

LIBERTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS EDUCATOR

Fall 2024



#INTHISTOGETHERLPS

PRSRST STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
BLS

Liberty Public Schools
8 Victory Lane
Liberty, MO 64068





**Choose
the leader
in heart care.**

You Deserve A Leader.

You don't choose a heart condition. But you can choose a cardiologist and hospital. Our expert team cares for all hearts — even those with the most complex problems. With advanced technology and procedures, our doctors give your heart strength and your mind peace. We'll always bring the best care to you — it's what you deserve.

Learn more at [YouDeserveALeader.com](https://www.youdeservealeader.com)



SCHOOL DIRECTORY INFORMATION

Early Childhood/Elementary Schools

Early Childhood Center	9600 NE 79th St. KCMO 64158	736-5324	Bart Tittle, Principal Sabrina Dotson, Asst. Principal
Alexander Doniphan	1900 Clay Dr. Liberty, MO 64068	736-5400	Beth Cunningham, Principal Chavis Clawson, Asst. Principal
EPIC Elementary	650 Conistor Liberty, MO 64068	736-5730	Jamie Ackart, Principal
Franklin	201 W. Mill Street Liberty, MO 64068	736-5440	Amy Toebben, Principal Jaysa Hartman, Asst. Principal
Kellybrook	10701 N. Eastern Ave. KCMO 64157	736-5700	Kayli Burrell, Principal Megan Thompson, Asst. Principal
Lewis and Clark	1407 Nashua Liberty, MO 64068	736-5430	Mitch Hiser, Principal Dawn Shannon, Asst. Principal
Liberty Oaks	8150 N. Farley KCMO 64158	736-5600	Jeanne Hinnenkamp, Principal Ashlyn Garton, Asst. Principal
Lillian Schumacher	425 Claywoods Pkwy. Liberty, MO 64068	736-5490	Matthew Krohne, Principal Jaysa Hartman, Asst. Principal Emily Griffin, Asst. Principal
Manor Hill	1400 Skyline Dr. Liberty, MO 64068	736-5460	Jordan Williamson, Principal Julie Gosnell, Asst. Principal
Ridgeview	701 Thornton Liberty, MO 64068	736-5450	Tyler Shannon, Principal Heather Buckman, Asst. Principal
Shoal Creek	9000 N Flintlock Rd. KCMO 64157	736-7150	Christy Boman, Principal Ashley Assman, Asst. Principal Danielle Compton, Asst. Principal
Warren Hills	1251 Camille St. Liberty, MO 64068	736-5630	Michelle Swierski, Principal Heather Lee, Asst. Principal
Secondary Schools			
Discovery Middle School	800 Midjay Dr. Liberty, MO 64068	736-7300	Greg Mees, Principal Courtney Dickerson, Asst. Principal
Heritage Middle School	600 W. Kansas Liberty, MO 64068	736-5380	Reagan Allegri, Principal Ryan Dahm, Asst. Principal Jennifer Selock, Asst. Principal
Liberty Middle School	1500 S. Withers Rd. Liberty, MO 64068	736-5410	Jeremy Bradham, Principal Shirley Kantola, Asst. Principal
South Valley Middle School	1000 Midjay Dr. Liberty, MO 64068	736-7180	Jill Mullen, Principal Joe Lutes, Asst. Principal Whitney Weakley, Asst. Principal
Liberty High School	200 Blue Jay Dr. Liberty, MO 64068	736-5340	Mike Sharp, Principal Tara Bell, Asst. Principal Caleb Champ, Asst. Principal Bridget Herrman, Asst. Principal Ryan Nichols, Asst. Principal Jason Cahill, Activities Director
Liberty North High School	1000 NE 104th St. Liberty, MO 64608	736-5500	Rosemary Camp, Principal Lee Allen, Asst. Principal Josh Baldwin, Asst. Principal Tammy Jackson, Asst. Principal RoseAngela Taney, Asst. Principal Stacy Syler, Asst. Principal David McDorman, Activities Director
Liberty Academy	1115 Blackberry Dr. Liberty, MO 64068	736-5470	Melissa Norris, Director of Alternative Education



2024-2025 Liberty Public Schools Board of Education - Pictured (Front Row L-R): Karen Rogers, Jenn Bauer, and Angie Reed; (Back Row L-R) Dan Currence, AJ Byrd, Nick Bartlow, and Drew Marriott

Board of Education

Angie Reed, President
angie.reed@lps53.org

Karen Rogers, Vice-President
karen.rogers@lps53.org

Nick Bartlow
nick.bartlow@lps53.org

Jenn Bauer
jenn.bauer@lps53.org

A.J. Byrd
aj.byrd@lps53.org

Dan Currence
daniel.currence@lps53.org

Drew Marriott
drew.marriott@lps53.org

Liberty Public Schools

District Offices
8 Victory Lane
Liberty, MO 64068
(816) 736-5300

Superintendent

Dr. M. Jeremy Tucker

Website

www.lps53.org

INDEX

School Directory Information 3
 Telling the LPS Story4
 LPS In The News.....6-7
 Character Traits Recognition.....7
 Hall of Fame Inductions.....8-9
 By The Numbers10
 SOAR Nominations11

On the cover



LNHS Homecoming King Caden Barner and Queen Olivia Watson. (credit LNHS student Adelyn French)

LHS Homecoming King Jeremy James, Jr. and Queen Makenna Dohrmann. (credit Langhorst Photography)

SHINE WITH THE LIBERTY EDUCATION FOUNDATION




BECOME A FRIEND OF THE FOUNDATION AND RECEIVE OUR EXCLUSIVE SHINE SHIRT!



givebutter.com/LEFCommunity

JOIN 1,075 LPS STAFF MEMBERS WHO SUPPORT THE LIBERTY EDUCATION FOUNDATION!

The Liberty Education Foundation, a nonprofit organization, has been dedicated to enriching educational experiences for Liberty Public Schools' students, faculty, and staff since 1995. We believe that investing in our students today means a brighter tomorrow for everyone.

Each year, Liberty Public Schools employees step up to support our mission, and in the past seven years, participation has soared from 150 to 1,075 staff donors—a reflection of the Foundation's impact on our schools.

We invite the community to join this incredible effort! Match our 1,075 staff donors by making a contribution to support Liberty Public Schools through the Liberty Education Foundation.

Become a **Friend of the Foundation** with an annual gift of \$100 or more, and as a thank-you, you will receive our exclusive SHINE shirt.

Learn more and donate at libertyeducationfoundation.org.



Foundation highlights from 2023-2024 include:

- Provided 15,000 ISO-certified eclipse glasses for all LPS students and staff
- Gifted all Kindergarten students with a book authored by an LPS alumnus and hosting an author tour
- Hosted THRIVE - a free 3-day personal and leadership development conference for LPS high school students
- Funded dozens of teacher and student grants
- Recognized 70 students for their outstanding values and efforts at our annual HOPE Awards program
- Assisted families through our Liberty Cares Fund, providing 250 backpacks and headphones and relieving meal debt for 442 students

Liberty Public Schools

We're hiring for custodians, drivers, paras, and more. Help us create those great big smiles — it's totally worth it.

Join us and become a part of our vibrant community.

Apply: <https://www.lps53.org/jobs-at-lps>



Healthcare Insurance ♦ Life Insurance ♦ Disability Insurance ♦ Retirement ♦ Paid Time Off ♦ Wellness



Be a Smilemaker.



If you would like more information about Liberty School District, please contact the Communications Office at 736-5300, or visit our website at www.lps53.org.





Telling the LPS Story

In Liberty Public Schools, several social media platforms that we have in place provide us with the opportunity to tell our story. One of these platforms is X (formerly Twitter), where we share updates daily. Provided are some posts that were shared this semester to help tell the LPS story. In addition, you will find all of our school X handles and hashtags below, and we encourage you to give them a follow!

Name	Account	Hashtag
Elementary Schools		
Alexander Doniphan	@ADdolphins	#lpsad
EPiC	@EpicElementary	#lpsepic
Franklin	@LPSFranklinElem	#lpsfranklin
Kellybrook	@KBElementary	#kbcougars
Lewis and Clark	@lclblazers	#lclblazers
Liberty Oaks	@libertyoaks	#libertyoaks
Lillian Schumacher	@LillianSchuElem	#lssharks
Manor Hill	@MHPatriot	#mhpatriot
Ridgeview	@RVRoadrunner	#rvroadrunner
Shoal Creek	@ShoalCreekStars	#starssc
Warren Hills	@WHWildcats	#whcats
Middle Schools		
Discovery Middle School	@dmsbluejays	#dmsleads
Heritage Middle School	@heritagescoop	#heritagem
Liberty Middle School	@LibertyLMS	#LMSsoars
South Valley Middle School	@svmsEagles	#svmseagles
High Schools		
Liberty Academy	@LibAcademy	#LPSAcademy
Liberty High School	@LHSJAYS	#lhsjays
Liberty North High School	@LNEagleNews	#northnation

LPS53 @LIBERTYSCHOOLS · Sep 18 Promote

At Tuesday's Board of Education meeting, we recognized @dmsbluejays 7th grader Kael Christopher for his donation of \$700 to the DMS band program. He earned the money by doing yard work all summer and presented it to Director Theresa Brier to give back to the program he loves. [Show more](#)



Warren Hills Elementary @WHWildcats · Sep 11

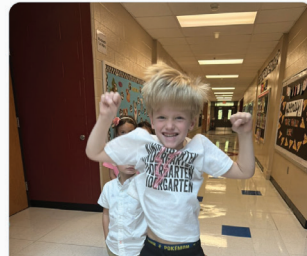
5th grade has been learning about the qualities of a hero through meaningful conversations about 9/11

Firefighter Wiese & his KCFD crew made a visit to WH! Students were able to give them hand written letters to show appreciation for being a hero!
#ShareTheGoodLPS #whcats



LPS53 @LIBERTYSCHOOLS · Aug 21 Promote

Hard pressed to find an #LPSFirstDay24 student more excited than this @ShoalCreekStars kindergartener!



FOLLOW US ON

Beth Cunningham @bcunningham61 · Aug 22

3rd graders enjoying recess on this beautiful day! #SharetheGoodLPS #lpsAD



Liberty Oaks Elementary @LibertyOaksLPS · Aug 27

Our counselors hosted a breakfast for all of the students that are new to Liberty Oaks this year. We are excited to have so many new faces joining our lion family. #LPSLeads





Mr. Norman Ralph poses for a photo with his longtime wife, Marrena, at the Tuesday, September 17, 2024, Board of Education meeting. Mr. Ralph was formally recognized for completing a remarkable 40 years of service to Liberty Public Schools.

Four Decades of Service

Norman Ralph Recognized for Dedication to LPS

By Kellie Houx, Courier Tribune Reporter

Norman Ralph's resume is not lengthy. He has been a newspaper delivery boy for the *Columbia Daily Tribune*, a bus boy at Wilson's restaurant and has spent the last four decades as a staff member of Liberty Public Schools.

Ralph received his 40-year recognition plaque at convocation prior to the start of this school year. His current title is network administrator.

"It was a total surprise," he said, after seeing his wife and mother at convocation to help recognize his service to the district. "They had planned running errands together. At the convocation, I had a coworker keep me from turning around to see them. I feel like everyone was in on the surprise."

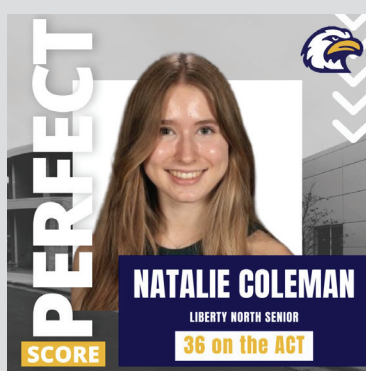
Ralph graduated from Bob Jones University with a degree in broadcast engineering after first working with the district as summer crew, serving as a maintenance and a plumber's helper in 1979.

"At the time I graduated, the FCC changed up the requirement for an engineer and many were contracted, which made the job search hard," he said. "Returning to the district made sense."

Ralph said he applied for a fulltime job after getting his degree and seeing a job listing in the local newspaper.

"There were five of us," he said. "I was responsible for doors and locks and audio/visual. The first computers for the district, 12 Apple II Plus computers, fell under audio/visual."

"Norman has always been very instrumental with technology in the District," said LPS Director of Technology Trey Katzer. "Even before there was an official technology department, he helped set up the District's first computers and network and did all the troubleshooting. I have truly enjoyed working with Norman over the years and I appreciate all that he has done for Liberty Schools. He is truly a very special employee."



High School Student Earns Perfect ACT Score

Liberty North High School Senior Natalie Coleman has earned the highest possible ACT composite score of 36.

About one-quarter of 1% of students who take the ACT earn a top score. In the U.S. high school graduating class of 2022, only 3,376 out of 1.34 million students who took the ACT earned a top composite score of 36. The ACT consists of tests in English, mathematics, reading and science, each scored on a scale of 1-36.

"Earning a top score on the ACT is a remarkable achievement," said ACT CEO Janet Godwin. "A student's excep-

tional score of 36 will provide any college or university with ample evidence of their readiness for the academic rigors that lie ahead."

The ACT is a curriculum-based achievement exam that measures what students have learned in school. Students who earn a 36 composite score have likely mastered all of the skills and knowledge they will need to succeed in first-year college courses in the core subject areas.

ACT scores are accepted by major four-year colleges and universities across the U.S.

National Merit Semifinalists Named



Maxwell Hunter
Liberty High School



Chandler Nguyen
Liberty High School



Lacey Peycke
Liberty High School



Aidan Wang
Liberty High School



Yuhao Xiao
Liberty High School



Drew Clawson
Liberty North High School



Natalie Coleman
Liberty North High School



Caroline Dilts
Liberty North High School



Amy Gates
Liberty North High School

Please join Liberty High School and Liberty North High School in recognizing the following students for qualifying as semifinalists in the National Merit Scholarship Program.

Liberty High School Semifinalists:

- Maxwell Hunter
- Chandler Nguyen
- Lacey Peycke
- Aidan Wang
- Yuhao Xiao

Liberty North Semifinalists:

- Drew Clawson
- Natalie Coleman
- Caroline Dilts
- Amy Gates

This is a highly competitive academic competition students qualify for by taking the PSAT/NMSQT test during their junior year. These students have the opportunity to continue in the competition to become a National Merit Scholarship recipient.

Additionally, Dr. Rosemary Camp, Principal of Liberty North High School, is pleased to announce that Lena Billharz has been named Commended Students in the 2025 National Merit Scholarship Program.

Liberty High School is home to three Commended Students in the 2025 National Merit Scholarship Program. Congratulations to Ryan Houck, Caroline Shemwell and Delaney Stokes on the honor.

A Certificate of Commendation from the National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC®) will be presented for this scholastic achievement.

Congratulations to you all on your hard work and accomplishment!



CHARACTER TRAITS RECOGNITION

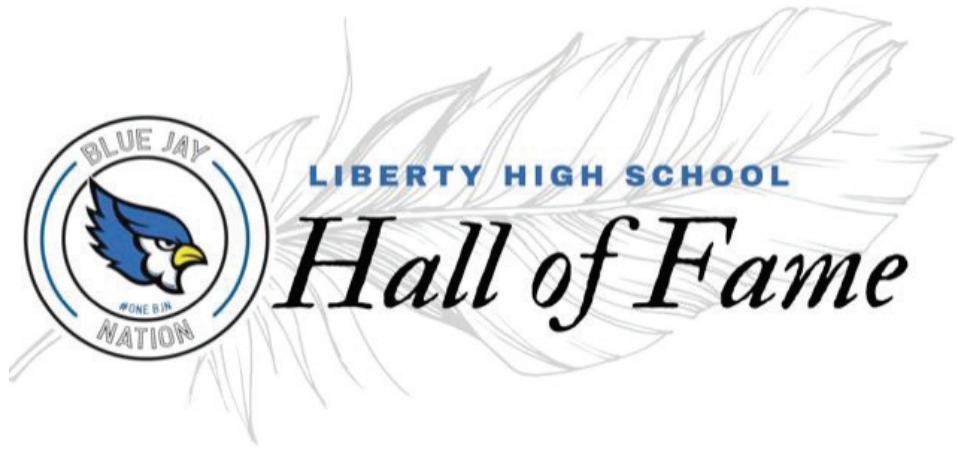
Front Row (L-R):

- Sadie Althoff (Franklin Elementary) • Rivers Powell (Franklin Elementary)
- Gideon Comminellis (Alexander Doniphan Elementary)
- Addison Effenheim (Alexander Doniphan Elementary)

Back Row (L-R):

- Deb Fehl (Stephens/Heffner Financial Partners) • Jeff Klein (ServPro)
- Drew Marriott (LPS Board of Education) • Reyann Hay (Nothing Bundt Cakes)
- Phill Sharples (Copper Ridge Apartments) • Kim Anaya (Hy-Vee)
- Daniel Doering (FastKick Martial Arts)
- Bryan Backenstoss (EarthWise Pet Supply and Grooming)

The Liberty High School Blue Jay Nation officially inducted five new members into the schools Hall of Fame on Friday, October 4, 2024. A reception was held prior to the homecoming football game, with inductees being introduced to the capacity crowd at the LHS activities complex. Complete biography information regarding each of this year's inductees is provided below. Congratulations to the newest members of the Liberty High School Hall of Fame!



SCOTT FLEMING
Class of 1999

Scott Fleming graduated in 1999 and had a stellar high school basketball career for the Blue Jays, leading the team to a 31-0 record and the 1998 State Championship. While at LHS he was also active in Student Council and National Honor Society.

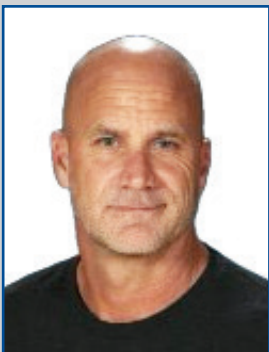
Scott's overall record as a Blue Jay was 79-6 over three years. He was selected as MVP of the conference and 1st team all-state and all-metro his senior year.

Scott attended Northwest Missouri State where he continued his basketball career. He is #8 for all-time points and assists and #1 in all-time steals and free throws made. He was a three-time all-MIAA honoree and ranks in the top four in both points and assists. He was inducted into the Northwest Athletic Hall of Fame in 2011 where the following was written about him: "Winner. The word that often comes to minds when

speaking about Scott Fleming. He was one of the most competitive men's basketball players in recent history at Northwest and laid a winning foundation for future Bearcat teams. A great leader who was not always in the face of a teammate but would lead by example and earned respect through hard work and dedication."

Professionally, Scott has been Branch Manager for PrimeLending since 2013. He leads a mortgage team that has finished in the top five in the state of Missouri consistently over the last ten years.

Scott is a youth basketball coach and mentor in the northland community for the past 10 years and has coached Liberty boys and girls' teams. Scott and his wife Traci live in Kansas City where their son Mason is a freshman at LHS, and daughter Brooklyn is a 6th grader at Discovery Middle School.



RYAN STEGALL
Class of 1998

Ryan Stegall graduated in 1998. He was 3-year starter in baseball and basketball and helped LHS win the State Basketball Title in 1998 with a 31-0 record. However, his true love was the game of baseball.

He went on to play baseball for The University of Missouri on a scholarship. He was a standout player for the Tigers, not only at the plate but also as the team's closing pitcher. He was named All-Big 12 while at Mizzou and selected as the Big 12 Baseball Player of the Year by Collegiate Baseball. He would then be drafted by the Houston Astros in June 2001 in the seventh round. He would play four seasons in the Astros organization before retiring in 2004.

He returned to Liberty to work for Liberty Public Schools the following year and was an assistant coach for the baseball team at his alma mater. He would then be named the first head baseball coach at Liberty North

High School in 2010. He guided the Eagles to back-to-back state championships in 2022 and 2023 and finished with a career record of 311-112. Many of his players found individual success, including recent New York Mets' draft selection Trey Snyder.

He announced in June 2024 that he was stepping away from the program following 14 years as head coach to spend more time with his family. He continues to be a physical education teacher at Heritage Middle School, a position he has held since returning to Liberty following his professional baseball career. He is an admired teacher/coach. In addition to his teaching duties at Heritage Middle School, he continues to serve as the school's athletic director.

He currently resides in Liberty with his wife Tori and daughters Caitlin (LHS Sophomore) and Mady (6th grade at Discovery Middle School.)

Thank you to our One Blue Jay Nation and the Liberty community for supporting an



**JON
CARPENTER**
Class of 2000

Jon Carpenter graduated in 2000. Jon excelled both on and off the field. Jon played football where he was a 3-year letter winner, as well as team captain during his senior year. He earned All-Conference honors in 1998 and 1999, as well as All-District honors in 1998.

Jon also participated on the track team, lettering in 1998 and 1999. Off the field, he was inducted into the National Honor Society and spent time volunteering as a youth sports coach for Liberty Parks and Recreation and Pop Warner football. Jon earned the prestigious honor of Eagle Scout while in high school.

Jon went on to attend UMKC majoring in business. After college, he found a true calling in philanthropy. His passion has been to help the underserved population in the Liberty and Kansas City area. Since 2010, Jon has organized and hosted over 20 events, raising over 2 million dollars for local charities, including Hope Faith Ministries, HappyBottoms diaper bank, Veterans

Community Project, and Rebuilding Together Kansas City. Jon has become a mentor in the philanthropic community of Kansas City where he consults with numerous local charities to provide insight in ways to enhance fundraising. He presently serves on HappyBottoms Board of Directors, where he was president from 2019-2021. Jon previously served on the Hope Faith Ministries' Board of Directors from 2015-2019. Jon's belief is that it is a gift to be able to share his time, talent, and treasures, something instilled in him by his parents at an early age. In 2024, he was an honoree of the Kindest Kansas Citian through Synergy Services. In addition to his charity work, Jon has also built a successful career in pharmaceutical sales. He currently works for Madrigal Pharmaceuticals.

Jon resides in Kansas City with his wife Katie and three kids: Madison (17), Knox (5), and Caroline (3).



**ADAM
PERKINS**
Class of 2003

Adam Perkins graduated in 2003 and became the first Blue Jay in program history to win an individual state title in Cross Country in 2001 and repeated with another title in 2002. His contributions to the team helped LHS achieve a top four state finish for four consecutive years.

Adam earned 9 state medals and was the Missouri Gatorade Boys Track and Field Athlete of the Year in 2001 and 2002. His junior season he won the 800- and 1,600-meter state titles and set a state record in the 1,600m with a time of 4:07.90, which still stands. He contributed to 3 4x800 relay medals, including a state championship in 2000 and runner-up finishes in 2001 and 2002. He was named the Kansas City Star Male Scholar-Athlete of the Year in 2003. Combined, Perkins accumulated 12 all-state medals and won 6 state championships. Additionally, Perkins was actively involved off the track at LHS as a member National

Honor Society and Student Council and was on the honor roll for all four years.

Adam's success extended into his collegiate years at the University of Arkansas. As a five-time All-American, he played a key role on four national championship teams and secured an individual national title with the distance medley relay. His achievements also led to him competing at the 2006 USA Track and Field Championships. He was named as the 2007 Male Scholar Athlete of the Year.

After graduating with a degree in finance, Perkins pursued a professional running career and married Dacia Barr, who also ran at the University of Arkansas. The couple resides in McKinney, TX where he works for Harmon, Inc as Director of Operations. They have two children, Avaya (14) and Asher (11).



**JALEN
LEWIS**
Class of 2018

Jalen Lewis graduated in 2018 where he was a 4-year starter on the men's varsity basketball team and was district and conference player of the year. As a senior, he became the Blue Jay's all-time scorer, averaging

18.8 points per game. He played in the GKBCA All-Star game and was named the Missouri Most Outstanding Player after scoring 27 points - hitting nine 3-pointers! He was a finalist for the DiRenna Award for the most outstanding basketball player in the Kansas City metro area. He scored 40 points on eight 3-pointers in the state tournament semifinals (the second-best performance in a single game.) As a junior he averaged 18 points and four assists a game and recorded four 30-point games, and 12 20-point games earning first team all-state in class 5A as well as first team all-district, the conference player of the year. He led Liberty to the district and section championships. As a sophomore and

freshman, he also earned first team all-district and first team all-league honors.

Jalen went on to Washburn University where he played in 121 career games making 88 starts and became the 27th member of Washburn's 1,000-point club. He finished his career with 1,473 points (10th overall) and remains the all-time leader in career 3-pointers

After graduation, he started a basketball training business and has worked with multiple NBA and overseas professional players in addition to youth players of all ages from the Kansas City area.

Jalen continues to be a positive role model in the community by serving as a mentor for youth basketball players from his community. He currently resides in Kansas City with his fiancé Skyler Britt, a son Keaton, and twin girls Kendall and Avery.

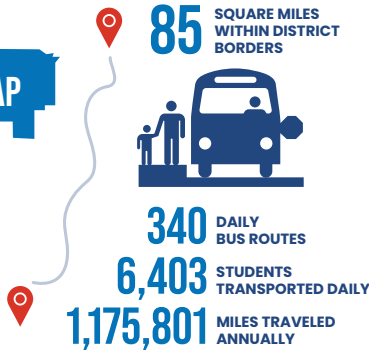
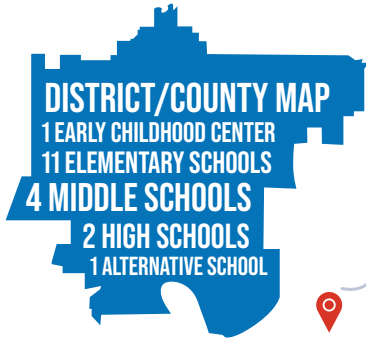
BY THE NUMBERS

2024-2025



12,064
STUDENTS K-12

274
STUDENTS PRE-K



WHERE OUR STUDENTS RESIDE

BY HOME ADDRESS



OUR TEAM

84% OF OUR TEACHERS HAVE 6+ YEARS OF CLASSROOM EXP.
87% OF OUR TEACHERS HOLD A MASTERS DEGREE OR HIGHER

2,082 STAFF MEMBERS

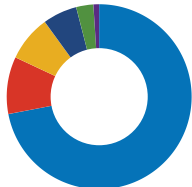
1,050 CERTIFIED (TEACHERS, COUNSELORS, ETC.)

1,032 CLASSIFIED (SUPPORT STAFF, BUS DRIVERS, COOKS, ETC.)

AVERAGE TEACHER'S SALARY **\$68,900**

STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

- WHITE 72%
- HISPANIC 10%
- MULTI 8%
- BLACK 6%
- ASIAN 3%
- OTHER 1%



1,141,494 LUNCHES SERVED ANNUALLY

6,675 LUNCHES SERVED DAILY

2,783 FREE & REDUCED LUNCH STUDENTS

22% FREE & REDUCED LUNCH STUDENTS

THERE ARE **57** DIFFERENT LANGUAGES REPRESENTED IN LIBERTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

95.3%

GRADUATION RATE

73%

OF OUR GRADUATES ATTEND A 2-4 YR COLLEGE

BUDGET

\$279.8M OVERALL LPS BUDGET

\$195.7M OPERATING BUDGET

REVENUE SOURCES

LOCAL **59.4%**
STATE **37.3%**
FEDERAL **3.3%**

AVERAGE ANNUAL COST PER STUDENT **\$14,858**

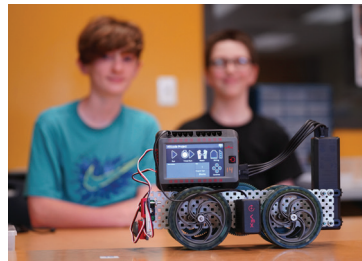
REAL WORLD LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES



In partnership with Metropolitan Community College (MCC), juniors and seniors may attend afternoon classes on the Maple Woods Campus and receive college credit (9-13 hours per semester). The majority of these classes will transfer to other colleges and universities if the student chooses to continue their education. LPS pays for the courses and textbooks.



With a focus on Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, and Mathematics, STEAM initiatives at LPS involve K-12 participation in Project Lead the Way (PLTW), internship and experimental activities, and partnerships that provide students with the opportunity to solve real-world problems.



Students are provided focused, active learning that prepares them for college and career opportunities. Students are able to earn Industry Recognized Credentials (IRCs) while earning both English and math credits. This type of training provides them the necessary academic and employability skills to be successful after graduation.



The Northland Center for Advanced Professional Studies offers students the opportunity to engage in real-world experiences in the workplace with industry-designed curriculum and program instructors.



Career Navigators are provided at each high school campus to work with students to promote career activities, facilitate job shadowing opportunities for grades 9-12, and place students in internships with area businesses.



Teachers combine the arts with core Missouri and Arts Standards, which is helping students succeed academically. By transforming lessons from a static to dynamic experience, students have begun to see themselves as creators, designers, and artists.



GROW YOUR OWN TEACHERS

Liberty Public Schools recognizes the need to diversify our certificated teaching staff, and has developed the **Grow Your Own Teachers** program to enhance the diversity of the teacher applicant pool. It is our intent that applicants for the GYOT program be recruited for careers in education from among our current senior class of Liberty High School and Liberty North High School students.



LPS53.ORG
816.736.5317

FOLLOW US





SOAR AWARDS NOMINATIONS

In Liberty Public Schools, we are excited to again partner with the Liberty Education Foundation to present the SOAR Award employee recognition program. The SOAR (Service Over and Above the Rest) Awards provide us with a monthly opportunity to surprise several deserving LPS staff members who provide exceptional service to our students, staff, families, and community. We encourage you to nominate a deserving Liberty Public Schools staff member today by visiting the SOAR Award nomination page at www.lps53.org/soar.

SOAR AWARDS

Nominations open
www.lps53.org/soar


Our Lady of Mercy Country Home



For more than 75 years the Mercedarian Sisters have been providing "Care with Dignity" to residents of all faiths.

- Daily Mass • Weekly housekeeping
- Three meals daily
- Transportation provided

Call 816.781.5711

 **Independent & Assisted Living Community**
 Liberty, MO 64068
ourladyofmercy.net



LOOK AND FEEL YOUR VERY BEST

Specializing in
Oral & Cosmetic Surgery


KANSAS CITY SURGICAL ARTS (816) 286-4126
www.kansascitysurgicalarts.com

pediatric care north

Serving the Northland for over 35 years loving-care for kids **BIG and SMALL**

An Affiliate of Children's Mercy Hospital

tel 816.587.3200 fax 816.587.7644

			
Susan L. Storm MD Laurie D. Riddell MD Ermalyn Kubart MD Stephanie A. Marx MD Kathryn Hauptmann MD	Melissa J. Beard MD Stephanie R. Bays DO Heather J. Malone MD Amanda Finn DO Monica M. Rondeau PNP	Nick Stasic MD Lisa Green, MD Angela Carter, FNP Jill Rosbrugh MD Shane Storm MD	

8781 n. platte purchase drive, kansas city, mo 64155 | www.pediatriccarenorth.com

Let Our Family Help Protect Your Family

Contact us today for assistance with your insurance needs
 Auto | Home | Life | Commercial | Medicare | Long Term Care

Jeff Watt
 816-792-1415
 The Watt Agency
 1170 W Kansas St.
 Suite M
 Liberty, MO 64068
 Right across the street
 from Clay County
 Savings Bank

 *The Watt Agency*

jeff@thewattagency.net
 ben@thewattagency.net
 jessica@thewattagency.net
 thewattagency.net
 mymedicarekc.com
 @jwfarmers & @thewattagency

**LIBERTY FAMILIES
USE THIS AD FOR
15% OFF
TOTAL FOOD PURCHASE**
Dine in or carry out. Excludes alcohol,
not valid w/ any other offers.



• Nani's House Made Meatballs

**• Pizza/Sandwiches/
Pasta/Salads**


**VOTED BEST PIZZA IN
THE NORTHLAND 2024**

34th Anniversary 28th Anniversary 29th Anniversary 30th Anniversary 31st Anniversary 32nd Anniversary 33rd Anniversary

816.781.6500 | nickypizzakc.com | 9771 N Cedar Ave. | Kansas City, MO 64157

Ride with the No. 1 car insurer in Missouri.

With competitive rates and personal service, it's no wonder more drivers trust State Farm®. As your local agent, I'm here to help life go right.®
LET'S TALK TODAY.



**PROUD TO SUPPORT
LIBERTY SCHOOLS**


Now Serving Two Locations...

36 S Main Street, Liberty, MO 64068
(816-255-2337)
www.tracytucker.com

751D Watson Drive, Kearney, MO 64060
(816-903-5550)
www.tracytuckerinsures.com

Tracy Tucker Ins Agcy Inc
Tracy Tucker CLU ChFC, Agent
751 Watson Drive
Kearney, MO 64060
Bus: 816-903-5550

State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company
Bloomington, IL



CH-2717540

**Your One-Stop-Shop for
Fashion that Fits!**



Alterations
Embroidery
Letter Jackets
JudyBlue Jeans
T-Shirts
Hat Bar
Law Enforcement
Uniforms
Tuxedo/Suit Rentals
Consignment
Dresses & Formals

ETC
-every thing custom-
EST. 1981

1743 W. Jesse James Rd.
Excelsior Springs (816) 630-4010

facebook.com/altcustsew

UNIVERSITY of SAINT MARY

**ACCELERATE YOUR
TEACHING CAREER**

Master's in
EDUCATION

Master's in
SCHOOL COUNSELING

Master's in
SECONDARY ED

Master's in
ELEMENTARY ED

Doctor of
EDUCATION

<https://stmary.edu/teach>

**Elevate Your Career with a Doctorate
in Curriculum and Instruction**



COURSE HIGHLIGHTS:

- ✓ **Fully Online:** Study from anywhere while you continue your teaching career.
- ✓ **3-Year Completion:** Fast-track your doctorate in just three years.
- ✓ **No GRE Required:** Simplified admission process with the GRE waived.

PROGRAM FEATURES:

- **Accelerated Learning:** Achieve your doctoral degree in a streamlined three-year program, designed for busy educators.
- **Embedded Dissertation:** Our curriculum is strategically crafted to incorporate your dissertation research, providing comprehensive support throughout your studies.
- **Innovative Internships:** Participate in unique internships that bolster your dissertation research and enhance your professional practice and classroom impact.
- **Cohort Model:** Join a diverse cohort of educators from across the country, sharing insights and learning together under the guidance of seasoned faculty.


Kansas State University
College of Education



Get Started Today:
Email: Sherri.Martinie@ksu.edu
Visit: <https://qrco.de/bfBiaw>

Attic Storage

VETERAN OWNED AND LOCALLY MANAGED

CLIMATE-CONTROLLED AND STANDARD STORAGE UNITS

CLEAN, FENCED AND WELL LIT

- Keypad Gate Entry
- 24-Hour Digital Video Surveillance
- Restrooms on Site
- Loading Moving Carts
- Indoor Loading Bay Area
- Easy Drive-Up Access

Attic Storage of
Liberty North
701 N, Rte 291
Liberty, MO 64068
(816) 781-0162

Attic Storage of
Liberty South
317 N, Rte 291
Liberty, MO 64068
(816) 781-0606

attic-storage.com

CH-2527470

The most
awesome school supply
you could ever have is

FREE!

Your student ID number is now
your Mid-Continent Public Library
Card number!

Your school's media specialist or an
MCPL branch staff member can help you start
accessing all the Library has to offer today!

Live Homework Help • Research Resources
Language Courses • ACT and AP Exam Prep
Free eBooks, eMusic, Videos, Games, and More!

More information: mymcpl.org/Student



Educator DISCOUNT

\$500 BONUS CASH

OUR APPRECIATION FOR YOUR DEDICATION.

Heartland
(816) 781-3500 



CHEVROLET.COM/SPECIAL-OFFERS



Personalized Care for Smiles of All Ages

Kurt
KAVANAUGH
Orthodontics



Kurt Kavanaugh, D.D.S., M.S., P.C.

14 time
recipient of the
"Best of the
Northland"
award!



- Specializing in Orthodontics for **Adults & Children**
- **Complimentary** Exam • **Invisalign** Preferred Provider
- **Saturday** and **Evening** Appointments Available
- Metal Braces • Clear Braces • Aligners

8407 N. Main St. • Kansas City, MO 64155
816-420-8100 www.KavanaughOrtho.com



YOUR PATHWAY TO TEACHING IS READY!

CHANGE CAREERS AND CHANGE LIVES
REGISTER NOW FOR MORE INFORMATION

Rated #12 by US News & World Report

MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING DEGREE

online.k-state.edu/campaign/master-of-arts-teaching/



KANSAS STATE
UNIVERSITY

College of Education



METROPOLITAN
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
MAPLE WOODS



FROM HERE
ANYWHERE

MCC-Maple Woods offers 120+ associate degrees and certificate programs including Agriculture, Business, Information Tech, and Veterinarian Tech. The College is committed to student success through experiential learning in partnership with meaningful community and campus engagement.

We also have short-term rental space
for meetings, events, and trainings.

mw.events@mckc.edu

CALL **816.604.1000**
VISIT **mckc.edu**



Expert Orthopedic Care is now at Shoal Creek

EXPERT ♦ COMPASSIONATE

Rockhill Orthopaedic Specialists have a new office inside the Shoal Creek Multispecialty Center. We have board-certified Orthopedic Surgeons ready to get you moving again.

From sprains to strains to hip and knee replacements, our highly trained physicians offer personalized treatment to get you better fast.

Same-Week appointments are available.

- ◆ **Schedule an appointment**
816-246-4302
saintlukeskc.org/rockhill

Welcome to our Group of Physicians,
Dr. Chris Reams

Rockhill
ORTHOPAEDICS

 **Saint Luke's**

the intersection of
INNOVATION ♦ HOPE



Your family's guide to great health...

care that's designed for you
and with you.

Your journey to better health is as unique as you are – so we deliver primary care with the personalized services you need, ensuring the premier patient experience you deserve.

With comprehensive services offered across our five Northland locations, quality care is always within reach. Our family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics and urgent care teams connect your family to exceptional care and guidance for great health at every age.

libertyhospital.org/primarycare

**LIBERTY
HOSPITAL**

This is where health happens.

Liberty • Kearney • Shoal Creek • Excelsior Springs • Plattsburg