



# 2011 Prairie State Scholars

by Morgan McPartland  
Head Editor

The 2011 PSAE student results were mailed at the beginning of September to all students who took the exam last April. Overall, 99 of 394 students exceeded in at least one subject area of the exam.

12 LHS students were named Prairie State Scholars, which means they exceeded in all four subject areas of the PSAE. Congratulations to seniors Ankit Amlani, Rebecca Baker, Ryan Conrad, Marjorie Dallmann, Tomasz Jazowski, Ryan Kahle, Colin Konicki, Jackson Montalbano, Matthew Nilles, Thomas Porter, Rebecca Rachan and Morgan Rex.



2011 Prairie State Scholars (from left to right) Top row: Ankit Amlani, Marjorie Dallmann, Tomasz Jazowski, Matthew Nilles, Rebecca Rachan, Rebecca Baker  
Bottom row: Ryan Conrad, Ryan Kahle, Colin Konicki, Jackson Montalbano, Thomas Porter

Photos by Tony Hamilton

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# EPAS Testing on September 29

by Morgan McPartland  
Head Editor

In order to help all students identify their future academic and vocational plans, LHS will provide EPAS (EXPLORE, PLAN, ACT) testing on Thursday, Sept. 29. School will begin at its normal time and end at 11:30 a.m.

All freshmen will take the EXPLORE test, which is an ACT product that is similar to the actual ACT exam. The test is comprised of English, math, science and reading sections and an additional section that assesses a student's career interests. The scores the freshmen receive on the EXPLORE test can be correlated to potential scores on the ACT they will take junior year.

"The first time is always the hardest," said LHS Data Analyst Kathy Brockett. "So [the students] shouldn't take the test for the first time during their junior year."

The sophomore class will take the PLAN test, an identical test to the EXPLORE test except the level of difficulty is increased. Scores will be compared to other sophomores' scores across the nation, and this will help students get a better estimate of their potential ACT score.

Every spring, all juniors who attend public schools in the state of Illinois will take the Prairie State Achievement Exam (PSAE) (see sidebar for 2011 LHS results). An important part of the PSAE, the ACT is a huge stressor for many juniors. "All of these tests are practices for the all-important ACT," said LHS counselor Andrea Heinz.

During EPAS testing, LHS gives all juniors the opportunity to take a practice ACT exam using a retired ACT test under the same circumstances they will experience this spring. "[The practice ACT] is especially for students who get freaked out by tests," said Brockett. "It's a confidence booster."

As for the seniors, they do not have to take any tests or attend school. However, all seniors are encouraged to use this day as a college visit day or to explore other post-high school career plans.

These tests are used to assess students' academic strengths and weaknesses and analyze potential career choices. Also, the vocational section of the tests can help underclassmen pick their LHS electives.

Results are mailed to all parents in November. For more information on EPAS testing, contact Data Analyst Kathy Brockett. All room assignments are posted at the information stations.

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# Just Keep Swimming

by Ryan Peraino  
Sports Editor

The girls swim team swam to a win on Tuesday, Sept. 15 over Oak Lawn. The Indians defeated the Spartans 116-64.

First place finishes from sophomore Erin Bendle, junior Anne Finnely, freshman Annette Lesnicki, senior Patty Zaplorowski, senior Morgan Costello, and others enabled this win for the Indians.

"All the girls swam well and I'm proud of each one of their efforts," said Costello.

The victory improves their record to an impressive 3-0 on this early season. Success seems to be well on its way, as this team has a promising season ahead.

"Our goal is to place at conference, hopefully first and get a relay to state," said head coach Erin Boyd.

These goals certainly seem possible with the leadership they're receiving from their captains, senior Saeda Aljazara, Finley, and Costello.

"We (the captains) just try to lead by example," said Costello. "We



Photo courtesy Google

just swim hard at practice and hope girls follow our lead."

On Tuesday, the girls scored 116 points. How did they receive those, you ask? Well, in swimming the scoring is quite simple, first place is six points, second place is five points, third place is four points, and it keeps going down from there.

Relay races are also worth double points. For example, first place gets 12 points and so on.

Throughout the year the team will work hard at practice and in meets to try to maximize their score. At practice the team swims with clothes on to become stronger swimmers.

Hopefully the girls can keep winning and make a deep run in the state tournament.

"We just want to finish the season on a strong note and put our team in a good position to win a trophy," said Costello.



Photo by Tony Hamilton

*Girls' Swim Team practicing at the Core*



# BOYS' CROSS COUNTRY PACES THROUGH THE NEW SEASON

by Kyle Griffin  
*Sports writer*

The Lemont boys' cross country team is well into the season as they took a respectful 15<sup>th</sup> place on Saturday, Sept. 17 at the Minooka Invitational.

The guys have been performing well this season, taking 1<sup>st</sup> place against Revis, TF South and Tinley Park at Mount Assisi, making it their best outing of the season so far.

The guys have some big expectations for this season; they hope to be among the top teams at conference. The team's ultimate goal is to return to the state race in November.

Although this will be a challenging feat, it helps to have a good leader and mentor in head coach, Jon DeGuzman.

"Coach D (DeGuzman) is very good and keeps us healthy and knows what he is doing out there," said junior Brent Husa.

DeGuzman works hard with the team at practice and says he is always "making sure the team is healthy and properly trained."

The squad has had to replace seniors Tom Hoster and Jimmy Dillonberg, who were two of Lemont's top runners. However, several juniors have stepped in to fill their shoes.

Junior captains Scott Franklin and Aaron Oldanie are Lemont's top runners and have been leading the team this season.

"The work ethic of the guys is great," stated DeGuzman.

With two juniors for captains, the young squad has a bright outlook in seasons to come.

Until then, the guys will keep striving toward their goals and continue their campaign on Thursday, Sept. 22 at Oak Forest.



*Boys' Cross Country team running at meet*

*Photo by Tony Hamilton*