

PANTHER PAUSE

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Chiles Families,

The end of the 2nd quarter is right around the corner and the holiday season will be here before we know it. Our teachers continue to plan engaging lessons for the students each day and attendance remains important right through the last day of the semester. It is a pleasure to see so many students ready to learn each day. In just a short period of time, the Winter break will start and give everyone a much-needed break to rest, enjoy family, and gear up for the second half of the year.

The Fall season on campus is always busy with many wonderful student events. So far, we have celebrated our honor roll students, honored our heroes with our annual Veterans Day ceremony, seen incredible concert performances by our band and chorus programs, and had strong seasons in our sports programs. Our students have a wide variety of talents and we are fortunate to see them demonstrate their skills in the arts, athletics, and academics.

With the start of the second semester, we will begin the planning process for the next school year. Course registration for the 2020-2021 school year will take place during the 3rd quarter, including those who will be transitioning to high school. Students will receive important information about academic planning, course offerings, and the registration process during the school day. Please begin to review the academic progress your student has made to help in making decisions about future courses.

The holiday season brings us an opportunity to reflect about things for which we are thankful. I am thankful for involved parents and a supportive community that come together to support our students. I am thankful for teachers and staff that are dedicated to helping students each and every day. I am thankful for working at the best school and having the most talented staff in Seminole County. I am thankful to be at Chiles Middle School for more reasons than I can share. LCMS is a special place and I am honored to have the opportunity to be here.

On behalf of the team at LCMS, I wish you a happy holiday season, a restful Winter break, and an incredible start to the new year.

John Antmann
Principal

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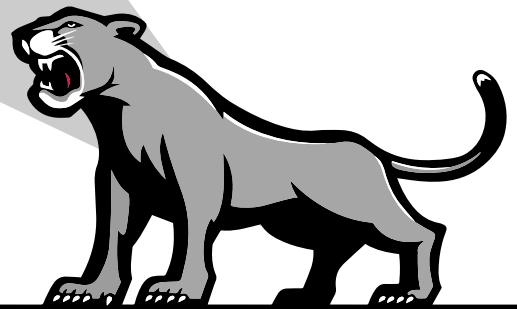
Dr. John Antmann, Principal

Ms. Diane Taylor, 8th Grade Admin.

Mrs. Elizabeth Darcy, 7th Grade Admin.

Ms. Alexandra Razgha, 6th Grade Admin.

Mr. Garrett Linquist, School Administrative Manager



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CHILES
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DECEMBER 2019
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A Message From Our School Counseling Department

The school counseling department works as a professional learning community. Through collaboration, they develop a program emphasizing developmental guidance, which creates a climate for enhancing student achievement and creating a positive learning environment. Together, parents/guardians, teachers, counselors, and administrators can make the effort to formally reach out to one another and support each other with a common goal of improving student learning while addressing students' needs. We will be able to make substantial differences in our students' lives by working collaboratively toward the same goal. Communication between the parent/guardian and LCMS is essential to the success of a student's academic progress and learning. Parents/guardians are encouraged to monitor their child's progress through Skyward and check the calendar on eCampus on a regular basis.

The first semester is quickly coming to an end. Students who have semester electives will have a new elective for the second semester. Please refer to our school's website (www.lcms.k12.fl.us), as well as the curriculum guide regarding the schedule change policy. LCMS utilizes the Seminole County Public Schools' automated scheduler, Skyward, to establish student schedules. Skyward is programmed to insure equity and to balance class sizes. Please know that electives are based on availability. Accommodations are not made to allow for parental preference for teachers. After Winter Break, the counselors will begin meeting with current students to discuss scheduling options for the 2019-2020 school year. More dates and information will be sent out as we approach that time. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your child's counselor. Thank you!

- Ms. Dashiya Matthews – All Grades, Last names **A-G**
- Mrs. Kelly Stivers – All Grades, Last names **H-O**
- Mrs. Amy Valentino – All Grades, Last names **P-Z**

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FROM OUR CURRICULUM LEADERS

Language Arts- Dr. Smith Davis & Mrs. Rose

Sixth graders have been working on their essay writing skills by reading a variety of sources and finding evidence to support their controlling idea/claim. In addition, we have studied a biography and a memoir about Bethany Hamilton, a surfer who lost her arm to a shark but persevered and was successful because of her hard work. They used the information from the biography and memoir to write an essay in preparation for their second progress monitoring essay. Students also delivered their Tropicana speeches, and we learned about many interesting topics that were important to them. Some interesting topics included Origin of Names, The Life of a Potato, and Why Columbus Day Shouldn't be a Holiday.

Our seventh graders continued the reading of *The Outsiders*. Students are learning tone, mood, and analyzing character traits within the novel. We also followed the story plot as the characters changed. The students determined text structures and types of conflict within the story as well. Students also read informational articles and poems pertaining to topics addressed in the novel. Through drama, students worked on understanding indirect characterization. This gave our students the opportunity to "show" their personalities by taking part in the reading of a teleplay of a *Twilight Zone* episode called "The Monsters are due on Maple Street." We also watched the episode to compare and contrast the script of to the actual televised episode. Students continued to sharpen their writing skills through letter writing from a character's point of view.

Eighth grade students have been working hard through our "What is Horror?" unit. We have read short stories from the likes of Anton Chekhov, Edgar Allan Poe and Roald Dahl in addition to non-fiction pieces focusing on the how these authors build suspense. Our focus this nine weeks includes an analysis of a character's motivations and decisions, determining what elements are propelling the events in the story towards the climax and resolution. Students have been concentrating on character interactions, plot elements, suspense, literary devices, irony, and much more. In addition, eighth graders will be starting a small debate unit to enforce evidence gathering and strengthening claims in the argumentative writing process. We wish you all a happy Thanksgiving!

Science- Mrs. Nystrom

In 6th grade, the students have been studying how energy and matter are transferred into and throughout ecosystems. Students are creating food web models and should be able to describe how the law of conservation of energy and mass applies to ecosystems. After fall break, 6th grade will take a closer look at how humans interact with and impact the environment.

In 7th grade, the students have been studying weather and weather systems. Students have been examining how the surface of the Earth experiences uneven heating, which contributes to the creation of wind and currents. After fall break, 7th grade will investigate universal distances, with an emphasis on types of galaxies and composition of stars.

In 8th grade, students have been studying the spheres of the Earth and how they overlap and interact. Students investigated how humans interact with all the spheres and how disasters can impact multiple spheres all at once. After fall break, 8th grade will delve into variations among organisms--students will examine adaptations of organisms to their environments and describe how organisms are classified.

Please remember that for all science students in all grade levels, the interactive notebook should contain information on everything the students have been studying. Please encourage your students to add to and improve their notebook entries whenever they have extra time.

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FROM OUR CURRICULUM LEADERS

Mathematics- Mrs. Naran

With the first semester almost behind us, our students are well on their way to mastering the new math standards. Teachers continue to take advantage of professional development opportunities that focus on the Common Core Standards and Mathematical Practices. Your student has already taken the first end of quarter (EOQ) exam and the 8th grade students took the PSAT. Teachers have analyzed the performance data from these progress monitoring assessments, and the information obtained will help plan instruction and enrich/remediate targeted skills. Please contact your child's teacher and/or Skyward for more information about your child's performance on these assessments. The math department will be looking for students to represent LCMS at this year's county math festival. If your child is interested, please ask him/her to talk to their math teacher.

Social Studies- Mrs. Illesky & Mrs. Capp

A Minute of LCMS History – Social Studies Department News

During the second quarter, students recognized the sacrifices made by veterans as they honored Veteran's Day on November 11th. They also participated in Red Ribbon Week where they increased their awareness of the dangers of drugs and alcohol abuse.

In 8th grade, students examined the causes and the effects of the Revolutionary War. This included analyzing the British laws that were enacted before the American Revolution. They debated the positions of the Loyalists and the Patriots. Students analyzed the impact of primary sources, such as the Declaration of Independence and various images and quotes, on the colonists' fight for independence. Students also participated in a mock Constitutional Convention where they formed alliances and debated key issues of the convention. All of these activities are designed to make history come alive for the students.

In 7th grade, students successfully completed their SCPS 1st Quarter Exam in Civics. The county will continue to assess each student's progress and every quarter until they are given the End of Course Exam in April/May (dates to be announced). Students examined the influences of the Enlightenment thinkers on our Founding Fathers. We looked closely at the Declaration of Independence through primary source documents and they answered the question The Ideals of the Declaration: Which is most important? Finally, we learned about the Constitution and how it impacts our nation.

During the second quarter this year, sixth grade students studied the early civilizations of India, China, and Egypt. As with every civilization we study this year, we started off by learning about the physical geography and location of the civilization. Next, we learn about the way of life for these groups, followed by the rise and fall of the civilization. Students also completed their second Document Based Questioning, or DBQ's of the year related to the Great Wall of China. This process teaches students to analyze documents, write claim statements, and turn those thoughts into a comprehensive paper. We will continue doing one per quarter as part of the 6th grade social studies curriculum. We look forward to studying the Israelites, Greece, and Rome during the third quarter.

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ELECTIVES

Physical Education- Mrs. O'Neill

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Students will be testing for the Pacer test. This is an endurance test of the cardiovascular system through running. All Physical Education students are encouraged to practice increasing their cardiovascular endurance by running/speed walking in a supervised area. These games are developing skill-related fitness components like agility, balance, coordination, reaction time, power and speed. While the students are increasing their skill level, they are also increasing their fitness level. Cardiovascular endurance, muscular strength, muscular endurance and flexibility are health related fitness components that students are developing, while participating in class. This overall growth will improve body composition to reduce fat and build lean body mass.

Share in the growth of physical education with your child. Join them in a game of kickball, tennis or football. It also can be as simple as a walk in the park or a few brisk laps in your neighborhood.

Students have been preparing for the Pacer Test. This activity measures how well the heart, lungs and circulatory system supply blood and oxygen to the body while exercising. The students have set goals for themselves, and each day they prepare by participating in physical activities which will increase their levels of fitness. It is the student's effort that is given each day that will increase cardiovascular performance. We encourage each student to get you (the parents) involved in their physical activities at home by making it a family event. Please go bike riding with them, jogging, briskly walking, swimming and any other activities which will increase their heart rate considerably while exercising. Let's make America a healthier country!!

Spanish Beginning and Spanish 1 (High School Credit) – Mrs. Concepción Cranston

We have a great group of Spanish language learners here at Lawton Chiles! Students in both Beginning Spanish and Spanish 1 classes have been successfully engaging in conversations in Spanish about different topics.

Beginning Spanish students have learned the vocabulary and expressions necessary to talk about their house and activities that they do in each room. They have also created a family tree using paternal and maternal surnames as is done in Spanish-speaking countries. They can now describe themselves and family members using new adjectives and verbs. In addition, students have compared how families in the Spanish-speaking world are similar to and different from their own.

Spanish 1 students have learned about Puerto Rico's geography, art, traditions, food and other aspects of its culture. Students have also learned to identify and describe places, to express existence and location, habitual actions, obligation and necessity. They can now talk about where they live, describe their house, their household chores and their favorite leisure activities.

If your child requires extra help, I am available before school on Tuesdays and Fridays with previous appointment to work with students. Please contact me if your child needs extra help. I would like to thank all of my students for their continued efforts and their parents for their support.

Muchas gracias.

Mrs. Cranston



ELECTIVES— continued on page 7



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EARLY DISMISSAL OF STUDENTS

When signing a student out early, you must be present (no prior phone calls), **show a picture ID and SIGN your child out.** We will then start the process of releasing your child from class. Please allow at least a 20 minute wait and plan accordingly for appointments, **especially at dismissal time.** Students **will not** be called out of class after **3:30 P.M. (2:30 P.M. on Wednesdays).** Please make an effort to schedule appointments, etc. around the school day.

Only those **listed** on the front office card will be allowed to sign your child out. Please list all possible relatives, friends, and older siblings that may pick up your child. Remember that emergency cards and front office cards are updated each school year – last year's cards are not valid. If a different situation arises, **a note signed and dated by the parent/guardian along with a photo copy of your Driver's License** is required to release a student. If any additions or changes need to be made to your student's card, please be sure to contact the front office.

Item Drop Off

A large part of middle school is helping our students become independent. We ask that parents refrain from dropping off forgotten items to the front office (homework, PE clothes, projects etc.). We know there are occasional emergencies and we will work with those on an individual basis. **At no time** should a parent be delivering **outside food or beverages** to the student during the school day nor should delivery services be used to provide food or beverage during the school day. If a student forgets their lunch, they just need to let an adult know and our Café manager will ensure they are properly fed.

Messages

Any messages to students need to be received by the office no later than 3:00 p.m. (2:00 pm on Wednesday). All messages are delivered at the beginning of each period. Please make every attempt to discuss transportation issues with your child **prior to the start of the school day.** Please have a contingency plan in place (example, rainy day transportation changes, father and/or mother day pick up, students picking up/or **not** picking up younger siblings, etc.)

Late Arrivals

If tardy, a parent must come in with their child to sign in with the time, reason, and parent signature. If parent cannot come in, the child must have a signed note from the parent with the reason. A doctor's note is acceptable. Students arriving after 9:10 am must check in at the Administrative Center, Bldg. 1, before going to their classes. A pass will be issued to the student. The student must present this pass to enter class. Students are expected to

be in class and in their seats before the tardy bell rings at 9:15am. Tardy policy will be enforced and consequences will be provided as necessary.

Student Pick Up & Drop Off Procedures

At Lawton Chiles, our first priority is to maintain a safe and orderly environment. Please adhere to the following procedures:

1. Car riders are to be dropped off and picked up at the Sanctuary Drive entrance car ramp **ONLY.** **Please do not drop students off on the bus ramp as this may delay our busses. Also, please do not drop students off at the 419 entrance to the school.** Signs alerting visitors to this procedure are posted at the entrance to the bus ramp. Please follow the directions of staff on duty.
2. Please do not park on the pick-up ramp and exit your car. If you must exit your car for any reason, please park in a parking space.
3. To ensure the safety of our students during arrival and dismissal times please use additional caution when driving on to campus. The posted speed limit is 15 miles per hour. Please look twice for students and staff members while allowing them to cross the road when it is safe.
4. For those students riding a school bus – students may ride **ONLY** their assigned bus. **Students will not be permitted to ride home with a friend unless an EMERGENCY situation arises.** Emergency situations do not include sleepovers, the desire to play with a friend, or needing to work on a project. In order to receive an EMERGENCY bus pass, **EACH** student is required to have a note written and signed by parents. The note will need to be delivered to the Dean for POSSIBLE approval.

Visitors/Dividends

All visitors must report to the front office to sign in and get a name tag before going on to any other location on campus. Students are not allowed to bring visiting friends or guests to school to spend the day at any time. For special circumstances or questions, please contact Mrs. Herrin-Nicolas in the front office, 407-871-7050.

Excused Absences

Students are required to bring a written note from a parent or guardian and turn it to either the Front Office or their first period teacher when they return to school after being absent. Phone calls are not acceptable. If a child will be absent for a length of time, please contact attendance and/or teachers to let us know the situation so homework, etc. can be arranged. A note will still be required when your child returns. Please be sure your child is on time for school. A daily attendance record is kept and both tardies and absences are recorded.



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ELECTIVES— continued from page 5

Band- Mrs. Kuperman and Mrs. Autrey

Our students have been working hard, and we invite you to attend our winter concerts!

- December 5th, 6:30pm, at Hagerty HS: Advanced Band, Concert Band, Jazz Band
- December 9th, 6:30pm, at Hagerty HS: Beginning Band, Symphonic Band, Jazz Band

Congratulations to Jackson Graeber and Aleksander Schoenfeld who made the All State Concert Band. These students will join a group of other top auditioners from around the state of Florida in performing a special concert at the beginning of January.

Congratulations to the following students who made the all-county band:

- Krishnan Kaippilly, Meghan Shepp, Lauren Bliss, Kailyn David, Salma Canabal, Michelle Pu, Mia Caccavale, Emily Lesnak, Isabella Binsack, Kylie Gaetan, Tyler Tun, Joshua Heath, Grade Dean, Aidan McIlvanna, Amanda Negron, Jackson Graeber, Michael Pang, Jackson Moss, Anthony Acevedo, Beck Livesay, Mason Kretzschmar, Finn Brock-Edgar, Aleksander Schoenfeld, and Brayden Hall.

These students were chosen amongst hundreds of auditions to represent our school. They will have the opportunity to work with a guest conductor and perform a concert at the end of January.

ELECTIVES— continued on page 8

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To Addressee or Current Resident

ELECTIVES— *continued from page 7*

Reading- Mrs. Elizabeth Darcy

School-Wide Literacy

Did you know that LCMS hosts Panther Reading Time 4th period every day for 20- 30 minutes in each classroom? Families, you can help make sure this time is well spent by ensuring your child has a book ready to read in his or her backpack. In January, we will be celebrating Literacy Week. Be looking for more information as the New Year approaches.

Battle of the Books

Is your child interested in reading all of this years' SSYRA books? If so, Battle of the Books needs you. Please contact Paula_Brown@scps.k12.fl.us for more information.

Reading Classes

Students in Reading classes are making great efforts tracking their own progress using iReady, as well as Language Live through ESOL classes. In December, students will measuring their progress through Diagnostic 2. Be looking for these results when you log into iReady from home. Parents often inquire how they can help their students become better readers. First, know that FSA reading passages are between 200 and 1200 words in length and include fiction and non-fiction. Students need to be reading at home nightly for at least thirty minutes, both silently and aloud. Nightly reading can help students improve their fluency and endurance. Encourage students to read informational texts including news articles, magazines, and manuals (or "How to" books) addressing subjects in which students have interests. Longer books, like novels and biographies, help students improve their endurance. Students need to be able to carry ideas over a longer period of time to be able to make connections to the real world and to their background knowledge. Families can model reading as they read together—establishing reading time routines. Encourage students to process what they are reading by asking them to predict, question, clarify, and summarize sections of the texts. Engage your students in discussions about what they read. Finally, ask students to share their progress tracking sheets and ask them to share with you the reading goals they have established for themselves. Reach out to your child's Reading teacher for more ideas to help support reading at home.

Students taking Reading are eligible to participating in Read to Lead, an afterschool reading competition team. Please be looking for more information to come home in December as we assemble our team to begin training in late January.

Chorus & Musical Keyboard – Miss Swallow

CONGRATULATIONS...

- 2019 SCPS All-County Honor Choir: Preston Charette, Claire Cosio, Johnathan Ehlers, Samuel Joyner, Cassidy Miller, James Rhodes, Lorna Rupe, Anthony Settecase, Evan Smith, Savannah Towne, Camden Ward.

These LCMS musicians studied in a day-long master class with an expert vocal clinician to prepare their repertoire. That evening, they performed a beautiful concert that included choir students from all SCPS Middle Schools and High Schools...BRAVO!

Chorus 3 members visited the WKMG, our local CBS affiliate, studios to video tape holiday songs. Be sure to tune in on Christmas Day for the Sounds of the Season special programming featuring our very own LCMS students! Our performance will also be streamed on their website at ClickOrlando.com.

Chorus 2 and Chorus 3 performed for our Veteran's Day ceremony. This talented ensemble performed inspiring renditions of the Armed Services songs and the National Anthem!

The fall Chorus Concert was a tremendous success! Our talented Chorus students worked diligently to prepare a varied and exciting evening performance!

THANK YOU

Our Chorus and Musical Keyboarding Fundraiser was a huge success!!! Your generosity overwhelmed us all! The enhancements to our programs will benefit all students for many years!