

PANTHER PAUSE

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

We are now half-way through the 3rd quarter and well into the 2nd semester and I am incredibly proud of the things I see on campus each day! Our students come to school well prepared each day and participate in the incredible lessons our teachers have prepared. With the support of our community, the talent of our great staff, and the hard work of our students, Chiles will continue to be one of the top middle schools in the state. Please make sure that you have updated your contact information in Skyward so that you continue to receive the most up to date information regularly.

While the primary focus remains on students learning during the 2018-2019 school year, we have started the process of planning for the next school year. All students have received their course registration from LCMS if they are in 6th or 7th grade and our 8th graders have received their information from the high schools. Please be sure to guide your student in selecting a course program that will be academically challenging.

As we head into the spring, our annual assessments will be scheduled for students based upon the courses in which they are enrolled. This year, each of our assessments will take place a little bit later than in previous years. The majority of our testing will take place in May with a few things taking place in April. Please check our website regularly for updates on testing dates for each grade level. When students are testing, please encourage them to get plenty of rest and to eat a well-balanced breakfast the morning of a test. Breakfast is available each day in the Growl Grill.

The spring semester is always a busy time on campus and I can't wait to see the exciting performances, athletic competitions, and academic events that will take place. I hope to see you out on campus at one of our events!

John Antmann, Ed.D.
Principal

LAWTON CHILES MIDDLE SCHOOL

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Office Hours: 8:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.

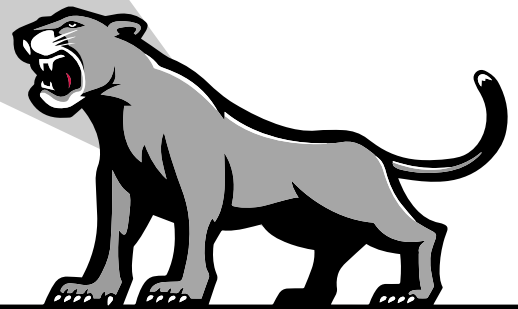
Dr. John Antmann, Principal

Mrs. Elizabeth Darcy, 8th Grade Admin.

Ms. Diane Taylor, 7th Grade Admin.

Ms. Alexandra Razgha, 6th Grade Admin.

Mrs. Amy Bramblett, Dean of Students



FEBRUARY 2019
ISSUE 1

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Lawton Chiles Middle School

1240 Sanctuary Drive

Oviedo, Florida 32766

Issue #1

Language Arts- Mrs. Rose & Dr. Smith-Davis

6th Grade

The sixth grade Language Arts students have continued learning about essay writing and had their second practice writing assessment. The Writing FSA is quickly approaching and students are feeling confident in their writing! Students also read Medusa's Head and Yeh-Shen: A Cinderella Story from China, focusing on plot, theme/central idea, and characters responding to change throughout a story. As a final assessment, students had the opportunity to write their own Greek myth or fairy tale to share with their classmates. It's always fun to hear their personalities shine in their creative writing!

7th Grade

During the month of January, students in seventh grade Language Arts started the quarter with argumentative essay writing. They focused not only on choosing a side of an argument, but using transitions, a variety of elaborations and a counterclaim to prove their point. This was in preparation for the FSA writing portion in the spring. The students also wrapped up a unit based on the "Triangle Factory Fire." The pieces used helped our students understand historical fiction and the author's point of view. As we move further into the quarter, we look forward to focusing on poetry and preparing students for the FSA with standards-based questions and more writing prompts.

8th Grade

Eighth graders started off this semester focusing on selected works by Mark Twain. We analyzed an excerpt from Tom Sawyer concentrating on theme and a nonfiction piece, Advice to Youth, analyzing Twain's use of satire. Students continued to take mini benchmark assessments targeting specific skills and test-taking strategies. We will continue to refine our skills of characterization, plot, central idea and theme through our next selections centered on historical fiction and nonfiction. The next writing assessment is right around the corner and students continued to polish their writing skills through various formal and informal writing assessments in class. Thank you for your support and as always, continue checking eCampus for a current list of assignment due dates as well as Skyward.

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Mathematics- Mrs. Misty Naran

Happy New Year, Panthers! It's business as usual in the Math department. With the first semester behind us, we continue to learn new concepts and skills while still practicing those previously mastered. Based on results from our most recent EOQ, teachers are able to focus on standards that were most frequently missed and plan forward. The FSA will be here before we know it. Students will take three sections of this computer based Math assessment. Encourage your child to do their best! ALL CONCEPTS taught up to that point will be considered "fair game!"

Our Math Club is looking for some competitive students to represent LCMS at the county wide competition in April of this year. You do not have to be the smartest student in math or even get straight A's. One simply needs to have a love of math. If interested, please see your teacher.

Have you set a New Year's Resolution? Resolve to be a PREPARED Panther! Take time to replenish school supplies such as composition books, pencils, loose-leaf paper, graph paper, erasers, and folders. Being prepared is a PBS-Positive Behavior Support expectation that is easy to achieve!

As we are approaching EOC and FSA exams take advantage of the review and practice materials available through your textbooks online and Math Nation. Khan Academy is also a great resource for additional support outside of class. Please see your teacher if you need help finding these materials

Science- Mrs. Terra Nystrom

In 6th grade the students have been learning about the processes that shape Earth's surface. Students started third quarter investigating some of the physical and chemical properties of Earth's layers from the lithosphere to the inner core. Using this context, they reviewed and applied previous studies on states of matter and density to better understand why the Earth's interior varies and how heat moves through the Earth. They then moved on to studying the rock cycle and learning about how geologists use their understanding of rock formations to make inferences about Earth's history. The end of this quarter will include the theory of plate tectonics and the role of plate movement in moving rock material through the Earth and shaping its surface.

In 7th grade the students have been studying atoms and the periodic table of elements as a review. They then compared atoms vs. cells and their place in the hierarchy of living things. Students have also been investigating the differences between plant and animal cells, cell organelles/functions, and cellular respiration vs. photosynthesis. Toward the end of the quarter, the students will be studying energy transformations, the Law of Conservation of Energy, and types of energy.

In 8th grade the students have been discussing the various levels of organization of living things, with a review of how atoms make up cells, cells make up tissues, tissues make up organs, and a focus on how organ systems overlap and combine to create fully complex organisms. The students investigated each of the major organ systems found in human beings, and discussed both the components of those systems and their functions within the body. The students participated in many lab activities about the body systems, including dissecting the eye to better understand its anatomy and function.



SAC News

The School Advisory Council is a volunteer group of parents and school personnel who advise the administration on all local issues. All community members are welcome; and meetings are open to the public. Meetings are monthly. The SAC committee is open to all parents. Please join us on during our meetings to be a part of Lawton Chiles Middle School's continued success.

SAC Dates

Meeting Time 4:00pm

- February 13, 2019
- March 13, 2019
- April 10, 2019
- May 8, 2019



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4 FROM OUR CURRICULUM LEADERS

Social Studies- Mrs. Joan Illemsky & Mrs. Jennifer Capp **8th Grade U.S. History**

During the third quarter, students in their Social Studies classes will continue to explore, analyze, explain and distinguish content that is both challenging and intriguing. In 8th grade, students are examining the foundations of our system of government and how the experiences of pre-Revolutionary War colonial America impacted the development of the United States Constitution. Students will consider how this amazing document has managed to survive and adapt to changing conditions for more than 200 years. Students are also analyzing the rights guaranteed by the Bill of Rights and comparing those rights enjoyed by U.S. citizens with the rights of citizens in other parts of the world. This quarter, eighth graders also examining the issues faced by some of our early presidents and how similar issues are being grappled with today. As they say, history repeats.

7th Grade Civics

The 2nd Semester will be an exciting one for our 7th grade Panthers. Students will use what they learned about Florida's government on our field trip to Tallahassee as they compare and contrast the federal and state governments. They will hone their political skills and build supportive relationships with their classmates when they take on the role of Senators in the LCMS Senate by writing and passing bills that they have written. In addition, they will study the Judicial Branch and examine how the Supreme Court arrived at its decisions in several landmark Supreme Court Cases including *Marbury v. Madison* and *Brown v. Board of Education*. Students will continue to build on their vocabulary as they work with the primary sources of government through the Library of Congress. As in the first semester, students will be taking a 3rd quarter exam which will lead to the End of Course exam which will be given in May.

6th Grade World History

During the third nine weeks, the 6th grade students began by studying the history of the Israelites, the world's oldest monotheistic religion. We then ventured into ancient Greece and their way of life, wars, and culture. Finally, we closed out the quarter with the Romans and the development of the first great republic. We studied several primary and secondary source documents on the Citizenship in Athens and Rome as part of the DBQ project. The students now better understand how ancient civilizations such as Greece and Rome contributed to the infrastructure of our own government and society. We are looking forward to the last quarter when we will learn more about the fall of Rome, Christianity, and the Americas.

ELECTIVES

Band- Mrs. Kuperman

Congratulations to the following students who made the all-state jazz band: Alexander McCuen and Tyler Welch.

Congratulations to Brock Morris who made the all-state concert band.

These students were able to travel to Tampa and prepare and perform a beautiful concert at the beginning of January with guest conductors.

Congratulations to the following students who made the all-county band: McKenzie Adams, Rylan Fitzgerald, Joshua Heath, Owen Welch, Avery Descheneaux, Christopher Orne, Kailyn David, Angelique Boles, Krishnan Kaippilly, Meghan Shepp, Lauren Bliss, Brock Morris, Alyssa Bookhart, Jonathan Wang, Braden Bast, Andy Chan, Sophia McNeill, Rita Smith, Jackson Kaplan, Alexander McCuen, Tyler Welch, Jackson Graeber, McKinley Beute, Skyler Glenn, Sophia Logalbo, John Mediavilla, Kiley Keegan, Noah Berman, and Victor Wang.

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

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ELECTIVES

Drama- Mrs. Rahill

LCMS Drama Department has been very busy over the past few months! In December, over 30 students competed in the Jr. Thespian District Festival at Winter Springs High School. We came away with quite a few Superior and Excellent ratings, as well as a Critic's Choice for Publicity Design! We will compete at the Florida State Jr. Thespian Festival in February.

Our beginning Theatre classes have been learning about the Greeks and the different types of jobs in the theatre world. Theatre 3 has been hard at work for their spring musical of "Willy Wonka Jr.". We hope you will join us on April 9th & 10th to support our young performers in a fun show!

Chorus and Musical Keyboarding- Ms. Suzette Swallow

Congratulations to Ainsley Lucas-Newton, member of the LCMS Advanced Chorus, for her selection by audition to the 2019 All-State Treble Chorus: Ainsley traveled to Tampa, FL to work three days with the masterful composer, musician and conductor, Sydney Guillaume. This prestigious ensemble prepared a final concert held on Saturday. The personal commitment to repertoire preparation and the intense rehearsal days came with great reward ~ experiencing MS vocal music at a highly accomplished level! BRAVO to this extraordinary student and to her supportive parents!

Chorus 3 students will be travelling to Walt Disney World for a Disney SINGS! Workshop in February. Student participants will work with a professional vocal artist in a 2.5 hour vocal master class. This event has become an annual tradition in our LCMS Choral department and one that these student musicians will long remember!

The LCMS Chorus and Band programs have maintained the prestigious enrollment award from the Florida Music Educators' Association (FMEA). Currently, LCMS has over 50% of the total student population enrolled in band, chorus and keyboarding classes! Every school day 670+ students work diligently in our classrooms to refine performance skills, deepen theoretical understanding and share a sense of community that comes with being a unique member of our ensembles. Thank you to the dedicated students, their parents, and our community for supporting our programs!

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.

Beginning Spanish learners are slowly becoming familiar with the Florida World Languages Standards and the languages modes of communication. So far, students have been focusing of Interpersonal Communication by exchanging ideas orally and in writing. Students have learned the names and sounds of vowels and

consonants of the Spanish alphabet, and now they can pronounce and spell words in Spanish. Students are now able to greet people, introduce ourselves and exchange personal information such as name and origin, and use farewells in Spanish using culturally appropriate gestures. Students have also learned to talk about classroom objects in Spanish and to use classroom expressions to communicate their classroom needs.

Spanish 1 students began the New Year learning how to describe and compare clothing and shoes and to compare prices. They also learned about the famous market of Chichicastenango in Guatemala, traditional Guatemalan clothing and the worry dolls.

Students continued learning Spanish words and expressions to be able to talk about meals, food and beverages and to express the degrees of likes and dislikes in the context of Peruvian culture and traditions. Students used the languages lab to practice listening comprehension and speaking skills.

If your son/daughter requires extra help, I am available before school to work with students. Please contact me if needed.

I would like to thank all of my students for their continued efforts and their parents for their support: Muchas gracias

Reading- Mrs. Elizabeth Darcy

Battle of the Books and Read to Lead competition teams formed in January. Any students wishing to participate are encouraged to contact Paula Brown at Paula_Brown@scps.k12.fl.us. Both teams will compete with other middle schools in March answering challenging comprehension questions. Good Luck to our competitive Reading Panthers!

Students in Reading classes have worked all year reading and analyzing challenging and interesting fiction and non-fiction texts. Students' practice the skills research has shown to make them better readers, including predicting, questioning, clarify and summarizing as they read. It is important that all students try and read 20 minutes a night to build their endurance, expand their horizons, and enjoy connecting to books and articles they find interesting.

This is the second year Chiles is utilizing iReady to practice skills and track progress toward learning gains. Students using iReady need to log 45 minutes per week and do their best on the lessons. The programs can be accessed at home through ePassport, "The Portal." Lessons are set at students' current reading levels and are designed to help students reach their growth goals. Reading teachers meet regularly with students for data chats so please ask your students to share their results with you—they continue to make great progress! On January 30th, we celebrated students who made gains on their mid-year diagnostic with a Level Up Party! Congratulations to all students who are making progress with their reading skills.



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6 FROM THE FRONT DESK...THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW...

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 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. Emerson 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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8

5Essentials Survey

Beginning January 22nd, parents, students in grades 4-12 and school staff will have the opportunity to take part in the Snapshot Survey. The results of this survey will showcase what makes each of our school's unique and will be used to develop a new more transparent school report card that will called the Snapshot Report. Your input and comments are important and will play a key role in spotlighting innovation and student achievements.

The parent Snapshot Survey will be open from January 22- February 22, 2019. Access the survey through <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SCPSParentSS18> or visit our website for more information and a direct link.

In addition to the Snapshot Survey, students will once again have the opportunity to participate in the 5Essentials Survey. This opportunity will allow students in grades 4-12 to share their thoughts on the important elements of their school and classroom experiences.

The student Snapshot and 5Essentials Surveys will be conducted January 28- February 1, 2019 in English Language Arts classes. Students received a letter with further details January 16, 2019. Student questions for both surveys are also posted on our website for you to review beginning January 22, 2019.

Participation in the surveys provides valuable information on our school and helps to guide school improvement. Your identity and survey responses are kept completely confidential and will never be connected to you or your child.

The Snapshot and 5Essentials Surveys will be administered online. On January 22rd parents should have received the link to the Snapshot Survey. The survey link is also available on the SCPS web site. Please mark your calendars and plan to participate in this opportunity to provide your input. Thank you!

School Counseling Message

The counseling department has started the articulation and registration procedures for the upcoming 2019-2020 school year. During the week of January 21st, the counselors met with our current 6th and 7th grade students in the Black Box to review registration information. Your student's course selection form was due to his/her Science teacher by Friday, February 1st. If your child did not bring home this form, please contact your student's counselor. We visited our feeder elementary schools in December as well to review registration with our incoming 6th graders, and we hosted Parent Night for the parents of our incoming 6th graders on Tuesday, January 29th. There is a field trip scheduled for April 18th for all the 5th grade elementary students to visit LCMS. Counselors from Hagerty High School and Oviedo High School have been visiting our campus to meet with our current 8th graders to discuss scheduling options for next year. Through the course selection process, we have reminded our students that they still have to successfully complete their current coursework with a GPA of 2.0 or higher in order to be promoted to the next grade level.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding registration for next school year, please contact your child's counselor. Thank you!

- Mrs. Christine Scalera – All Grades, Last names A-G
- Mrs. Kelly Stivers – All Grades, Last names H-O
- Mrs. Amy Valentino – All Grades, Last names P-Z