

September-October
2024

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Superintendent

Jo-Ellen Fairbanks

Principals

Peter Kline,
Primary School

Heather Mleziva,
Intermediate School

Todd Chandler,
Middle School

Tyson Tlachac,
High School

The Spartan Impact

The turn of the calendar. A fresh start. A bright new day.

Whether students are entering the halls for the first time or returning to familiar classrooms, a new school year brings an atmosphere charged with enthusiasm and a whirlwind of activity. Students are eager to learn and explore their potential. Teachers are excited to guide their students to develop new skills and understanding. As we start this journey, there is a collective commitment to make this year meaningful, positive, and enjoyable.

As part of the 2023 legislative ACT 20, by July 1, 2025, all 5K-3rd grade teachers must have training in the Science of Reading. L-C took its responsibility for providing quality instruction and highly qualified teachers even further. This summer all 4K-5th grade teachers, all 4K-6th grade special education teachers, and both 4K-6th grade administrators completed 55 hours of AIMS Pathway Training. This training is based on the Science of Reading which incorporates research-based practices that are proven to improve reading. Interventionists also completed AIMS Pathways Structured Literacy to better assist our most struggling readers.

Grades 4K- 5 are also implementing a new character education curriculum called Character Strong. Character Strong is a multi-tiered, evidence-based curriculum that helps students build soft/employability skills to improve behavior, increase safety, and support mental health. The curriculum is built around the "Eight Essential" character traits: patience, kindness, humility, respect, selflessness, forgiveness, commitment, and honesty.

This year, the Middle School is expanding instructional coaching to assist teachers with utilizing student engagement strategies. Student engagement refers to the attention and interest that students show when they are learning something, which increases their motivation to learn thereby increasing their level of learning. Additionally, the Middle School restructured its Spartan Time to provide more time to provide interventions to struggling students.

The High School also restructured its Spartan Time to provide additional instructional support for students and offer ACT prep for students preparing to attend a 4-year college. New vape sensors have been installed in bathrooms to increase student health and safety. Additional college and career pathways are being planned and developed so that all students have an opportunity to find their purpose.

As a district, we are engaged in continual improvement to provide exceptional educational opportunities for our students and community.

I welcome students, parents, staff, and community members to continue to share their ideas and thoughts as we continue to grow L-C SD. My door is always open. Please call to arrange a time to meet and have a conversation (920-845-5871 x 103).

We are Spartans! Dr. Jo-Ellen Fairbanks, Ph.D.

Primary School News

Summer Library Program a Success

The 2024 Summer Library Program at L-C Primary School was a big success. The Primary School Library was open to the public on Monday and Wednesday mornings from 8:00 am to noon throughout the summer. Monday activities were in the makerspace area where kids can explore various activities, and story time took place on Wednesday morning. Students and parents were encouraged to check out books and many families took advantage of the library to just sit and read books with their children. Fifty students participated in the Reading Bingo Activity which not only encouraged students to read but also provided an incentive to engage with diverse reading materials. Students also tracked their reading with a summer reading log with four students reading over 1,000 minutes. The total attendance of both children and adults was 876 people taking advantage of the opportunities that were offered. We would like to thank the following businesses for their support in donating prizes used as incentives for participating students and families:

Kwik Trip

Happy Joe's Pizza

Applebee's

Frosty Tip

Texas Roadhouse

L-C Spartan School Store

Stodola's IGA

Funset Boulevard

Marcus Theatres

The Science of Reading



You may have seen previous articles pertaining to our continued improvement in reading centered around the Science of Reading. Our teachers worked hard this summer and completed the 55-hour AIMS Pathways training. We are continuing to collaborate to make our instruction better and more in line with the Science of Reading philosophy and strategies. Looking ahead to the next couple months, we are finalizing our beginning of the year assessments to determine where kids are at instructionally and to help us form our intervention groups.

The Primary School will be joining the Intermediate School to host the Trunk or Treat Family Night on October 24th. Parent Teacher Conferences for the Primary School will be held on November 9th and November 16th from 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM.

Welcome New Primary School Staff

The Primary School is off to a great start for the 24-25 school year. The beginning of the year brings new excitement and changes for students and staff as well. Staff who are new to our building this year include Anne Lee, Spanish Teacher, Tammy Hermans, Occupational Therapy Assistant, Debra Massart, paraprofessional, Alyssa Delebreaux, paraprofessional, and Jason Boldt, evening custodian.

Parent Teacher Conferences for the Primary School will be held on November 21st and November 25th from 3:30 to 7:30PM.

Intermediate School News

Meet Our New Intermediate School Teachers

Morgan VandenHouten
6th Grade Science



Hello everyone! My name is Morgan and I am the new 6th grade science teacher at the intermediate school! I grew up and went to school at Luxemburg-Casco and recently graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh. Outside of school, I love spending time with family and friends, reading, and going for walks.



Whitney Herman
Reading Interventionist



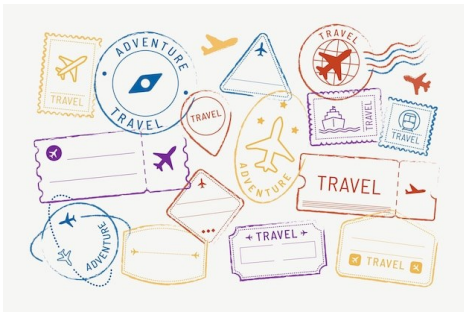
Hi, I'm Whitney Herman, the new Reading Interventionist at the Intermediate School. Although this is my first year at L-C, I have

been teaching for 14 years, most recently in Algoma for the past 9 years and at St. Mary's in Luxemburg prior to that. I have taught grades 4K, 1st and 2nd, as well as being a Reading Interventionist in grades K-6. My husband and I live in Luxemburg with our 3 children Ella (9), Leo (7) and Fletcher (4), and we stay busy with softball, baseball, football and wrestling. I am excited to be back teaching in Luxemburg!



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Kathryn Sniff
3rd Grade
Special Education Teacher



Hello Spartans! My name is Kathryn Sniff and I am new to the Intermediate School this year, however, I am not new to the district. I have been at the Primary School for the last 13 years. I grew up in Two Rivers, WI and graduated from the University of Wisconsin Stevens Point. I now live with my husband and 2 children, Sutton (4) and Lawson (8 months) in Red River. As a family we love to travel to different places and visit our extended family members. I am excited to take on new adventures with the 3rd grade class!

Angela Watzka
Recess Aide



Hi my name is Angela! A little bit about myself is I have a wonderful husband, Brian, and we have three beautiful daughters: Isabella, Lillian, and Autumn. My favorite foods are steak and chicken alfredo with broccoli. My favorite restaurant is Longhorn Steakhouse. My hobbies include watching my husband race at dirt tracks, and camping. My bucket list is to visit all 50 states with my family.



Friendly Fridays !

Friendly Fridays are back at the Intermediate School! This is when our teachers line the hallways to greet students with high fives, smiles, music and cheers as they enter the building or classroom.

This initiative aims to create a positive and welcoming environment for all of our students, helping them to feel connected to their peers, teachers and staff members in our building. Friendly Fridays will occur on the final Friday of each month. In the past (previously called "High Five Friday"), students have expressed excitement about these mornings, sharing that it makes them feel happy and appreciated.

Upcoming Dates to Note:

- September 18th - Picture Day
- September 25th - Final Day of Save Around Books Fundraiser
- October 1st - 4th Grade Madison Field Trip
- October 2nd - 4th Grade Madison Field Trip
- October 7th - Chess Club Begins
- October 21st - Picture Retake Day



Middle School News

Seventh Grade and New Student Orientation

Written from the perspective of a middle school staff parent

Seventh grade/new student orientation was held on August 13, 2024, at the middle school.

This was an opportunity for parents and students to learn about middle school expectations and travel through the building attending short sessions presented by staff: Mr Chandler - Middle School "Need to Know", Mr. Mears and Mr. Luckey - Schoology, Mrs. Hoiska - The Spartan Way, Mrs. Monfils - technology expectations, and Mrs. Alexander and Mrs. Zellner - office policies.

As a parent, I appreciated receiving clarification of routines and daily procedures I can follow and reinforce with my seventh-grade child. It gave my seventh-grade child extra time to process the information, converse about the practices implemented in the middle school, and prepare for the transitions.

As a staff member, the orientation helped me prepare ways to support implementing the school-wide policies in my classroom on day one, to promote consistency, and to hold students accountable to the middle school expectations. Thank you to all the parents who attended the orientation with their child and to the staff who helped make this orientation a success!

Middle School Field Trips and Middle School Fun

As middle school students embark on a journey of growth and self-discovery, participation in diverse and fun activities is essential. These experiences not only enrich their middle school years but also lay the foundation for a well-rounded future. Engaging in varied activities cultivates not just better students, but confident, capable individuals ready to tackle the challenges of high school and beyond.

Over the course of the coming school year, there will be a number of diverse ways for students to extend their learning experience. Some eighth-grade students will have the opportunity to travel to, Cherney Maribel Caves County Park, Point Beach State Forest, and High Cliff State Park to see and learn more about the geological and geographical features that exist there. All eighth graders will take part in the annual Find Your Inspiration Career Exploration event that is held every year in November. This event allows students to learn about a variety of careers.

Some fun activities that we are looking forward to this year include spirit week, pumpkin decorating, school dances, and mini-course day to name just a few. These experiences not only enhance social skills but also foster a sense of belonging and self-discovery.

High School News

LCHS Proud to Host STING CANCER

Luxemburg-Casco has been a proud member of STING CANCER since 2014. It is a passionate and committed group of students and staff hoping to make a difference in our community. Our mission is to offer support and comfort to those affected by cancer, as well as raise awareness in the community. We currently give anyone affected by cancer in the L-C District, a care package consisting of a tied fleece blanket, a Sting Cancer t-shirt & hat, and a variety of gift cards for gas, groceries, etc. We also provide a comfort chemo bag that cancer patients take with them to their treatments. Each basket is valued at \$275. In 2023, Sting Cancer provided 35 cancer patients in the L-C District with a basket and we will most likely surpass that number this year. Every year we hold a fundraiser with raffle baskets during a basketball game to help raise money to support our mission. Last year, thanks to the support of our community, we raised \$13,619.47. This year's event will be held on Thursday January 30th during the girls basketball game against Wrightstown. If you have any questions about Sting Cancer or would like to donate a basket for our fundraiser, please contact Tracy Bins or Anita Kinnard at the high school. Remember #NoOneFightsAlone



L-C Youth Apprenticeship Students Highlighted By Businesses

Luxemburg-Casco Youth Apprenticeship students are off to a great start with their jobs. Employers have been highlighting students on their business social media pages throughout the summer. These business partners have committed to mentoring students through the Department of Workforce Development's Youth Apprenticeship Program.



To learn more about the Youth Apprenticeship program please visit our YA page [LCHS Youth Apprenticeship](#) or reach out to our Youth Apprenticeship Coach.
Jolyn Helgeson, jhelgeson1@luxcasco.k12.wi.us

We want to thank every employer who has dedicated their time and resources to help our students gain experience in their future career paths. This year we have almost 100 different businesses that sponsor YA students just from Luxemburg-Casco High School.

Meet Our New High School Teachers

Amanda Keskinen
Spanish Teacher



Amanda's favorite food is chocolate chip cookies. Her most useless talent is knowing the capitals of all 50 States but that will come in handy as visiting all 50 States is on her bucket list. She is a morning person who prefers ridges on her potato chips and believes that three is the maximum number of spritzes of perfume or cologne before it's too much.

Payton is really good at volleyball and her favorite cereal is Fruit Loops. Her most useless talent is being able to dislocate her shoulder. She does not approve of pineapple on pizza but feels it is OK for a vegetarian to eat animal crackers. The thing she misses about being a kid – no responsibilities or cares in the world.

Payton VandenBush
Special Education
Teacher



Ruth's most bingeable tv show is Modern Family. Wearing big hat and going to the Kentucky Derby is on her bucket list. If she could get a new skill in 10 minutes she would learn to ballroom dance. The person she would most like to meet is Michelle Obama and she is OK with pineapple on pizza.

Emily Wuest
English Teacher

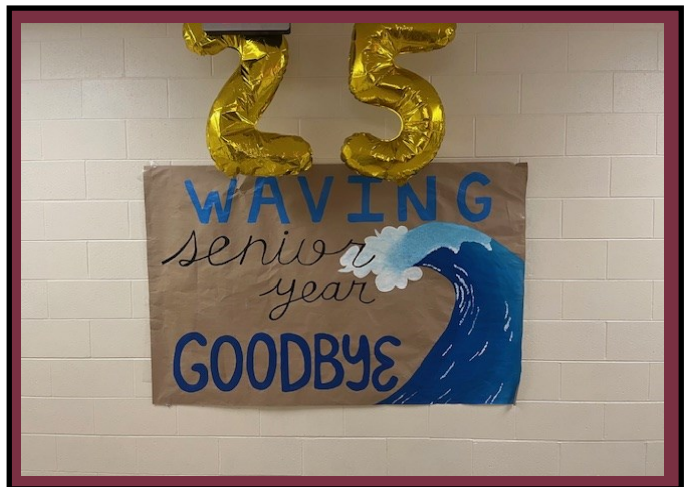


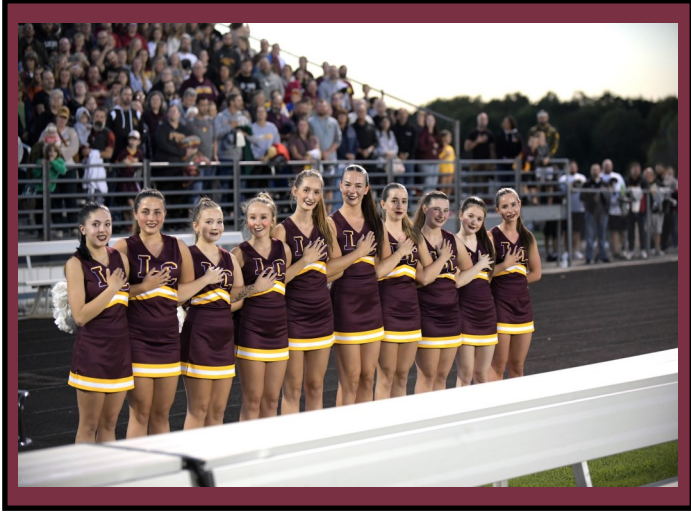
Ruth Dalebroux
English Teacher

Emily is a morning person whose favorite food is Pad Thai. She prefers talking to texting and would most likely max out her credit card at REI. Currently, her most bingeable show is 'Buffy the Vampire Slayer' and she wears socks with sandals all



Homecoming Week 2024





GO YOU MIGHTY MIGHTY SPARTANS
LET'S REALLY REALLY FIGHT
FIGHT YOU MIGHTY MIGHTY SPARTANS
VICTORY TONIGHT – U RAH RAH!
GO YOU MIGHTY MIGHTY SPARTANS
FOR RED AND GOLD AND WHITE
FIGHT YOU MIGHTY MIGHTY SPARTANS





Costumes Encouraged!

TRUNK **or treat**

Please join the LG Primary and Intermediate School staff for a night of activities, treats, and prizes!

October 24

4:30 - 6:30 PM

Park in the Athletic Complex parking lot, join us in the Intermediate School lot and playground blacktop

BRING YOUR OWN BUCKET OR BAG FOR COLLECTING CANDY AND PRIZES

THE GOAL OF TRUNK OR TREAT IS TO EQUIP PARENTS WITH THE KNOWLEDGE AND TOOLS TO SUPPORT THEIR CHILDREN'S OVERALL WELL-BEING AND SUCCESS, AND FOR STUDENTS TO SHOW WHAT THEY HAVE ALREADY LEARNED.



TRUNK or treat

¡Únase al personal de la escuela primaria e intermedia LC para una noche de actividades, obsequios y premios!

24 de octubre

4:30 - 6:30 PM

Estacionarse en el estacionamiento del Complejo Deportivo, únase a nosotros en el estacionamiento de la Escuela Intermedia y en el patio de juegos

POR FAVOR LLEVAR SU PROPIA CANASTA O BOLSA PARA COLLECTAR LOS DULCES Y PREMIOS

EL OBJETIVO DE TRUNK OR TREAT ES BRINDARLES A LOS PADRES EL CONOCIMIENTO Y LAS HERRAMIENTAS PARA APOYAR EL BIENESTAR Y EL ÉXITO GENERAL DE SUS HIJOS, Y QUE LOS ESTUDIANTES DEMUESTREN LO QUE YA HAN APRENDIDO.

