

# LEOPARD NEWS

*The official newsletter of Louisville High School*



## A Message From Mr. Tausch

Now that it's April, we're gearing up for an essential event in our academic calendar: Ohio State Testing (OST). These standardized tests offer our students a platform to showcase their abilities, dedication, and the fruits of their hard work. It's a chance for them to shine not only for themselves and their families but also for our community and the state at large. In addition, the results of these tests can provide valuable information that can be used to identify areas of strength and weakness, as well as guide curriculum development and instruction.

Here are the key dates for OST Testing:

- **April 9-10:** Ohio State Testing - ELA II
- **April 16-18:** Ohio State Testing - Biology / American Studies / American Government
- **April 23-24:** Ohio State Testing - Algebra / Geometry

To ensure our students are well-prepared for success during OST Testing, we urge parents to consider the following:

- **Attendance Matters:** Please ensure your child attends school consistently during the testing period. Regular attendance is crucial for effective preparation and performance.
- **Prioritize Rest:** Adequate sleep is essential for optimal cognitive function. Encourage your child to maintain a regular sleep schedule, especially leading up to testing days.
- **Healthy Nutrition:** A light and nutritious breakfast can provide the energy and focus needed for testing. Encourage your child to start the day with a balanced meal.

By supporting our students in these ways, we can help them feel confident and prepared to excel during OST Testing. Together, we can empower them to demonstrate their full potential and academic prowess.

Thank you for your ongoing support and collaboration in our mission to foster academic excellence and success for every student.

## Important Dates

### APRIL 8

*No School - Solar Eclipse*

### APRIL 9-10

*Ohio State Testing - ELA II*

### APRIL 16-18

*Ohio State Testing - Biology / Amer. Studies / Amer. Gov't*

### APRIL 23-24

*Ohio State Testing - Algebra / Geometry*

### APRIL 27

*Jr/Sr Prom 7:00 p.m.*

### MAY 2

*Spring Band Concert 7:00 p.m.*

### MAY 6

*NHS Induction Ceremony*

### MAY 7

*Senior Honors Night*

### MAY 14

*Choir Spring Showcase 7:00 p.m.*

### MAY 16

*R.G. Drage Graduation 9:00 a.m.*

### MAY 19

*Senior Parade 6:00 p.m.*

*Senior Sunset follows parade*

### MAY 23

*LHS Graduation 7:00 p.m.*

**New Cell Phone/  
Earbuds Policy  
Beginning For  
2024-25 School  
Year** *Check out page 2*





## Final Exam Policy at LHS

Once again, I am sharing our Final Exam policy at LHS.

- **Senior final exams: May 13-15**
- **Underclassmen final exams: May 28-30**

*Every student can expect to complete a final exam in each of his/her courses.*

Finals serve as the summative end-of-course exam for students and teachers. They are used to codify learning for students and give teachers important information for future instructional decisions. For our courses that our students take that have an Ohio State Test in April, such as Biology, Geometry, Algebra 1, American History, American Government, and English 2, these tests will serve as our aligned end-of-course exams for students.

Understanding the rationale that our OSTs will serve as our summative end-of-course exams in their respective courses, we are going to utilize the scores from these OST tests as their final exam, thus exempting them from their final end-of-course exam on May 28, 29, and 30.

I have included some additional information parents and students should be aware of concerning final exams.

- A grade for finals will be determined using the end-of-course assessment that will equal 10% of a student's final grade.
- Regardless of score on the OSTs, all students will have the opportunity to take a final during the final three days to improve their grade.
- If students choose to take the end-of-course final in their OST tested course, in an attempt to better their score, the student will not be penalized for this attempt. The teacher will take the higher of the two grades.
- Students in Honors courses must score a 4 or 5 on their OST to be exempt from taking the end-of-course final.

## New Cell Phone/ Earbuds Policy Beginning For 2024-2025 School Year

As we look ahead at the '24-'25 school year, we want to inform you of some changes to our cell phone and earbuds policy at LHS. These changes are aimed at promoting a more focused and productive learning environment for all students. Please review the following guidelines carefully:

- **Cell Phone Policy:**
  - Students will no longer be permitted to have their cell phones on them during any class. (Documented, medical exceptions may be considered.)
  - Upon entering the classroom, students must turn in their cell phones to their designated location in the classroom. They will retrieve their phones before leaving the classroom.
- **Earbuds Policy:**
  - All earbuds must be put away and out of sight during class time.
  - Teachers will conduct periodic checks to ensure students are complying with this rule.
- **Consequences for Deception:**
  - Students who intentionally deceive a teacher by claiming they do not have a cell phone, only to be found in possession of one, will face consequences as outlined in our school's disciplinary policy.
- **Communication and Cooperation:**
  - We will ensure that every student understands the new guidelines. Admin and teachers will clearly explain these rules at the beginning of the school year.
  - We urge parents to engage in conversations with their children about the importance of adhering to these guidelines and the reasons behind them.

We believe that these changes will create a more conducive learning environment where students can fully engage in their studies without distractions. We appreciate your cooperation and support in implementing these policies.