OUR SCHOOLS

A PUBLICATION OF THE LEE'S SUMMIT R-7 SCHOOL DISTRICT
WE PREPARE EACH STUDENT FOR SUCCESS IN LIFE
DECEMBER 2022 ISSUE

Reorganized School District No 7
301 N.E. Tudor Road, Lee's Summit MO 64086

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SUPERINTENDENT’S MESSAGE

GREETINGS, LSR7!

As the fifth largest school district in Missouri, LSR7 employees support the success of nearly 18,000 students. When I have the opportunity to share the positive achievements and exciting developments occurring in our district, I like to share key facts about the big impact district staff members have on our school community.

Did you know that our Nutrition Services staff served 1.7 million meals last year? Or that our school nurses distributed 14,865 ice packs to kids last year? Did you know that our district transportation team drives a little over 10,000 miles a day? That’s more than 76 times around the world in a year.

You might not have heard that while the national average ACT score dropped this year, LSR7’s average ACT score increased to 22.3, a testament to our teachers and support staff. Our graduation rate remains high at 96.75 percent. Last year, 73 percent of high school seniors graduated with either internship experience, early college credit, an entrepreneurial experience or a client-connected project.

Meeting the multi-faceted needs of students facilitates their success on all kinds of planes, and this month Our Schools introduces you to some of the talented members of our school district who make a difference every day for kids.

Our collective work is guided in part by our strategic plan focus areas: career & college preparedness, leadership, instruction, mental wellness and belonging.

Aligning the long-term plan for our athletics and activities programs with our district’s strategic plan is a goal that motivated a new, collaborative strategic planning process specifically for sports and after-school activities this fall. Learn more on page 4.

BEHIND THE COVER

Meet one of our many talented team members taking our students beyond the classroom to field trips, tournaments, and sporting events as a trip driver on page 2.

It was a pleasure showing both local, county and state officials the critical role education plays in making our community stronger at our second annual Elected Officials Day at East Trails Middle School in October. See scenes from the day on page 8-9.

On page 3, read about how the Lee’s Summit Educational Foundation supports unique ways of learning for educators to incorporate at school. And finally view a photo series of teachers going above and beyond on page 7.

As we head into the holiday season, I wish every member of our school district a safe, happy and healthy rest of the school year.

With much appreciation,

DAVID BUCK, Ed. D
SUPERINTENDENT

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Lee’s Summit R-7 School District
I teach trip driving to the drivers coming in who have never done this. I teach them that this is one of the best parts of working for the Lee’s Summit School District.

We have the finest schools and when they go to competition, I’m involved. I’m in there.

I teach people how to strategize so they can be involved and have fun.

It is one of the most rewarding parts of our job. I get to know the coaches. I get to know the additional staff that I normally would not meet on my route. You get to spend time with them. You get to see some of the finest talent we have in this district.

This district has immense talent within their kids and it’s showing where your tax dollars are going when you do trips because you get to see your money in action.
A bright teal book vending machine greets you when you walk into Mason Elementary, and the RODEO (Room of Designing, Engineering, and Out-of-the-Box Thinking) room is filled with experiences for students at Longview Farm Elementary. Both were made possible in part by PEAK grants from the Lee’s Summit Educational Foundation. Educators are using the PEAK grants to supply classrooms with unique learning opportunities, bolster education outside the classroom, and improve their students’ sense of belonging. Anyone interested in how PEAK grants work or how to contribute can use your phone to scan the QR code to learn more.
A new face in LSR7 Athletics & Activities, Ron Alexander, is looking to make a big impact. The new District Athletic Director formed two committees to develop a strategic plan for athletics and activities at the middle and high school levels.

Both committees met three times this fall to focus on enabling equal access and interest in offerings not only from grades 6-12, but throughout the elementary levels as well.

The groups determined five focus areas:

• **Marketing & Communications**: Developing a holistic and inclusive strategy that effectively conveys all aspects of the activity program offered at the secondary level.

• **K-12 Development of Programs**: Improving alignment and access to activities across all education levels

• **Resources & Facilities**: Providing premier facilities and necessary resources to address current and future programming needs.

• **Quality Systems & Process to Support Daily Practice**: Implementing quality systems and processes to support daily operations.

• **Safety & Welfare of Students**: Prioritizing the mental, physical, and social wellbeing of all students.

Next, each school will create action items to reach each goal in the five focus areas and continue to reevaluate to ensure the goals and needs of LSR7 students are being met.

Member of the LSHS Golden Tiger Marching Band prepares to take the field before a football game.

Bernard Campbell Middle School Ms. Mindy Passanisi works with Laila M. during volleyball practice.
Lee’s Summit West head swim coach Mrs. Jennifer Ailshire oversees practice.

Lee’s Summit North choreographer Mr. Blake Piatcyzc demonstrates blocking for the fall production of Matilda the Musical.

Pleasant Lea Middle School students get a lesson in robotics.

Summit Lakes Middle School head cheer coach Ms. Morgan Bastian walks athletes through back handspring prep.

Lee's Summit High School secondary coach Mr. Edward Morse reviews game footage on the sideline with Eric P. and Quincy L.
IN LSR7, ALL MEMBERS OF OUR STAFF ARE EDUCATORS.

Their work goes above and beyond to meet all of our students’ needs, both in and out of the classroom.
Ms. Kristen Torres works one on one with students to check their work.

Student teacher Miss Quest sings the Good Morning Song with her second grade class.

Mr. Ben Ramirez works with a student at Cedar Creek Elementary.

Ms. Michelle Overbeck compares different National Geographic Kids editions.

Ms. Emily Brauner leads a class discussion on story structure and narrative writing.

Mr. Ben Ramirez works with a student at Cedar Creek Elementary.
In the Lee’s Summit R-7 School District, we’re always looking for opportunities to showcase our facilities, programs, and staff that set our community apart. In October, we invited every elected official representing district families for Elected Officials Day 2022.

We’re so grateful to those who accepted the invitation to learn more about the district and its future plans. The event was hosted at East Trails Middle School. Superintendent Dr. David Buck, Associate Superintendent of Operations Dr. Steve Shelton, and Assistant Superintendent of Business Services Nathan Holder presented and gave a tour of the new middle school.
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Students can take part in the CAP Program by enrolling in dual credit courses, dual enrollment courses or an Early College Academy.

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