



September 23, 2022

Dear Lamoille North Families and Staff:



We have officially seen the beginning of fall! There is much excitement in the air as Homecoming approaches. Students at Lamoille Union have been participating in spirit week and exhibiting the kind of collaboration and cooperation members of the entire school community have worked hard to develop and nurture.

For a schedule of other school happenings, please see the following:

**School Pictures:**

CES – October 4, 2022,

ECS – October 24, 2022

HPES – October 11, 2022

WES – October 4, 2022

**School Events:**

September 24 – Lamoille Union High School Homecoming Dance, 7:00-9:00 pm

September 28 – Early Release Day for all students

September 30 – Cambridge Elementary School, Celebration of Learners, 8:20 am

On another note, you can see a complete list of athletic events, registration for PSAT's and SAT's for secondary students, and more on individual school websites.

In district news, our Curriculum Team shares that this year in **Kindergarten through 6th grade**, we will use a new system to create report cards. While the academic goals we are measuring will stay the same, you will notice some changes in how our report cards look. You will still see numbers that describe your child's performance, but we are adding color coding to highlight the skills they are doing well on and skills that may need additional practice. In addition, we are adding short phrases to describe performance levels and make our communication more effective and easier to understand. The main goal is to make our report cards accessible to all families by using multiple ways to demonstrate your child's learning and growth; numbers, colors, and words. The report card will also include a narrative section where teachers will write specific information about their classes and your child's progress. We hope you find the new structure of the report cards meaningful and easier to understand!



On a similar note, a goal for LNSU this year is to revisit a written, aligned curriculum. A written curriculum intends to create clarity and consistency in what students are expected to know, understand, and be able to do at each grade level for each content area. Clarity improves understanding and communication between schools, students, and families regarding what

students are expected to learn. Consistency improves equity by defining the desired goals and outcomes for ALL children, regardless of school, team, or teacher. Both clarity and consistency are necessary for further conversations about assessments, instructional design, instructional resources, and communication of success through feedback and reporting. This blueprint will grow and evolve over time and will serve as an anchoring document and communication tool for all faculty, including new hires, and for students and families.

In other news, in academic year 2021/2022, we contracted with [UP for Learning](#) through Title IV funding which focuses on Well-Rounded Educational Opportunities; Activities to Support Safe and Healthy Students; Activities to Support Effective Use of Technology.

Our team from [UP for Learning](#) and Lamoille Union High School share:

*"In Phase 1, we formed youth-adult partnerships to reimagine and transform our education at Lamoille North Supervisory Union. When youth and adults begin to discover what they care about, begin to ask what is possible, and have conversations that matter, the seed for lasting partnership and change gets planted. All too often, youth are overlooked as co-constructors of their learning. There remains a pervasive belief that youth are not yet ready or wise enough to contribute in a meaningful way, which could not be further from the truth. In Phase 1 of our journey, we learned that youth have a lot on their mind and a lot to say that is vital to our school community. We worked together to identify shared values and built on these to develop a sense of power and agency for all in our school community. We identified what makes learning meaningful by capturing stories from all and we not only shared a sustainable communication plan, but we also shared a vision for what Diversity, Equity and Inclusion looks like at LNSU. We brought in voices not heard before and we started to talk about positive changes we can co-create.*

Together we:

- *Established an understanding of the educational landscape*
- *Formed a core youth-adult Core Planning Team that we hope to grow with more school community participation.*
- *The Core Planning Team (CPT) will assist with a presentation to the School Board and Leadership Team training on Climate, Culture, Equity and Learning through our Youth-Adult Partnership encouraging youth representation throughout LNSU.*

Our job this year in Phase 2 will be to:

- *Identify issues of equity*
- *Participate in feedback and listening sessions, focus groups, to share feedback on the school culture, climate, and learning strengths and needs within the schools*
- *We will collect and analyze data to identify key issues associated with :*
  - *What lessons were learned about the success, challenges, and needs of members of the school community*
  - *What we have learned about effective practices related to teaching, learning, equity, diversity and inclusion, relationships, engagement etc.*
  - *We will discuss in what ways can the district, local schools, teachers and professional staff, students and families work together to reimagine, reframe and adapt to the diverse and changing needs of our Lamoille North students and their families as well as the needs of their communities.*
  - *We will hold community dialogue and engagement events to examine data and collect information to help shape our shared vision.*

Here is the "Up for Learning" announcement in [Mandarin](#) and [Spanish](#).

As always, we thank our community partners for dedicating time and effort to support all of our students and families.

Lastly, and as communicated in my last email, we are interested in community input and want to hear from all of our stakeholders. Accordingly, we will once again begin the process for forming a community advisory group and will be asking you for your interest in participating. The focus of this group will be to strengthen school-community relationships and collaboration, and this group will provide a way to bring forth the structure for stakeholder input. We will be seeking interested students, parents/caregivers, community partners and any educators, to work with us to share ideas and create higher-level engagement among all of our stakeholders. Please access the application [\*\*HERE\*\*](#). The deadline for submitting interest in this group is **Friday, September 30, 2022**. After applications are submitted, we will review them and choose applications randomly in the event there are many. We will ensure a balance of advisory group members representing each of our school communities. You will be notified the first week of October of your application status. We will then send a doodle poll to members with some suggested meeting times and the monthly date and time will be set based on a majority of participant availability. We hope that members will participate for the entire school year.

We continue to be grateful for our families, staff, and all members of our school community.

I hope you have a wonderful weekend!

My very best to you,

Catherine Gallagher, M.Ed.  
Superintendent of Schools  
Lamoille North Supervisory Union