community this amazing facility!

### **Homecoming**

LPHS is celebrating Homecoming Sept. 24-28. This year's theme is "150 Years, Our Story is Still Unfolding." A limited quantity of homecoming t-shirts with the 150 year theme are on sale for students. The Student Council is leading several school activities such as class games, spirit days, parade, school pep rally, and the homecoming court. All clubs and groups have the opportunity to nominate one Homecoming King and Queen candidate for the Homecoming Court. Being chosen to represent the homecoming is an honor. We congratulate all club/group nominees for representing their club/group and LaPorte High School.

### **Cyber Safety Assemblies**

On Tuesday, Sept. 25 each grade level attended a cyber safety assembly led by the Indiana State Police Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force. The speaker shared important information and updates on how to help keep our kids safe online. A parent presentation was held at Kesling on Wednesday 9/27 evening.

### **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.

Once the Performing Arts Center opens, Door 13 in front of the PAC will be used at dismissal only. Students can exit Door 13 for parent pick-up which will then extend from 6th Street to the new drive in front of the Performing Arts Center. Having an additional door for students to exit should alleviate some congestion in the parent pick-up area. Drivers are still asked to be patient and use caution.

### **Performing Arts Center (PAC) Traffic**

We anticipate the PAC opening mid-October which will change some traffic patterns before and after school. Thanks to all parents and visitors for their patience during the construction project. Once the PAC opens, parents/students will be notified of the new traffic patterns. Here is a brief summary of the changes:

- Parent Pick-Up/Drop Off- Parents will continue to enter the pick-up/drop off area off of 6th Street proceeding towards Door 9. Door 9 will continue to be a pick-up and drop-off point before and after school. Once the PAC opens, parents will be able to pick-up students (during dismissal only) at Door 13 in front of the PAC and use both sides of the PAC “U” drive to exit campus. Some students will walk down Main Street to exit at Door 13 in front of the PAC at the end of the day The “U” PAC drive will be an exit only during dismissal.

- Students who drive will continue to park in the “F” Street Lot and use Door 16 to enter and exit before/after school.
- Parents are asked to not use the student parking lot as a drop off/pick up area. Keeping parent and student traffic separate is necessary.
- A new drive at 10th Street will soon be available for “F” Street Parking Lot traffic. This is near center and right field of Schreiber Field. Please note the 10th Street drive is an entrance and exit in the morning for arrival and an exit only during dismissal. Please note that parking is no longer available in the F street lot along the Schreiber Field fence due to the new traffic lanes.

### **Counseling News**

School counselors will be meeting individually with every junior and senior to review progress toward graduation. Comprehensive "to do" checklists for juniors and seniors can be found on the counseling website: <http://www.lpcsc.k12.in.us/lphs/guidance/>

Counselors will be asking students their intended post-secondary plans at these meetings. If they are college bound, students will be encouraged to take the SAT and/or ACT. Juniors are encouraged to take at least one of these tests by the spring of 2019. Seniors are encouraged to take them the next available date. Sign-ups for these exams are through the testing agencies, not LPHS. Links to register are found on the counseling website.

With generous support from our community, LPHS offers extra help for clothing and basic hygiene supplies.

### **Slicer Success Closet**

LPHS has re-started its interview clothing wardrobe. A special thanks to Unity Foundation, Judee's and L&R Clothier for coming together to provide proper interview clothing for Slicers to borrow when needed. Students who are interested in taking

advantage of the closet should see Mr. Matt Presley, College and Career Coordinator, in B.11.

### **Slicer Comfort Closet**

LPHS is pleased to offer the Comfort Closet for any student in need of basic hygiene supplies. Shampoo, conditioner, soap, face wash, toothpaste, toothbrushes, floss, feminine products, toilet paper, or body lotion are available. Parents/students can contact Mrs. Jackson in the VLA to fill out a Comfort Closet form. Mrs. Rosenbaum in Counseling and Nurse Cooper in the front office also have supplies for students.

### **Trick or Treat for Special Olympics**

LaPorte High School is once again taking part in the IHSAA's Champions Together Program. As part of this program our school will be raising money for Special Olympics. On Thursday, October 25th, from 6-8 PM the school will hold the Trick or Treat for Special Olympics Night where children from the community can attend and receive candy as they move to different stations led by LPHS student groups. Each station will have a different activity for the children to do. This will take place in the gym and fieldhouse. In addition to the athletic teams, various LPHS clubs participate. We had a great turnout last year of over 600 kids. Let's increase participation on Oct. 25! Admission is \$5 and all proceeds go to Special Olympics.