

Community Link

The Newsletter of the School District of Lodi

August 2023

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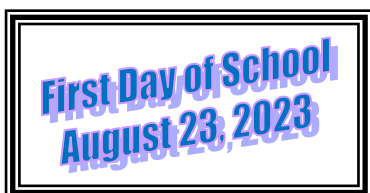
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Perspective

*.....by Vince Breunig
District Administrator*

Community Priorities Continue to Drive the District

The Board of Education engaged the community in a strategic planning process which led to the adoption of a strategic plan in July of 2021. The district has developed balanced scorecards to document the high-confidence strategies that have been chosen to meet the priorities set by the community. Twice this year the district held gallery walks so Board members could see these high-confidence strategies in action. A gallery walk is where Board members and community members in attendance rotate in small groups to different stations to listen and ask questions of staff members about the strategies being implemented across the district. The gallery walks were recorded so they can be viewed, along with the balanced scorecards, by our community on our website.

As a district, we continue to ensure that the strategic plan remains a living and breathing document. When you look at the scorecards, it is easy to see the connection between the day-to-day work in the district to the priorities laid out by the community. We continue to live the vision the community provided us which is “In partnership with our community, nurturing every student’s potential for growth and opportunities - socially, mentally, & academically- in a safe, respectful, and an inclusive environment to create innovative problem solvers.”

Lodi Pride Campaign

The School District of Lodi is partnering with the Chamber of Commerce to revitalize the Lodi Pride campaign. This revitalization will center around the release of the 10th anniversary Lodi Pride video on the first day of school. The theme for this year’s video is Guardians of Lodi Pride.

Our entire community has experienced a global pandemic and other national level events which makes it easier to focus on the issues that divide us versus the commonalities or ideals that many of us share, especially within the boundaries of the School District of Lodi. As we put the pandemic behind us, it is imperative for the health of our students and our community that we once again come together and show our shared commitment to our students through the revitalization of the Lodi Pride campaign.

To kick off this campaign, the district will be re-releasing the previous nine (9) Lodi Pride videos throughout August on the School District of Lodi Facebook page. This will culminate with the release of this year's video at noon on August 23. We ask all our community members to not only show off their Lodi Pride, but to join us in being Guardians of Lodi Pride throughout the 2023-24 school year.

Board of Education

Regular meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of the month at 5:30 pm closed session /6:30 pm regular session in the District Office, unless posted otherwise.

Heather Baron *President*
Kristi McMorris *Vice-President*
Scott Bilse *Treasurer*
Terry Haag *Clerk*
Angela Lathrop..... *Director*
Sarah Raemisch..... *Director*
H. Adam Steinberg..... *Director*

Board of Education members' names, contact information, committee assignments, meeting agendas and minutes are included on the School District of Lodi's website at www.lodi.k12.wi.us, Board of Education link. If you do not have access to the District website, contact Maureen Palmer at 592-1060 to request this information.

Building Phone Numbers

Primary School	592-3855
Primary School Fax	592-1015
Elementary School.....	592-3842
Elementary School Fax.....	592-1025
Middle School	592-3854
Middle School Fax	592-1035
High School	592-3853
High School Fax	592-1045
District Office	592-3851
District Office Fax	592-3852



Summer School Fun

Asbestos Notification

Under AHERA (Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act), all primary and secondary schools are required to develop and implement a plan for managing all building materials which contain asbestos. Included in the AHERA Act is the requirement to annually notify all workers and building occupants (or their guardians) of asbestos-related activities.

Beginning in 1988, all buildings owned, leased, or "under the control of" the School District were inspected by EPA accredited inspectors, with building material samples analyzed by an independent laboratory. Based on the inspection, the School District prepared and the state approved a comprehensive management plan for managing the asbestos.

Where the asbestos-containing materials are found, the District has in place an Operations and Maintenance program.

The District has accomplished the following compliance mandates regarding the administration of asbestos in school buildings:

- Environmental Management Consulting, Inc. (EMC) was contracted to be the school's consultant for asbestos for the school year.
- The District is continuing with the Operations and Maintenance Program as designed for the School District. This ensures that all asbestos materials are kept in good condition in good condition.
- Periodic "surveillance" in each area containing asbestos has been completed every six months by our consultant. Also, the buildings are re-inspected by an accredited inspector every three years. The next reinspection is due in 2024.
- In the past year, the District has not conducted any asbestos removal activities.

All outside contractors shall contact the lead maintenance person before commencing work. Our goal at the District is to be in full compliance with asbestos regulations.

A copy of the Asbestos Management Plan is available for review by contacting the District Office. Questions related to this plan or any other asbestos concerns should be directed to the District's Designated Person Mr. Neal Reible.

Interested in becoming a Substitute?

We would love
for you to join
us!



Benefits of substituting:

- Your preference of schools
- Opportunities to make connections
- A flexible schedule that works around your other life commitments
- Work you can feel good about
- Weekly pay

Available Opportunities:

- Substitute Teachers
- Substitute Administrative Assistants
- Substitute Educational Assistants

Want more info?



608-592-3851 or
608-592-1026



lincoji@lodischoolswi.org
neaumem@lodischoolswi.org



School District of Lodi
115 School St., Lodi WI
53555

How do I enroll my new student(s) in the School District of Lodi?

Our **Online Registration** offers families with new students to the district an easy process for entering and providing all required information for enrolling your child(ren) electronically. Please go to the district website:

www.lodi.k12.wi.us>Our Families> Enrollment/Registration, and click on the link: **Online Registration Link**.

There will be forms throughout the registration process that will need to be downloaded and completed. You may obtain/download the forms during the registration process or you may also **obtain/download them from our website at www.lodi.k12.wi.us>Our Families>Enrollment/Forms that are on the Online Registration Application tab**.

Once registration is submitted and forms are filled out, you may either bring the completed registration forms along with the required documentation to the Lodi School District Office, located at 115 School Street between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday or you may also send them via email to karlskr@lodischoolswi.org. If you have any questions regarding the enrollment process, please contact Kris Karls at karlskr@lodischoolswi.org.



Picture Day for 2023

will be on August 3, 2023 from 3-7 p.m.
Please sign up your child(ren) for their
portrait session at:
www.empirephotos.com/lodi2023

2023 Registration

If you have not already registered your student for this upcoming year, please do so right away by going to the Infinite Campus parent portal. If you need your user name and password or just need help please contact Kris Karls at 608-592-1053 or karlskr@lodischoolswi.org

Resources for School Supplies

Free School Supplies for Those in Need



Beginning Thursday, August 3rd
Please contact Reach Out Lodi at
608-592-4592

to let them know the grades that your children attend.
(Leave name and call back # if you get the answering machine.)

Volunteers will pack up the supplies requested for each class &
will call you when they are available for pickup at
Reach Out Lodi Community Store
located at 601 Clark Street, Lodi



Don't need supplies, but would like to help those who do?

You may give a financial gift by calling Reach Out Lodi Community Store
or mailing your gift to:

Reach Out Lodi Community Store
P.O. Box 316
Lodi, WI 53555





Lodi Community Action Team

Promoting Healthy Lifestyles for Youth!



SAVE THE DATE

for LCAT's 9th Annual

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

Tuesday, August 1, 2023
5-7:30 PM at Habermann Park
180 Fair Street, Lodi

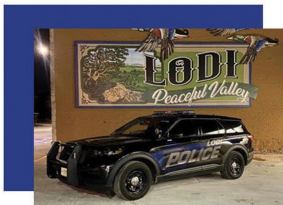


FIRST RESPONDER & COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS



LET'S CELEBRATE OUR LODI COMMUNITY!

**Community demonstrations, booths
with activities, live music, petting
zoo, K9 demonstration & MORE!**



EXPLORE EMERGENCY VEHICLES!



FOOD & ICE CREAM

available for purchase!



Local food favorites including the
Los Hernandez authentic Mexican food truck,
Suzie's Sweets and Frozen Treats ice
cream/sweets truck and the Lodi FFA.

Bring Your Family & Show Your #LodiPride!

FEATURING...

Live music by Laurent Soucie,
a climbing wall &
a dunk tank...

You won't want to miss it!



Please check our website or Facebook page
for parking information as the event approaches

Connect with the
Lodi Community Action Team (LCAT)!

www.LodiAction.org



Lodi Community Action Team



Food Service

Director's Notes-Taher welcomes you to the 2023-2024 school year!

We are excited to come back and serve our students and staff again! We are committed to exposing students and staff to fresh, healthy foods and getting them to try something they may not normally try at home. We will continue our Harvest of the Month, which promotes a specific fruit, vegetable, and herb or spice every month. We will also have our LTO (limited-time offering), which is a chef special created by them from their trips around the country in search of other food cultures.

We are working with local farmers to bring local foods to our schools. We received a grant to help further our mission. We have had local tomatoes, potatoes, carrots, apples, cheese, peppers, onions, mushrooms, sweet basil, and assorted lettuces. We will continue this collaboration with our local farmers this year.

We continue to place communication and collaboration at the top of our agenda. We continue to work with the FFA, Optimists, Michelle Howe and the science class students hydroponic gardens which provide the lettuce assortment for our fruit and vegetable bar. We will also be beginning a Kids in the Kitchen class this year. We will teach them how to make something. We will also have our app Food4Life running again this year. The app has menus, nutritionals, and allergy information on it.

We also bring back our dedicated and trained staff who focus on customer service, attention to detail, and a desire to serve students and staff in a friendly, fun, and welcoming atmosphere. We want to make your dining experience personal, unique, and still educational. We will accomplish this by continuing to communicate and educate students, staff, and parents at every school. We want feedback for our programs in order to appeal to everyone who eats in our cafeterias. The dining program needs the support of students and the entire community to succeed! Please support the dining program through your patronage.

Highlights of the Year

- Scott Ness providing his delicious sweet corn to all the students and staff at no charge!
- All schools participating in the Great Apple Crunch with local apples from Grandpa's Orchard in Rio and a donation by Sunrise and Kickapoo Orchards, with Tara Lorang collaborating with us to get the apples here. Thank you to Heather Baron and Tara for contacting me about the donation.
- Chef Josh Good from our Chef Council making and serving Chicken Tinga Tostados to our high school students.
- Jill and Brent in M & M costumes serving up our LTO of currywurst on Halloween!
- WI Farm to School partnership grant bringing us together with local farmers to help in our mission of serving local foods. We work with about 15 farmers right now, and all are within 400 miles of Lodi.

Employee Spotlight:

Name: Sara Barden

Position: High School Foodservice

Employee with Taher: second year

Hobbies: collecting gnomes, touring wineries

Other Interests: watching son Jonah at his Lodi athletic events, staying in touch with family in Finland.

Employer Comments: Sara is such an important part of our staff. Sara is great with students and staff and makes everyone feel welcome. Students and staff respect her and show their appreciation every day. Sara has learned a lot in a short amount of time, and she is always willing to go the extra mile. Sara is dedicated to her co-workers and students and staff. Thank you for all you do every day, Sara.

What's Coming Down the Line in Foodservice

*Another chef visit from our Chef Council at Taher

*Kids in the Kitchen Cooking Class

*WI Local Farm to Schools collaboration ongoing

*Free and Reduced Apps will be distributed. If you plan to submit this application, please do so as soon as possible and return it to the office for expedient processing.

*Food Chain Issues- We will continue to monitor and adapt to disruptions and price increases. Prices for food and paper continue to rise and create challenges for food service.

* Increase in Meal Program charges. Due to rising costs, we have had to make slight increases to cover costs.

* Strive to be the best: We will continue to strive to meet everyone's expectations and exceed them. We sincerely appreciate your support and thank you.

**PUBLIC RELEASE SY 21/22
NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH AND BREAKFAST PROGRAMS**

The Lodi School District announced its policy for children unable to pay the full price of meals served under the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program. Each school office and the central office has a copy of the policy, which may be reviewed by any interested party.

The following household size and income criteria will be used for determining eligibility. Children from families whose annual income is at or below the levels shown are eligible for free and reduced price meals

FAMILY SIZE INCOME SCALE

For Determining Eligibility for Free and Reduced Price Meals and Milk

Family (Household) Size	ANNUAL INCOME LEVEL				MONTHLY INCOME LEVEL			
	Free <i>Must be at or below figure listed</i>	Reduced Price <i>Must be at or between figures listed</i>			Free <i>Must be at or below figure listed</i>	Reduced Price <i>Must be at or between figures listed</i>		
1	\$18,954	\$18,954.01	and	\$26,973	\$ 1,580	\$1,580.01	and	\$2,248
2	25,636	25,636.01	and	36,482	2,137	2,137.01	and	3,041
3	32,318	32,318.01	and	45,991	2,694	2,694.01	and	3,833
4	39,000	39,000.01	and	55,500	3,250	3,250.01	and	4,625
5	45,682	45,682.01	and	65,009	3,807	3,807.01	and	5,418
6	52,364	52,364.01	and	74,518	4,364	4,364.01	and	6,210
7	59,046	59,046.01	and	84,027	4,921	4,921.01	and	7,003
8	65,728	65,728.01	and	93,536	5,478	5,478.01	and	7,795
For each additional household member add	+6,682	+6,682	and	+9,509	+557	+557	and	+793

Application forms are being sent to all homes with a notice to parents or guardians. To apply for free or reduced price meals, households must fill out the application and return it to the school (unless notified at the start of the school year that children are eligible through direct certification). Additional copies are available at the office in each school. The information provided on the application will be used for the purpose of determining eligibility and may be verified at any time during the school year by agency or other program officials. Applications may be submitted at any time during the year.

To obtain free or reduced price meals for children in a household where one or more household members receive FoodShare, Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), or Wisconsin Works (W-2) cash benefits, list the FoodShare, FDPIR or W-2 case number, program name, list the names of all school children, sign the application, and return it to the school office.

For the school officials to determine eligibility for free or reduced price meals of households not receiving FoodShare, FDPIR or W-2 cash benefits, the household must provide the following information requested on the application: names of all household members, total number of household members, and the adult signing the application form must also list the last four digits of his or her Social Security Number or mark the box to the right of "Check if no SSN." Also, the income received by each household member must be provided by amount and source (wages, welfare, child support, etc.).

Under the provisions of the free and reduced price meal policy, Brent Richter, Business Manager, will review applications and determine eligibility. If a parent or guardian is dissatisfied with the ruling of the official, he/she may wish to discuss the decision with the determining official on an informal basis. If the parent/guardian wishes to make a formal appeal, he/she may make a request either orally or in writing to: Terry Haag, School Board Clerk,

115 School Street, Lodi, WI 53555, phone 608/592-3851 ext 5482 or email haagte@lodischoolswi.org.

If a hearing is needed to appeal the decision, the policy contains an outline of the hearing procedure.

If a household member becomes unemployed or if the household size changes, the family should contact the school. Such changes may make the household eligible for reduced price meals or free meals if the household income falls at or below the levels shown above, and they may reapply at that time.

Children formally placed in foster care are also eligible for free meal benefits. Foster children may be certified as eligible without a household application. Households with foster children and non-foster children may choose to include the foster child as a household member, as well as any personal income available to the foster child, on the same application that includes their non-foster children.

The information provided by the household on the application is confidential. Public Law 103-448 limits the release of student free and reduced price school meal eligibility status to persons directly connected with the administration and enforcement of federal or state educational programs. Consent of the parent/guardian is needed for other purposes such as waiver of textbook fees.

Non-discrimination Statement:

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-3027.pdf>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

1. mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant
Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
2. fax: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
3. email: program.intake@usda.gov.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Any questions regarding the application should be directed to the determining official.



Important Dates:

August 3	Picture Day 3-7pm
August 17	9 th Grade Parent Orientation (Parents Only) 6:00-8:30pm
August 21	4K AM, Grades K-2 Sneak-a-peek 3:30-5:30pm
August 21	ES/OSC Sneak-a-Peek 3:30-5:30pm
August 21	MS Open House 3:30-5:30pm
August 22	4K PM Sneak-a-peek 3:30-5:30pm
August 23	First Day of School (Gr. 4K-9)
August 23	HS Freshman & New Student Orientation
August 24	First Day of School for Gr. 10-12
September 4	No School – Labor Day
September 6	District Wide Picture Retakes
September 14	4K Parent Orientation Night 6-7pm
September 22	Homecoming Parade & Game



Lodi C.R.E.W. and Pool

Community Resource Enrichment and Wellness

Lodi CREW and the Indoor Community Pool is the place to check out if you are looking for something to do. We offer programs for all ages and abilities. Our community collaborations bring out the best instructors and programs for the Lodi Community.

Starting in September, we are trying to go as paperless as possible! You are able to register online through our website using this link (<https://lodi.cr3.rschooltoday.com/public/home/>) or by scanning this QR code on your phone camera!



Here is a list of some of the upcoming CREW programs:

- Boot Camp
- Fall Flag Football
- Fall Cheer
- Movement and Strength
- Youth Pickleball
- Youth Cross Country



The Lodi Indoor Community Pool is the place to come for all your aquatics needs.

Here are some of the offerings at the indoor pool:

- Swim Lessons (including private lessons)
- Aqua Fitness classes
- Open lap and family swims
- Pool rental opportunities (such as birthday parties and more!)
- Pool memberships
- Red Cross Lifeguard and WSI certifications

The pool is also a great place to help with recovery from sports injuries for both students and adults!

To see current and upcoming programs, check us out on the school website page: www.lodi.k12.wi.us. Click on the community tab and go to CREW or Indoor Community Pool.

Friend us on Facebook (Lodi CREW)

Be sure to check out Peachjar on the school's web page for program fliers!



Business Office Briefs

Brent Richter – Business Manager ♦592-3851 ♦richtbr@lodischoolswi.org

Summer Time = Busy Time

Summer is a busy time for the Business Office. A school's fiscal year begins on July 1st and ends on June 30th. This means we close up one set of books, prepare for an audit, and begin the fiscal reporting process (to the state and federal governments), all while we start the new year, with contracts execution, employee benefits changes, purchasing, grant execution, and much more. Why do schools have a financial audit? The Department of Public Instruction (DPI) has the statutory responsibility to prescribe financial and membership audit requirements. In a nutshell, not only is it prudent and incredibly important for a business, but it's a statutory requirement. The annual audits are published on the district's webpage, at <https://www.lodi.k12.wi.us/our-district/business-services>.

Funding Schools

Public schools in Wisconsin are funded with a combination of revenues including various state and federal education aids. In Lodi, state aids represent about 35-40 percent of school funding, and federal aids represent approximately 5-10 percent of school funding. The remaining revenue sources are from local revenues, such as property taxes, materials fees, and rental fees. State aids are defined as either "General Aids" or "Categorical Aids." General aid is provided primarily through a formula that distributes aid on the basis of the relative fiscal capacity of each school district as measured by the district's per pupil value of taxable property. Categorical aids represent specific program costs and are paid on a formula basis or awarded as grants.

Today's Big Challenge?

When I'm out and about in the community, I often get asked what the biggest challenge I see facing our schools today is. Some people question, is it health insurance? While others ask, is it school funding? While these are two big challenges, my response is "the changing labor pool." That response is often greeted with a nod and a smile, as most people agree and see the world around us having the same issue. School districts have seen unprecedented staff transiency. Some schools have become super aggressive, employing very creative techniques to attract and retain staff. Because there is incredible competition for workers in schools today, the School District of Lodi is looking closely at how to recruit, attract, and retain the best work force possible, which also happens to be one of the pillars of the School District of Lodi's Strategic Plan, "District Workforce": <https://www.lodi.k12.wi.us/about/lodi-strategic-plan>. Having a competitive wage is one of the key factors in keeping a strong workforce. The district is very thankful for such a wonderful and supportive community, which in a challenging economic climate, continues to support the schools with another passed referendum.

Business Office Staff Changes

Brent Richter: Business Manager

Dawn Schwartz: Benefit Specialist

Jill Lincoln: Curriculum & Instruction Assistant/Accounts Payable/Receptionist

Nicole Tirrel: Payroll Specialist

Did you know?

- Senior Citizens over 62 years old that live within the school district can get free passes to the home sporting events. Just contact Maureen Palmer at 608-592-1060.
- Senior Citizens over 62 years old that live within the school district can get a free pool pass. Contact the pool at 592-3853 ext. 4577



Curriculum and Instruction

Dr. Nicholas Karls – Director of Curriculum & Instruction ♦592-3851 ♦karlsni@lodischoolswi.org

School District of Lodi Families and Community,

We are grateful for your continuous investments in our schools and unwavering support as we endeavor to provide a top educational experience for our students. The Lodi School District is an extraordinary place that not only fosters a stimulating academic environment to challenge and engage our students but also places significant emphasis on the Arts, Physical Fitness and Health, STEAM, as well as Career and Technical Education. Below are a few updates aligned with the various pillars of the District Strategic Plan that we would like to highlight.

Pillar 1 - Preparing Our Students for the Future - 2023/2024 Elementary School Core Literacy Investments & Middle School Core Science Investments

Many Lodi Elementary School educators will spend part of their summer getting ready to implement a new literacy program designed to support our 3rd-5th grade learners! MyView Literacy was approved by the Board's Curriculum Committee after receiving a recommendation from elementary school educators at the end of their year-long literacy program review. This review included report reviews, resource reviews, conversations with educators from other districts, etc.



The Lodi Middle School science team will have the opportunity to provide additional hands-on inquiry-based science experiments after the approval to move forward with additional investments in units of OpenSciEd. During the 2022/2023 school year, teachers at Lodi Middle School were able to pilot units of this top-rated science curriculum after receiving a grant from the Wisconsin Society of Science Teachers.


Pillar 1 - Preparing Our Students for the Future - The Importance of Math Fact Fluency

Math fact fluency is crucial for young learners as it establishes the foundation for their mathematical development. It enables them to solve problems efficiently, develop mental math skills, and build a solid base for advanced math concepts. With fluency, learners can focus on problem-solving and critical-thinking skills, fostering confidence and motivation. During the 2022/2023 school year, our K-12 Math Chair (Kristi Paskey), as well as a few high school student helpers, supported fact fluency routines in some classrooms at the Primary School, Elementary School, and all of OSC. We will look to add additional K-5 classrooms this school year as we further develop fact fluency skills in your youngest learners. Thank you, Mrs. Paskey!



Pillar 3 - Innovative Community Connection - What Will My Child Be Learning

Have you ever wondered what courses are offered in the Lodi School District and what a student might learn in a course or grade level? Our educators get this question from time to time and want to remind you that they provide a resource for guardians and community members. On the School District of Lodi webpage (lodi.k12.wi.us), the district offers a section called “What Will I Be Learning” located under each individual school page. This link provides sample academic learning targets for each grade level and course.



Kindergarten Learning Targets

Here is an overview of what your student will be learning this year in Kindergarten.

Reading <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Name the letters.• Hear and say beginning, middle and end sounds.• Tell you what happened in a story.• Follow words in a book.• Sound out words.• Reads CVC words.• Rhymes• Reads and spells the first 30 sight words from the Jan Richardson sight words list.• Tell the characters and setting in a story.	Math <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Counts groups of objects to 20.• Count to 100 by 1s and 10s.• Read numbers to 20.• Compose and Decompose numbers to 20.• Write numbers to 20.• Compare numbers.• Use 10 frames.• Name the 2D & 3D shapes.• Adds to sums 5.• Subtract within 5.• Solves addition and subtraction word problems within 5.• Find the partners of 10.	Science <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify living things and what they need to survive.• Take care of the environment.• Understand weather.• Name and describe the seasons.• Describe how tools and machines help people.• Give examples of force and motion.
Writing <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Write my letters.• Write words by using my sounds.• Write a sentence.• Write a story about one idea.• Add details to my stories.• Draw, write, and tell about my life.• Draw, write, and tell a story about my opinion.• Draw, write, and tell an information story.	Social Studies <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify who I am and what makes me, me.• Explain what I need to survive• Describe the place where I live: my home, my school, my community.• Share why we have rules and laws.• Listen and understand that others may have different ideas than me.• Understand state observance days.	Social Emotional Learning <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Control myself.• Show empathy.• Tell how I am feeling.• Use expected behaviors.• Be responsible for myself and my work.• Work and play with my classmates.• Take care of my things.• Dress myself.• Be safe.• Solve small problems by myself.

Helping our families to identify what we are working towards within each grade level and course is our goal!





Student Services

Adria Schroeder, Student Services ♦592-3851 ♦schroad@lodischoolswi.org

The start of a new school year is a time filled with anticipation, excitement, and endless possibilities for the year ahead. It marks a fresh chapter in the lives of students, teachers, and parents and offers opportunities for growth, learning, and personal development. Embracing the start of a new school year can also bring worry to students and families. Even students who are typically easy going get butterflies about the transition to a new grade level, new teacher(s), and new group of classmates. For most, the new-year worries will fade after the first few days or weeks of school. Two ways to help reduce anxiety for students is to prepare early and open the lines of communication.

Prepare Early

- Take steps to return to a typical school routine a few weeks prior to the start of school. This can include reestablishing bedtimes and bedtime routines, reestablishing morning wake-up times, and reestablishing morning routines like eating breakfast, getting dressed, brushing teeth, etc.
- Attend picture day on Thursday, August 3, 2023, at Lodi High School. This event is open from 3:00-7:00 and offers students and families a time to reconnect with school, find out who their teacher(s) is/are, get school supply lists, and (of course) get their school picture taken!
- Organize school supplies! If you need assistance with school supplies this year, please contact Adria Schroeder: schroad@lodischoolswi.org or 608-532-3851 x5486.
- Attend Open House or Sneak-a-Peek events at your child(ren)'s school. This is an opportunity for students to come into the school building, meet their teacher(s), visit their classroom, and bring in their school supplies to get settled into their classroom or locker.
 - Thursday, August 17, 2023:
 - 9th Grade Parent Orientation at Lodi High School from 6:00-8:00
 - Monday, August 21, 2023:
 - 4K AM and Gr. K-2 Sneak-a-Peek at Lodi Primary School from 3:30-5:30
 - Gr. 3-5 Sneak-a-Peek at Lodi Elementary School and Ouisconsing School of Collaboration from 3:30-5:30
 - Open House for students in grades 6-8 at Lodi Middle School from 3:30-5:30
 - Tuesday, August 22, 2023
 - 4K PM Sneak-a-Peek at Lodi Primary School from 3:30-5:30

Open the Lines of Communication with Your Child

- Ask your child(ren) neutral questions. Neutral questions are not viewed as positive or negative and can help generate a longer response. Some examples could be: what are you looking forward to this year, is anything worrying you, is there anything I can help you with?
- As the school year progresses, neutral questions could help to get more of a response than "Fine" when you ask "How was school?" or "Nothing" when you ask "What did you do in school today?" Here are some examples: what did you work on in math class, what were you proud of today, who did you spend time with, what was the toughest part of the day, what are you looking forward to tomorrow?

Open the Lines of Communication with School Staff

- Share concerns you have about your child(ren) with their teacher(s) and members of our student service team. Some students need additional support at the beginning of the school year to get off to a great start. Please find our student service team contact information below.
- If the typical beginning of the school year butterflies persist for your student(s), please reach out! We would like to partner with you!

Director of Student Services	Adria Schroeder	schroad@lodischoolswi.org
PS Principal	Amy Fassbender	fassbam@lodischoolswi.org
PS Counselor	Val Bilkey	bilkeva@lodischoolswi.org
School Nurse (PS & MS)	Jean Winter	winteje@lodischoolswi.org
ES/OSC Principal	Eric Scheunemann	scheuer@lodischoolswi.org
ES/OSC Social Worker	Keri Bahr	bahrke@lodischoolswi.org
School Psychologist	Andi Rubino	rubinan@lodischoolswi.org
MS Principal	Derek Pertzborn	pertzde@lodischoolswi.org
MS Social Worker	Ceanna Caelwaerts	caelwce@lodischoolswi.org
HS Principal	Joe Jelinek	jelinjo@lodischoolswi.org
HS Associate Principal	Jason Marshall	marshja@lodischoolswi.org
HS Counselor	Grant Lembcke	lembcgr@lodischoolswi.org
HS Counselor	Megan Kinonen	kinonme@lodischoolswi.org
Student Service Coordinator	Nik Franciskovich	francni@lodischoolswi.org
School Nurse (ES/OSC & HS)	Janelle Sivam	sivamja@lodischoolswi.org



Stars of the Show is a program for students enrolled in special education who are interested in showing animals at the Lodi Agricultural Fair. Students who sign up to participate in the Stars of the Show are matched with a 4-H or Lodi FFA mentor who are also showing animals at the fair. Prior to the fair, the children will meet with the mentors and animals to choose the best fit for the student. Students learn handling techniques along with safety procedures to keep them safe. The showman and the mentors work together to show poultry, rabbits, swine, sheep, and calves.



Joe Jelinek – Principal
592-3853 ext. 4402

High School Highlights

Jason Marshall- Associate Principal
592-3853 ext. 4403



When we start to approach the end of July every summer, the excitement of a new school year fills the air in and around Lodi High School. It kicks off with the Leadership Council Retreat at Devils Lake, fall sports teams beginning their practices, new teachers starting to become acclimated to their classrooms, and students getting a first look at their schedules for the year on Picture Day. I share this excitement knowing that every year brings new opportunities for our students, and staff to thrive in an environment where their families and community support them unconditionally. After 20 years of living and raising a family in Lodi, I cannot emphasize enough how fortunate I feel to be able to serve in this district and in the community, and look forward to another successful school year. But, before the next chapter at LHS can begin, it's important to recognize in this publication of the Community Link just a few of the many accomplishments that our students and staff earned near the end of the 2022-23 school year and during the summer months.

Thank you for the continued community support this past spring, summer, and into the next chapter this coming school year at LHS.

Student Recognitions

2023 Girls Soccer Team Sets a High Standard for Success

While most of the students and staff at Lodi High School were sliding into their summer routine, the girls soccer team was preparing to do something no other soccer team at Lodi High School had done: compete in the WIAA Girls Soccer State Tournament. Considering the first Lodi High School was built in 1925, this was a milestone that was literally close to 100 years in the making. They earned the right to compete against some of the best teams in the state by defeating Wisconsin Rapids Assumption High School 1-0 in the sectional semifinal and Regis/McDonell Catholic 5-2 in the sectional final.



Even though their season ended in the semifinals at the state tournament, falling to Cedar Grove-Belgium 1-3, Lodi High School is extremely proud of their character, efforts on the field, and the pride they've brought to the Lodi community. They have set a standard for success for our soccer program at the youth and high school levels for years to come.



A Unique Signing Day

Like many other high schools across the nation, it has become a tradition at LHS to recognize the student-athletes who are taking their athletic skills to the next level. Students, as well as their families and friends, are able to celebrate their commitment to playing a sport at the collegiate level by signing a letter of content in a semi-formal ceremony. It's a chance to recognize the time and hard work that they've dedicated towards their sport over the

years. In a first of its kind for LHS students, three Lodi graduates were able to experience such a deserving signing that highlighted their dedication to another aspect of life we hope to instill in our students, preparation for the workforce. With the help and sponsorship of Ideal Builders out of Madison,



2023 graduates - Levi Ness, Clayton McIntyre, and Ashtyn Hillestad -- were able to sign their apprenticeship agreements during a recent ceremony at a job site in Stoughton. With this agreement, they will be provided on-the-job training in construction. They also became members of the North Central States Regional Council of Carpenters. Thank you, Ideal Builders, for giving Levi, Clayton, and Ashtyn this great opportunity to advance in a career in the trades.

Staff Recognition



High school teacher Connor Anderson is best known as our agriculture teacher who helps guide our student leaders in the FFA, an organization that is a staple at the high school and the Lodi community. He spends countless hours prepping for the many classes he teaches on a daily basis and helps build student leadership in our school. Unfortunately, much of this time and energy that Connor dedicates towards the betterment of our students doesn't always get noticed. So, LHS was happy to get the news that Connor was recently recognized for all that he has done as an agricultural teacher and advisor.

Mr. Anderson was recently awarded the 2023 Wisconsin Association of Agricultural Educators Outstanding Early Career Teacher Award. The application process for this award consisted of Connor being nominated by a group of his peers to represent Section 6, which made him 1 of 10 state finalists. The application process continued, and because of everything that makes Connor a tremendous educator both in and out of the classroom, he was awarded the

Wisconsin state winner. There is no doubt that Connor Anderson has had an impact on FFA members, his classroom students, our school, and the Lodi community. We are so proud and fortunate to have him at Lodi High School.

Thank You, Lodi Community - Senior Honors Night

Every spring, Lodi High School feels privileged and honored to host our Senior Honors Night which helps acknowledge the achievements of our magnificent students who have made both the school and their parents proud over their time in high school. This program is held to recognize the young talents who have made an immense contribution to our school and the Lodi community. Some students are presented academic awards and other acknowledgments, but the focal point of the program is the generosity, in the form of scholarships, that are given by many local organizations and individuals in our community. This past year, close to \$100,000 in scholarships were awarded to our deserving seniors. LHS administration would like to formally thank the individuals, committees, and organizations that helped make our students' futures more financially attainable with their generous gifts.



Special Recognition

The Lodi High School would like to recognize three former staff members who have moved on to new adventures in their lives. Thank you, math teachers Rachel Tippery and Erin Tyson for being such outstanding educators in our school over the past few years. Our success in math has much to do with the dedication and hard work they've put in. Also, thank you, English teacher Carrie Kerska for not only her work in improving the reading and writing skills of our students, but also for her time in helping advance our students in the area of engineering through facilitating classes in our STEAM lab. We wish Rachel, Erin, and Carrie all the best in their future endeavors!



Derek Pertzborn – Principal
592-3854 ext. 3202

Middle School Maneuvers



Peter Franklin, Dean of Students
592-3854 ext. 3203

Pillar 4 - District Workforce

During the 2022-23 school year, Lodi Middle School implemented a variety of teams designed to meet the needs of our students and staff. During the 2021-22 school year, staff identified areas where our school could use more support and developed an outline of teams that could meet those needs. Staff were then provided an opportunity to join teams that they are interested in supporting. Below is a brief description of the work each of these teams has contributed to Lodi Middle School.

Team	Purpose or Responsibilities
CORE Team	The CORE Team acts as our Lodi Middle School first responders to provide support for medical issues that may arise during the school day. These team members respond to medical issues and work together to determine if additional medical attention is needed. All CORE Team members are trained in first aid, CPR, and AED.
ELL (English Language Learners)	The ELL Team works to support our students who speak English as a second language. The ELL team provides teaching strategies to staff to meet the needs of our ELL population. In addition, staff can reach out for more individualized support to meet student needs.
Impact Team	The Impact Team works to ensure that the mission and vision of Lodi Middle School are carried out. They work to create 1-, 3-, and 5-year plans for the middle school and then break these up to create 90-day plans to carry out the long-term plans. The Impact Team monitors the progress of both the 90-day plans and the building scorecard.
PBIS Team (Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports)	The PBIS works to create a safe and orderly environment for our students and staff. They work to create and implement schoolwide expectations and monitor progress. In addition, the PBIS Team works to develop ways to recognize positive behavior among our students.
Safety Team	The Safety Team works to develop and implement safety plans for our building. They review safety procedures and routines to ensure that they are efficient and in line with best practices. In addition, the Safety Team also reviews security protocol.
Scheduling Team	The Scheduling Team creates and refines the master schedule to ensure that we are using our time to meet the needs of our students. They facilitate the implementation of our Collaboration Calendar that outlines when each of our teams will meet. In addition, the Scheduling Team works to build a schedule to implement state testing.
SEL/Advisory Team (Social and Emotional Learning)	The SEL/Advisory team puts together lessons to develop students' social and emotional skills which are used by all staff. They collaborate with staff to get feedback on lessons and make changes to meet the needs of students. In addition, they support students with small group interventions such as relationship building.
Staff Wellness and Appreciation (SWAT)	The Staff Wellness and Appreciation Team (SWAT) provides wellness activities to staff to socialize, relieve stress, and connect. They plan activities for staff to connect outside of school and during the school day, such as potlucks and monthly birthday celebrations.
Student Celebration Team	The Student Celebration Team works to create a positive culture within Lodi Middle School. They plan fun activities for students where they have a chance to connect, such as dances and assemblies.
Student Success Team	The Student Success Team works to identify, support, and monitor students in need of support academically, socially, or emotionally. They work to communicate and support staff around our Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS).

These staff committees have had a positive impact on Lodi Middle School. In a staff survey, 81% of staff either strongly agreed or agreed that “Staff Committees had a positive impact in moving the middle school forward.” In addition, 85% of staff members either strongly agreed or agreed that “Staff Committees had a positive impact on school culture and climate.”

In addition to the outcomes of each of these teams, our staff committees help to create a sense of belonging for our staff. We have an amazing staff and providing time for them to work together not only helps to create tangible results, but also provides staff with an avenue to make change in our school outside of their classroom. Collaboration provides our staff a time and place to connect as professionals, but more importantly, as human beings.





Elementary/OSC Excerpts

By Eric Scheunemann, Elementary/OSC School Principal ♦592-3842 ext. 2102 ♦Grades 3-5

The Power of Pause

There is a lot to appreciate about summer. Traditions like the fair, family gatherings, getting out on the lake, cookouts, campfires, and celebrating the 4th of July are just a few that I hope you have been able to enjoy. As the school year finished and the school buses drove away, I entered into an unknown experience, my first summer as a principal. Some of you have entered into an unknown experience too. Maybe you are transitioning to a new school, or maybe you just retired, or maybe this is your first summer without one of your children showing animals in the Lodi Fair, or maybe it is your first summer having one of your children show an animal in the Lodi Fair. Entering these moments of unknown can be scary, yet each of these moments also comes with excitement. Your willingness to enter these unknown experiences with confidence is something you should be proud of. When we take steps forward into the unknown, it sets the precedent for those around us to also take risks. That same feeling of pride came to mind as I watched all the LES/OSC staff waving to students as the buses pulled away at the end of the school year. I am very proud of the work staff and students put into this year and the growth that we all made together.

As much as I appreciate the traditions of summer and the thought that summer is a time to relax, I've learned over the years that every day and every season is busy. I've also learned that there is great value and power in taking moments to pause, but those moments don't just happen on their own. Instead you have to be intentional about pausing. I know this is easier said than done; however, a March 2022 *Forbes* magazine article titled "5 Reasons Why The 'Power Of The Pause' Is Your Secret Career Weapon" by Amy Blaschka gave these 5 reasons to pause:

1. It prevents you from being overly reactive.
2. It allows creativity to flow.
3. It preserves your well-being.
4. It keeps you focused on what matters most.
5. It makes you more productive.

It is with these reasons in mind that I want to encourage you to be intentional about taking moments to pause. Every time I pause, I am filled with gratitude, and often opportunities to connect with others pop up. Being part of Lodi Summer School this year has given me the privilege of meeting new students, families, and staff members. Not once have I regretted the moments I've taken to listen and get to know them, and I am so appreciative of the time they have given me as well. Lodi is a special community, full of special people who care a whole lot about each other. I hope you choose to take some time to pause and connect with those around you. Below is part of a blog post by Holley Gerth about the power of pausing in the summer:

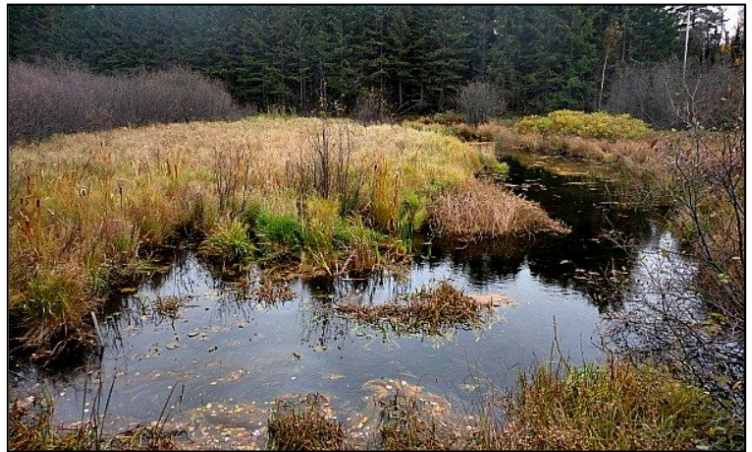
"Summer speaks to us in different ways than other seasons. She says to us, 'Pause, savor, feel warmth on your skin.' It's easy to miss her. She's quiet, you know. She whispers from the bright red of strawberries that kiss your lips when you taste them. She beckons from waves that stretch out along the shore like a welcoming party. She calls your name through fireflies that invite you to dance in the early dark."

She goes on to challenge us all.

"Will you take a few moments to listen to her with me today? I overlook her almost every year. Then I find myself at the end of September wondering how I missed all the wonder."

Step outside or glance out your window for a moment—just a moment—and look up at the sky. Feel the sun brush your skin, see the flowers dressed up in swimsuit colors, wave hello to a newly hatched robin taking her first hop across the lawn. Each one is a miracle, ours for the enjoying. Like strawberries on the vine.”

My hope is that as you read this, you are encouraged to be intentional about taking time to pause because it is powerful. I hope you know this message is for me too. It is easy to be caught up in the busyness of life. At LES/OSC, we value people, conversations, and growth. As I reflect on my first year in Lodi, I have been reminded that I can't show people I value them or engage in conversation if I don't take time to pause. The connections we form through the consistent commitment and care we demonstrate will not only help our students grow, but it will also help our community grow. Here is a picture of the headwaters of the Wisconsin River located in Vilas County near the Michigan border. The picture seems unimpressive to me, but small streams don't choose to be mighty rivers. They just keep moving. As I consider the power and danger of the Wisconsin River, the headwaters become increasingly impressive. No one can deny the power and usefulness of the Wisconsin River. The headwaters humbly do their part. They are the beginning of the river and begin the process of water flowing in the right direction, providing an environment for all kinds of life to flourish. The Wisconsin River provides much of the same yet, it would stop existing if its headwaters were cut off. The people are what makes Lodi special, and the students at LES/OSC are the reason we do the important work of educating our next generation, while staying true to our values and living out the School District of Lodi mission:



“In partnership with our community, nurturing every student's potential for growth and opportunities; socially, mentally & academically in a safe, respectful, and an inclusive environment to create innovative problem solvers.”

May we all humbly do our part to keep moving the School District of Lodi forward and yet make sure we take time to pause and appreciate all that is around us!



Primary Pride

By Amy Fassbender, Primary School Principal ♦592-3855 ext. 1002 ♦Grades EC/K4-2

As we look ahead to the 2023-2024 school year, we want to share about several end of year celebrations! We had a wonderful last few weeks of school! With Stride with Lodi Pride, all-school recess, spring concerts, 4K picnic, kindergarten celebration, grade 2 parade, last day class celebrations, and more...we ended the year on a definite positive note!



Summer School

Things are busy at the primary school and high school with our Lodi Summer School Program. The first session ran from June 12 through June 29. We had about 900 students participating in a variety of enrichment as well as remedial classes. Some of the classes include Reading Palooza, Math Mania, Wrestling, Cooking, MineCraft, Science Fun, Quilting, Fishing, Golf, Soccer, Tennis, Swimming, Theater, and Lego Mania.

In order to run our program, we have about 70 staff members teaching and supporting students in the classrooms. We appreciate all of the returning staff coming back this year and welcome many new to our team! The majority of the classes are located at the high school and the surrounding grounds. But we also had students going into 4K and kindergarten at the primary school to help with the transition into that building in the fall. Session 2 of will start July 10 and run through July 27.



A huge thank you again to the Lodi community for all their support this past school year. We are already beginning to plan and start preparations for the coming year!

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