



LA FOLLETTE HIGH SCHOOL MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



MAY 2026

MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL THOMPSON

Greetings Lancer Families:

Thank you so much. I have been back to work for a few weeks now. I am deeply appreciative of the numerous emails, text messages and replies back to my Parent Square message regarding my surgery. As we move into May, we are both wrapping up the 2025-2026 school year and starting to plan for the 2026-2027 school year. In our March newsletter, I dropped our cell phone survey. If you have not yet filled it out, I ask you to take the time to do that now: [Lafollette Families: Cell Phone Survey](#).

Your input is valued as we move forward with creating a plan. We must get to a point where cellular phones and all other technology (headphones, earbuds, smartwatches) are not interfering with the teaching and learning process. I have 3 thematic buckets of questions for your consideration: (1) The “**Why**” behind significantly limiting cell phones. (2) The “**How**” the legal mandate of Act 42 and (3) The “**What**” of a cell phone policy that demands a disciplinary response and student-parental/guardian accountability.

Mark your calendars for a few May highlights:

- May 8th: Staff Development-NO SCHOOL
- May 11th: Spring Orchestra Concert
- May 13th: Senior Scholarship Night
- May 19th: Choir Concert

Happy May,
Principal Mathew Thompson

IMPORTANT DATES

- Friday, 5/1
 - **NO SCHOOL: “A Day without Immigrants”**
- Saturday, 5/2
 - MSCR Saturday Academy, 1351 Music Alley, 9:30am-12pm
- Friday, 5/8

- **NO SCHOOL: Staff Development**
- Tuesday, 5/19
 - Senior Exit Fair
- Friday, 5/29
 - Cap & Gown Parade
- Monday, 5/25
 - **NO SCHOOL: Memorial Day**
- Saturday, 5/30
 - MSCR Saturday Academy, 1351 Music Alley, 9:30am-12pm
- Wednesday, 6/3
 - Yearbook Distribution Day and on-demand sales

STRENGTH

SENIOR CELEBRATIONS!

We are excited to begin celebrating with the Class of 2026! Below are a couple dates to keep in mind leading up to Graduation.

- **Tuesday May 19th- Senior Exit Fair** (includes Cap and Gown Pick Up): Students attend during their English Class. STEM students or students with NO English class can come anytime from 9:00- 3:30 (minus a lunch break from 12:00- 1:00)

HELP NEEDED: Part of the Senior Exit Fair includes a short interview one on one with each Graduate, along with other celebration stations. We are always in need of volunteers for this day. If you can join us for the full day or just part of the day, we would appreciate you [signing up](#) to support!

- **Friday May 29th- Senior Cap and Gown Parade through Elementary/ Middle Schools 8:15-Noon-** Students NEED to fill out a permission slip and ride the bus to be excused by us.

AP EXAMS START MONDAY!

On Tuesday, April 28th, we held our first ever AP Test Prep and Pep Assembly. All 450 students who are registered for an AP exam were asked to attend the assembly. We shared key information about transportation, what to bring, and shared with them some tips from experienced Lancers. Here are the [slides](#) from the event if you want to learn more. Each student walked a way with a little goody bag that was sealed with a personalized note of encouragement from a Lancer Staff. We hope your student felt seen for taking on this academic challenge!

AP Exams start on May 4th and run through May 15th. You can find more information and the schedule [here](#). At LHS, it is our goal for all AP students to take their AP exams. When reviewing data, we know that some students opt out of this essential learning opportunity each year even though they've registered and paid for the exams. There is an opportunity to earn college credit and research shows that completing the exam has many benefits beyond just college credit. Please chat with your AP scholar about the upcoming tests and encourage them to attend. AP exams are the capstone of this rigorous academic experience!

OPPORTUNITY

MSCR

- ❖ 2 Saturday Academies left! **5/2 & 5/30**
 - FREE tutoring from LHS teachers & quiet space to work on assignments– GREAT opportunity to get academic help before the end of the school year!
 - 9:30am - noon
 - Drop-in service: students can join & leave when it works best for their schedule
- ❖ Summer clubs!
 - [Clubs open to all 8th-12th graders in the city](#) (spread across the 4 MMSD high schools)
 - [La Follette-specific clubs](#)- open to incoming 8th graders through current LHS seniors
- ❖ [MSCR job board](#)– some summer positions still open

SUMMER JOB/INTERSHIP FAIR

- **May 7th @ Lunch** we are hosting a Summer Job/ Opportunity Fair for all Lancers to engage in some opportunities right here at school! Our 10th graders have been working on building a resume in Eng. 2 and we are encouraging them to print their final draft and share it with business on the 7th!

UNITY

PROM & PROM WEEK

💫 Thank you to all of the students and families that came out to decorate on Saturday morning! Everything looked beautiful and it truly was a night to remember! 💫

YEARBOOK DISTRIBUTION DAY & ON-DEMAND SALES 📷

📷 Students who pre-ordered yearbooks will receive passes to pick up their yearbooks on June 3rd. If your student didn't preorder but would like a yearbook, he/she/they can get one during lunch or after school on June 3rd. Students should bring 50 dollars, cash or a check written to La Follette High School. 📷

LEADERSHIP

LA FOLLETTE TEACHER WINS CRYSTAL APPLE AWARD

On Monday April 20th, **Ms Shannon Longworth** was awarded the **Crystal Apple Award by Channel 15 news**. She was nominated for her work supporting multilingual students in our school. If your student has had Ms Longworth as a teacher then you know of her incredible work and that this recognition is incredibly fitting. Ms Longworth's work extends beyond the classroom. She is an instructional leader who heavily influences our co-teaching service delivery model. She is a strong advocate for our



multilingual students. Shannon works beyond the classroom and provides wrap-around support for her students and networks in the community to support our Lancers. Her segment will run the week of May 4 on Channel 15. Hundreds of nominations were made, and she is one of 5 winners in South Central Wisconsin.