November 2017

INSIDE THE DEN

BUILDING A COMMUNITY OF LEARNERS
All students and staff will collaborate to learn, improve, and achieve through engagement, effort, and self-efficacy.

PRINCIPAL’S PRIDE

PARENT INVOLVEMENT OPPORTUNITY:
The Lefler Advisory Team invites you to help our team! The Lefler Advisory Team is working hard to help organize different Lefler Staff Appreciation events throughout the school year. There are different ways that your involvement will make a difference. LAT welcomes all of you to participate in any way that works for you. There are several options to help out, so if you are interested, please complete the form below:

Parent Involvement Interest Form

Thank you in advance for your support! Please contact Emmary Grieger or Jess Fries with any questions. Thanks in advance for your support of our awesome Lefler staff!

PBIS – RECOGNIZING EXPECTED BEHAVIORS:
At Lefler, staff teach students academic skills along with behavior skills in all school settings. For example, rather than expecting kids to arrive at a school knowing how to behave in every school setting, schools teach appropriate behaviors. Within the LPS Student Supports framework, we focus on teaching students what TO do by giving clear directions, being calm and patient, modeling expected behaviors, setting a good example, using positive recognition and reinforcement, and setting consistent and reasonable limits. It is important to remember to “pay attention to what you want to see”, so we are working towards giving more attention for appropriate behaviors versus inappropriate behaviors. While this focus doesn’t remove the necessity of responding to and taking action when kids behave inappropriately, it does substantially reduce many misbehaviors and increase the likelihood students will display appropriate behaviors. This year at Lefler, we are tracking recognition of expected behaviors both in the classroom and in common areas throughout the school. We are tracking recognition through “Pawsitive” tickets given to students. In the first quarter, Lefler staff gave out over 19,000 Pawsitive tickets!!!
MOTIVATION & ENGAGEMENT:
One of our schoolwide goals is to increase student Reading and Math scores through increasing student motivation and engagement. As a part of this process, students are learning about key components of motivation in their advisory class each month (Pride). In the November 1st Pride classes, 6th grade students continued their focus on Self-Belief, 7th grade students on Learning Focus, and 8th grade students on Valuing School (all Booster thoughts/behaviors). Below are some highlights about Booster thoughts/behaviors & Mufflers/Guzzlers.

- Motivation consists of components that improve your child’s motivation and achievement (Boosters) and those that restrict and reduce your child’s motivation and achievement (Mufflers and Guzzlers).

- We want our children/students to be high in Boosters and low in Mufflers and Guzzlers.

- **Booster thoughts** include self-belief (belief in one’s ability to do well), value of schooling (belief that school is useful and important), and learning focus (focus on doing a good job, improving, and developing new knowledge and skills). **Booster behaviors** include planning (planning assignments, study, and monitor progress), study management (organizing studying so as to work under the most ideal conditions), and persistence (persisting in the face of challenging or difficult schoolwork).

- **Mufflers** include anxiety (worry and nervousness leading up to and during assignments, assessments, or tests) and failure avoidance (fearing failure and mainly focusing on avoiding failure). **Guzzlers** include low control (belief that one has a little control over maintaining success or avoiding failure) and self-sabotage (reducing chances to succeed through behaviors such as procrastination, time-wasting, lack of studying, etc.)

Jess Fries, Principal
Three years ago Chromebooks made their debut in 6th grade. As students and teachers navigated life at school with technology, parents were often left behind. This month we’d like to share a resource from former Lefler teacher, Lauren Dostal, created to help parents explore the Go Math curriculum and resources. Mrs. Dostal made the FAQ page below as a “go to” reference guide. She also put together a helpful video which guides parents and students through accessing many supportive features of the Go Math curriculum. The video is about 20 minutes long and well worth your time if you are interested in learning more about the resources available to support your child in mathematics.

https://live.myvrsport.com/media/view?id=143109

Let us know what you think! Would you be interested in a similar video for English/Language Arts Wonders online resources?

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**GoMath FAQ’s**

1) **How do I access the GoMath curriculum?**

There are two options for accessing the GoMath curriculum:
- Go to lps.org and type “HRW” in the search box.
- On the LPS “Portal” look for the blue icon that says “HRW Dashboard”

2) **What is included in the Student Edition?**

- The student edition is essentially the online textbook. Students can navigate their way through the lessons and look at examples, practice problems, and view homework.
- Here is a brief overview of the provided supports in the Student Edition. Students can click directly from the Student Edition to access these supports:
  - **Math on the Spot Video:** Students can watch a short video walking them through an example.
  - **Personal Math Trainer:** Students can practice problems and get immediate feedback. On the personal math trainer, students can also view examples, see a problem worked out step-by-step, and watch a video for even more support.
  - **Selected Answers:** Students can click on this icon to see selected (not all!) answers from the problems in the textbook.

3) **What are the Features of the Interactive Student Edition?**

- The Interactive Student Edition takes the material from the Student Edition and places it in a more engaging format for students. The Interactive Student Edition walks students through the lesson step-by-step. Students are required to answer problems before moving on to the next step.
- The Interactive Student Edition is a great resource for students who have been absent, who need more practice, or who just want to build their math skills!
- The last two sections of any Interactive Student Edition lesson have students practicing problems from that lesson. There are many built in supports for each problem like viewing an example, seeing an example worked out step-by-step, watching a video tutorial, and a link back to the lesson in the original textbook. While working on these problems, students receive immediate feedback to check their progress.

4) **How do students complete homework using GoMath?**

- When a teacher assigns homework through the GoMath website, the assignment shows up on the student’s Dashboard. The student is able to click on the homework and begin working immediately.
- As students are completing assignments, they have access to multiple support levels including examples, step-by-step examples, video tutorials, and textbook access.
The Food Market Program is a once-per-month mobile distribution where the Food Bank of Lincoln will bring a variety of shelf stable food, fresh produce, and bread and bakery items to the school and set up for families to come through and select what they want. All families are welcome and do not need to register ahead of time to participate but will need to sign in a family name and number of people in their household so the Food Bank knows how much food to bring.

**The Food Market will be open immediately following the school day on the dates listed.**

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**Mark Your Calendar**

- November 1, 2017
- December 6, 2017
- January 10, 2018
- February 7, 2018
- March 7, 2018
- April 4, 2018
- May 2, 2018
SAVE THE DATE

Oct 31  PLC DAY - EARLY DISMISSAL - No Team Time, Achieve Zone or HW Zone
Nov 1  Pride Schedule - Students Meet with Advisories
Nov 1  2:30pm  FOOD MARKET
Nov 2  8th Grade Visit to UNL
Nov 15  Picture Day Re-Takes
Nov 22-24  THANKSGIVING
Nov 28  PLC Day – EARLY DISMISSAL – NO Team Time, Achieve Zone or HW Zone
Nov 29  Pride Schedule – Students Meet with Advisories
Join the Lefler Parent Network

A parent came into the office recently and shared to a staff member, “My daughter described middle school as being AMAZING and STRESSFUL all at the same time. As her parent, I wasn’t prepared for such a quick change to adolescence, but I need to remember that I am learning too.” If you are reading this and nodding in agreement, then please continue reading. This next part is just for you……..

6th, 7th, and 8th grade parents, if you are finding middle school to be just as AMAZING and STRESSFUL as your middle schooler, then you are exactly where you are supposed to be! The Lefler Parent Network can help. The mission of the Lefler Parent Network is to connect you with information most critically relevant to your middle school student. This information may include: parent-sharing, book/article reviews, TED talks… It will be a safe, judgment-free space for you to ask questions and get answers to help you help your middle schooler.

The Lefler Parent Network will meet from 5:30pm - 6:30pm at The Mill (4736 Prescott Ave) on the following Wednesdays:

   Wednesday, November 8th
   Wednesday, November 29th
   Wednesday, December 13th

*Discussion topics will be emailed a week prior to our meeting time. 2nd semester meeting dates will be shared after the start of 2nd semester.

**Please RSVP to Richelle Dowding at rdowding@lps.org if you are interested in meeting at The Mill for one or more of the dates listed above.

Richelle (Shelly) Dowding
7th Grade Counselor
Lefler Middle School
402-436-1215 Ext. 74308
Lefler Counseling Center
With Halloween almost here, this is a great time to think about dental care. Good brushing should take a minimum of two minutes and should involve brushing in a circular motion, working your way from one side of the mouth to the other, keeping in mind to pay attention to certain neglected areas such as the very back teeth and your tongue. Dentists recommend using soft bristle brushes and toothpaste that contain fluoride.

It is recommended that individuals floss on a regular basis after meals and before brushing their teeth. The proper way to floss is to push the floss gently between your teeth to the gum to loosen debris your toothbrush cannot reach. When you begin flossing, you may experience light bleeding which will fade once your gums get used to the flossing process.

Using a mouthwash that contains fluoride at least twice a day is a good preventative measure that kills bacteria responsible for the plaque that causes cavities and gum disease.

Regular dental visits about every six months are crucial to early identification of potential problems that could develop into more serious problems.

In Good Health,
Joleen Marsh BSN RN
Lefler School Nurse
ADMINISTRATION

If you haven’t visited the Lefler garden, this video will give you an idea of what is going on. We are very proud of all the hard work put into this project and hope to see the garden grow in the coming years!

https://www.lps.org/post/detail.cfm?id=12274
LEFLER WRESTLING MEET & PRACTICE SCHEDULE

**ALL PRACTICES ARE FROM 3:08 P.M. TO 4:30 P.M.** Cancellations will be posted on the LPS Athletics Website — lps.org/athletics. Information will also be on twitter — twitter.com/LPSAthletics & ANNOUNCED ON 1240 AM KFOR between 7:00 – 7:30am. **DO NOT CALL THE RADIO STATIONS OR SCHOOL**

PRACTICE INFORMATION

Starts: Mon Oct. 9  Practices: Mon-Fri 3:00-4:30  No Practice Oct. 16-17(Fall Break), and Oct. 31

2017 MEET SCHEDULE

Oct 21  Lefler, Moore, Irving, Park, Schoo, Goodrich @ SCHOO (700 Penrose Drive)

Oct 28  Lefler, Dawes, Schoo, Scott, Mickle, Irving @ SCHOO (700 Penrose Drive)

Nov 4  Lefler, Irving, Lux, Moore, Scott, Goodrich @ LUX (7800 High St.)

Nov 11  ALL – CITY @ Northeast High School (2635 N 63rd St)

Wrestlers report by 8:00 AM; Meet starts at 9:00 AM

ALL Regular Meets will START at **8:30 AM**. Wrestlers are expected be at the SITE SCHOOL **30 Minutes** before the start of the meet. Jerseys will be Checked out to each wrestler at the beginning of the season and returned after their final match on March 10th. Wrestlers are expected to wash their jerseys during the course of the season.

Athletes will wrestle according to **WEIGHT CLASS & ABILITY LEVEL**. Some athletes may compete outside of their grade level. **Due to space limitations**, non-participating students will not be allowed to attend events at their home school or at other Lincoln Public Middle Schools. **Beverages & food items** are not allowed in the gym. Sorry for any inconvenience.

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR HELP & SUPPORT.

LET’S HAVE A GREAT SEASON!!!!
Lefler Middle School Athletic Contract

All Lefler Middle School students & parents who participate in athletic programs must agree to the following terms by signing below.

Parent Guidelines
1. Pick up your athlete(s) at 4:30 on the NORTH side of the school on Valley Rd.
2. Practices are closed to parents. Parents may request meetings with coaches after practices.
3. Because of limited gym space, do not bring other students to the games. Only parents & siblings will be admitted.
4. A replacement fee of $7.00 will be issued on school jerseys checked out to your athlete that are lost or stolen.
5. Coaches will not be allowed to give athletes a ride under any circumstances.
6. Always promote good sportsmanship at games.
7. Students serving "in-school suspensions" will not be allowed to play in Saturday’s contests of that week.
8. Students serving "out-of-school suspensions" will not be allowed to practice or play in Saturday’s contest of that week.

Athlete Guidelines
1. Attend all practices and games. Visit with your coach if you cannot be at practices or games
2. Come to practice, learn the skills and earn playing time.
3. Report to practice at 3:08. You will not be admitted to athletics after 3:08 without a pass from a teacher.
4. Good sportsmanship is expected of all Lefler Middle School athletes at games and practices.
5. Unsportsmanlike actions at practices and games toward teammates, coaches, officials and any persons from opposing teams or schools may result in removal from the activity.
6. Students WILL NOT be allowed to play in Saturday’s contest of that week due to any of the following reasons:
   A student needed an “Administrative Intervention” to follow directions, served an “In-School or Out-of-School Suspension”, or a Student DID NOT MEET their Protective Plans GOALS for that week.
7. Students serving "Out-of-School Suspensions" will not be allowed to practice or play with the team during the week of the suspension, or until the out-of-school suspension is completed.
8. You are a student first and an athlete second. Your classroom work comes first and teachers will be allowed to pull you from practice to complete assignments, or to process for your behavior.
9. Come to the gym with everything you need. You will not be allowed to go back into the building after practice.
10. All school rules, and Lincoln Public School Rights and Responsibilities apply to athletes at practices and games.
11. Friends cannot come with you to practices & games.

Due Process Procedures

Step 1 - The coach will visit with you about your behavior.
Step 2 – A Referral will be written, the Activity Director will visit with you, and parents will be contacted

Lefler Middle School Athletic Philosophy

The goal of the athletic program at Lefler is to provide all students the opportunity to participate as a member of a team. Introduce, develop, and improve athletic skills and fundamentals through teaching, modeling, and practice. Our philosophy is not to win at all costs but to promote good sportsmanship in both victory and defeat and most importantly for kids to have a fun, rewarding experience.

Students will not be allowed to participate in practices or games until the bottom section is returned to the schools Activity Director or coaches. Keep the top portion for your records. Please contact the Coaches or the Lefler Activities Directors Jeff Pappas (jpappas@lps.org) and Bill Wenzl (bwenzl@lps.org) or call 436-1215 if you have any questions.

PLEASE KEEP THE TOP SECTION WITH THE SCHEDULE (ON THE BACK)
CUT OFF & RETURN THE BOTTOM SECTION

Last name_________________________________  First name_________________________________

I agree to the following Athletic Contract. (Student signature)______________________________________

Guardian’s name____________________________________  Guardian’s signature________________________

Phone number(s) (_____ ) _____ - _____ / (_____ ) _____ - _______  Athletes Grade  6  7  8

Sport (Check One): Wrestling_________ Basketball_________
# LEFLER GIRLS BASKETBALL GAME & PRACTICE SCHEDULE

ALL PRACTICES ARE FROM 3:08 P.M. TO 4:30 P.M. Cancellations will be posted on the LPS Athletics Website — [lps.org/athletics](http://lps.org/athletics). Information will also be on twitter — [twitter.com/LPSAthletics](http://twitter.com/LPSAthletics) & ANNOUNCED ON 1240 AM KFOR between 7:00 – 7:30am. DO NOT CALL THE RADIO STATIONS OR SCHOOL.

Due to space limitations, non-participating students WILL NOT be allowed to attend events at their home school or at other Lincoln Public Middle Schools. ONLY parents & siblings are allowed to attend. Beverages & food items are not allowed in the gyms. Sorry for any inconvenience.

**THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR HELP & SUPPORT!!!**

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**CONTEST SITES**

- **CULLER** (5201 Vine St)
- **DAVES** (5130 Colfax Ave)
- **GOODRICH** (4600 Lewis Ave)
- **IRVING** (2745 S 22nd St.)
- **LUX** (7800 High St.)
- **MICKLE** (2500 N. 67th St.)
- **MOORE** (8700 Yankee Woods Dr)
- **PARK** (855 S. 8th St)
- **POUND** (4740 S. 45th St)
- **SCHOO** (700 Penrose Dr)

Jerseys will be handed out to each player at the start of each game & RETURNED at the end of each game.

GAMES START at 8:30(A), 9:30(B), & 10:30(C). Teams will be made up from both 7th and 8th grade players according to ability level. "A" - Highest Ability, "B" - High Ability, & "C" - Average Ability. If Lefler does not have enough players to field 3 teams, Lefler will play an “A” and “B” Team ONLY. Players are expected be at the HOST school 20 Minutes before game time. Games consist of two 20 minute halves with a running clock. The clock will stop the last 2 minutes for games within 6 points.
We are instructing students to use the Offline sync feature of Google Docs. The Offline sync feature will download all the Google documents the students created to the local drive of the chromebook. This feature enables students to work on assignments at home without having access to a wireless network. Any documents created after the Offline sync is turned on will download in the background. New documents can always be created at home and will sync up with Google Docs when the student returns to school.

Working offline has a couple of caveats. One example is Multiple authors on one document will not work (if student shares with a collaborator) unless you have network service. Internal google Websites cannot be accessed for photo searches, spell check, add-ons, and downloading files.

Don’t forget to remind students to charge chromebooks, They are used often throughout the day

Mr. Purtzer
NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER BLURB:
LEFLER CLC MONTHLY UPDATES:

AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES AND CLUBS
Our 2nd Quarter Clubs are underway! We’ve added some great clubs and our currently working on our 3rd and 4th quarter club line-up. We are always looking to add to new and interesting clubs. We would love to partner with parents or other adult family members as club leaders. If you have an interest or hobby that you would like to share with Lefler students, one hour a week for 8-9 weeks, or would just like to volunteer to help out with a club, we would love to have you! Contact Emmary, egrieger@ymcalincoln.org or 402-436-1565, to learn more or just chat about what’s possible.

THE LEFLER ADVISORY TEAM
We just wanted to remind all families that the Lefler Advisory Team will not meet again until January. LAT is our School-Parent-Community group that is facilitated by Mrs. Fries and Emmary Grieger. LAT meetings are open to all Lefler families, staff members, and community members. If you would like to receive meeting reminders or would like to suggest meeting agenda items, please email Mrs. Fries at JFries@lps.org or Emmary at EGrieger@ymcalincoln.org.

OUR NEXT MEETING: January 16th, 2018 6:30-7:30pm, Lefler Media Center
Thanksgiving meal food distribution!

Saturday, November 18 9 am—3 pm
Sunday, November 19 1 pm—3 pm
Monday, November 20 3 pm—6 pm

You will need to bring your current Center for People in Need card with you to receive food during this event. If you do not have a Center card you can receive one by completing a short application—you must bring a photo ID.

Food vouchers will not be offered at this event this year

CENTER FOR PEOPLE IN NEED
3901 N. 27TH STREET LINCOLN NE 68521
402-476-4357
WWW.CENTERFORPEOPLEINNEED.ORG