

PANTHER PAUSE

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Chiles Families,

We've reached the end of the first quarter and we have had a great beginning to the 20th Anniversary of LCMS! There have been so many great events and it is great seeing the engaging lessons our teachers are planning on a daily basis. It has also been wonderful seeing so many families on campus for our events, including open house, parent meetings, volleyball games, and fine arts events. Please continue to come out and support our Panthers.

One of the most important parts of student learning and achievement is attendance. We have the best staff in the district, but they can only help students grow when they are in class. Please remember that instruction begins right at the start of the school day in first period and continues until the dismissal bell at the end of the day. Additionally, our teachers plan great lessons each and every day of the school year. As we go through the school year, remember that every minute counts!

As the first quarter comes to a close, please continue to review the progress that your students are making and keep using the available resources to stay informed. Be sure to check Skyward and eCampus regularly as this is where you will find the most up-to-date information on curriculum and grades.

At LCMS, we are committed to improving student relationships through the building of strong relationships in the community and keeping our campus as safe as possible. We will continue to work hard and make sure that all students have the opportunity to find success inside and outside of the classroom. If you have any questions at any time, please contact a member of the school leadership team.

Thank you,
John Antmann, Ed.D.
Principal

LAWTON CHILES MIDDLE SCHOOL

PH: 407-871-7050 • **FX:** 407-871-7099

1240 Sanctuary Drive • Oviedo, Florida 32766

Office Hours: 8:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.

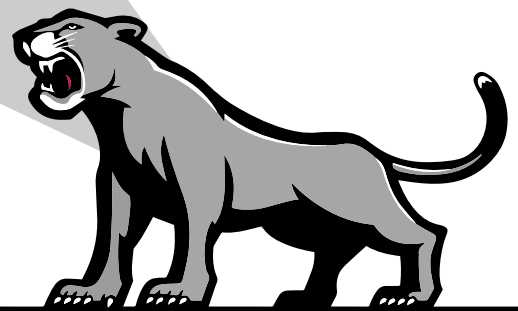
Dr. John Antmann, Principal

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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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.

This month we will be participating in Red Ribbon Week on October 21st-25th. As we get closer to this event, please check our website for more details regarding various events, activities, and Spirit Days. We encourage you to have a conversation about drug awareness with your child (ren) as it takes a community to teach prevention. According to the National Family Partnership, children of parents who talk to their teens regularly about drugs are 42% less likely to use drugs than those who don't; yet, only a quarter of teens report having these conversations.

Please know Parent/Teacher conferences are scheduled on Tuesdays and Fridays at 8:30am. If you would like to schedule a conference, please contact Mrs. Tucker at (407) 871-7199. 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 eCampus on a regular basis. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your child's counselor. You are also welcome to contact us if you'd like more information regarding our Panther Food Pantry.

- Ms. Dashiya Matthews – Students with last names A-G •
- Ms. Kelly Stivers – Students with last names H-O •
- Ms. Amy Valentino – Students with last names P-Z •

Positive Behavior Support

The PBS committee continues to reward the four Panther expectations through Panther Bucks. The PBS cart is overflowing with prizes, trinkets and fun school supplies each Friday so students can choose their rewards. Chiles accepts donations for the cart and can be dropped off at the front office.

This fall families and businesses can help stock our cart through a super exciting fundraiser. Chiles has partnered with the Magic team for a Lawton Chiles MS Spirit Night. October 11, 2019 the Magic play the Celtics and donate a portion of the proceeds to the Chiles PBS. Email Cheryl_Ziokowski@scps.k12.fl.us for more information.

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

Our school year was off to an interesting start as we completed a unit on Fears and Phobias. Through these lessons, students focused on identifying theme, central idea, and tone. They compared the theme and tone of the short story, "The Ravine," with the poem, "Life Doesn't Frighten Me." We then moved into non-fiction articles to learn more about fears and phobias – what they are and how they are different. Please ask your child: Is fear real or imagined? This was the guiding question that students had to answer by collecting and ranking evidence from two sources. Through this activity, students planned and drafted an essay in preparation for their first WriteScore assessment. The results of this assessment will guide teachers as we plan and prepare future writing lessons.

Throughout the first months of school, students in seventh grade Language Arts worked tirelessly to further sharpen their writing skills through in-class lessons and independent practice. The texts and standards focused on in class were theme and central idea using such texts as "The Flight of Icarus" and various Disney/PIXAR shorts. Students were able to devise a theme statement and analyze the development of plot structure through these texts. We started reading S.E. Hinton's classic novel, *The Outsiders*. Through the text of the novel, teachers are able to extend the lessons of the Florida standards and apply reading comprehension techniques and higher-level thinking questions to students. Students may find it beneficial to have their own copy of the novel to read in class and at home. It is not required to have the book, but in the past, it has seemed helpful to our students to have a copy of this novel. We look forward to having high-level discussions about the implications of your choices based on the themes of the novel.

The 8th Grade Language Arts Department during the months of August and September began its academic journey in preparing our students with our Frameworks curriculum standards for Quarter 1. Students began the year by analyzing a classic short story, "Marigolds," by Eugenia Collier. Students continued this analysis of the coming of age theme with excerpts from Maya Angelou's *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* and "The Scarlet Ibis," by James Hurst. Students also began to learn how to better analyze poetry and write academic responses to literature. In addition to prose and analysis, students began a nonfiction examination of informational texts with a heavy focus on the authors' use of evidence, elaboration and argumentation strategies. Outside of the class, students were encouraged to continue reading high interest independent novels. In addition to reading, students had the opportunity to practice writing for the Florida Standards Assessment (FSA) essay component. On a final note, students are continually encouraged to use eCampus and Skyward on a daily basis. With high school around the corner, please continue to encourage your rising high schooler to seek help if needed. We would like to collectively thank all of our students for their continued efforts and wish them the best of luck this coming school year!

Mathematics- Mrs. Misty Naran

We are off to a great year! The students are becoming familiar with their teachers and classroom expectations. We are encouraging them to accept the challenges of a rigorous curriculum and work diligently to master their grade level standards. The teachers appreciate your support and recommend you/your student become acquainted with the available online resources. ALL students have access to their textbook online. These applications are found on your student's eCampus site and teachers have reviewed how and which app should be used. These sites are very student friendly and provide additional resources to use; such as, lesson tutorials, practice tests, and much more. Algebra and Geometry students also have access to Math Nation, which provides more examples and opportunities for students to practice EOC style questions. The Math teachers are here to support you and your student. Most teachers are available to help individual students before or after school. Please contact your child's math teacher for more information. Finally, we will be forming competition teams for all grade levels. These teams will meet during homeroom and compete in the spring with other county middle schools. We will share more information as it becomes available.

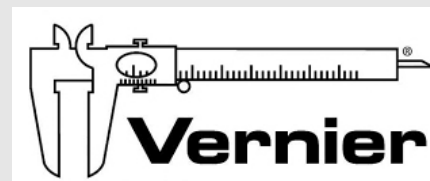


Science- Mrs. Terra Nystrom

Sixth grade students have been studying the hierarchy of matter and examining the chemical and physical properties of elements as determined by their subatomic particles. The unit began with a study on the contributions made to the atomic theory by scientists throughout history and then moved into atomic parts and understanding how elements are the "building blocks" that make up everything. Students then examined the relationships among atoms, elements, molecules, compounds, mixtures, and solutions.

Seventh grade students have been working on experimental design and creating experiment posters. They then moved on to the Change Over Time unit, where they learned about physical and chemical weathering, physical and chemical properties and changes in matter, the law of conservation of mass, and how the rates of chemical reactions can be altered.

Eighth grade students have been studying motion, forces, and energy, and how these three concepts interrelate. The students used Vernier Probeware to track their movements using motion sensors and applied this knowledge to graphing distance versus time. They examined how balanced and unbalanced net forces can alter the motions of objects. Students also discussed kinetic energy and potential energy and how the energy types transform as an object moves. Advanced and gifted 8th graders continue to work on their science fair projects. Starting in October, the students should begin their experiments and collect their data. Please help your student stay on top of their due dates.





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Social Studies- Mrs. Joan Illemsky & Mrs. Jennifer Capp

As the midpoint of the first quarter passes, our students have adjusted wonderfully to the routines and coursework of a new year. All grade levels have maintained the focus on building students' academic vocabulary and developing each student's ability to work and learn in a cooperative learning environment.

In 8th grade, students examined how the first Americans adapted to their environments. Students identified why Europeans explored and established settlements in the Americas. Students then focused their attention on the English colonies in North America. They considered the similarities and differences among these colonies. In the pre-AP classes, the students examined multiple documents in an attempt to answer the question: Why did so many Jamestown colonists die?

Our 7th grade students are enjoying the Civics curriculum. Civics students started the year learning about United States citizenship. They enjoyed learning how they became U.S. citizens either through birth or their parents and they learned that not all their peers are citizens. Students are now aware of the responsibilities and obligations of citizens. If you have a jury duty experience, they would love to hear about it! We then turned our focus to political parties and our first Document Based Question Activity for the year. Students enjoyed working with primary source documents and historical campaign data. The first Nine Week Exam will be given in early October.

Our 6th grade students have begun studying the World History curriculum. First, they began with a review of basic geography skills, which will continue to be utilized as students examine different periods of world history. They also examined what history is and why it is important to study history. Students learned who early humans were and how civilizations first began. Our semester will end with students studying the first river civilization, Mesopotamia, along with our first DBQ of the year. This research activity and essay is related to Hammurabi Code. Looking forward to 2nd second quarter, we will be studying the ancient civilizations of India, China, and Egypt.

Students participating in the National History Day competition this year will tackle the theme of Breaking Barriers in History. They have spent time researching possible topics for their project. Topic choices are as varied as the students themselves. They have also made the important decision of whether or not they will work with partners and, if so, who those partners will be. The next step is to begin drafting the thesis statement for the project and then research, research, research.

ELECTIVES

Chorus and Musical Keyboarding – Ms. Swallow

LCMS Chorus department held our second annual Chorus FUN Night on September 20th. Students stayed after school and participated in an all-choir singing session, an escape room, small group 60-seconds-to-win-it games and enjoyed plenty of snacks and food! Thank you to our amazing parent volunteers who helped make the night a wonderful success. We appreciate those families who generously donated snack items for the event!

CONGRATULATIONS to the following Chorus 3 students who are in the process of auditioning for the 2020 FL All-State Choirs: • Naomi Bailey, Claire Cosio, Johnathan Ehlers, Lorna Rupe. These students were required to take a written and aural/listening theory exam as well as a sight singing test on September 14th. Their individual scores will qualify them for phase 2 of the audition process, the vocal quality audition, to be held on October 15th. We are very proud of your accomplishments as musicians and scholars... BRAVO!

CHORUS & MUSICAL KEYBOARD FUNDRAISER was a wonderful success! Our order is being processed and will be delivered on October 10th (mark your calendars). We hope you enjoy the delicious desserts and delightfully scented candle. THANK YOU for supporting, our students, and our programs!

THANK YOU

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Physical Education- Mrs. Patricia O'Neil

Students have been working from moderate to vigorous conditioning activities. While in motion, classes are exploring fitness-related and health related skills components. It is the goal of the Physical Education department for students to understand the importance of physical fitness while students are identifying movement skills.

Some housekeeping notes: remind students they are responsible for dressing out daily, participating in class activities and to work to increase personal knowledge of skills. It is the student's responsibility to keep their items secure in their locker. LCMS is not responsible for lost items. Students need to speak with any physical education teacher for assistance or concerns. Uniforms may be purchased online at "My School Bucks" on the LCMS website. Keep an eye out for our Dry-Fit t-shirts we will be adding to our uniform options.

Classes engage students in activities which are sequenced with appropriate skill progression in football, tennis, kickball, hockey and volleyball. Focus of class units concentrate on game rules, cooperative learning skills and development of movement components. Student development works to increase flexibility, muscular strength and muscular endurance. These components are enhanced with activities to create speed, agility, balance and coordination. The physical education department will begin Pacer testing after Thanksgiving to measure student growth in the Fitness and Health related components. All teachers have the Pacer audio in their ecampus and can be downloaded for student/family engagement.

Together, we are working to build stronger and healthier students!

Spanish Language Learners – Mrs. Cranston

Bienvenidos/Welcome! 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 since the beginning of the school year! Our first goal was to be 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 wrote their first dialogue using the vocabulary and expressions that they had learned, and later performed it for their class. Students enjoyed the creativity and enthusiasm of their classmates as they presented their dialogues, and at the end, we all celebrated success with a big round of applause!

Spanish learners are slowly becoming familiar with the Florida World Languages Standards and the language modes of communication. So far, we have been focusing on 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. This bolsters their self-confidence, energizes them and increases their success in learning Spanish.

Spanish students have also learned to talk about classroom objects in Spanish and to use classroom expressions to communicate their classroom needs, and they can ask someone for their phone number, their birth date, the date and the time and respond to those questions when someone asks that information of them.

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

Technology- Mrs. Barbara Miller

6th, 7th, and 8th graders will take one of the following semester long computer courses:

- 6th grade: iChallenge (Mr. Smock)
- 7th grade: iJourney (Mr. Thomas)
- 8th grade: iConnect (Mr. Jackson & Mrs. Miller)

Students will engage in online lessons, as well as face-to-face instruction. The courses are accessed through eCampus. Students will have the opportunity to earn their IC3 Certifications at the completion of iJourney and iConnect. All three courses offer UCertify Certifications. iJourney fulfills the state required Career & Education Planning component. iConnect is for high school credit and satisfies the .5 virtual credit graduation requirement.

Reading- Mrs. Elizabeth Darcy

Did you know that reading skills can improve student performance in all core content areas? Students taking Reading can expect to increase their proficiency by at least one grade level, and those students that are highly motivated can improve beyond one years' worth of growth. One tool Reading teachers use is i-Ready. Students taking Reading have completed their first i-Ready diagnostic for this school year. The diagnostic scores provide specific information to teachers, students, and families about areas that students can work to improve their skills. Students have developed goals and action steps based on their i-Ready diagnostic. Please ask them about their goals. Teachers use this information to design lessons and create teacher-led station rotations to focus on interventions to help students increase their competence and confidence in reading comprehension and vocabulary. Students are required to complete 45 minutes of Reading in i-Ready per week and they can access the program from home through the Portal. Reading teachers also require students to read for pleasure- any text of their choice- and complete logs to document what they have read. Reading regularly (20-30 minutes per night) helps students to improve fluency and comprehension. Good readers often predict, question, clarify, and summarize what they read. Please ask them questions along these lines to help students practice these reading strategies regularly. Students will take a second i-Ready diagnostic in December to determine their growth and create new goals and action plans.

ESE- Ms. Erika Vocolka

The school year is off to a great start! Your student's case manager has been working closely with classroom teachers to ensure that your student will receive the support they need to be successful here at LCMS. If you have any questions about your student's IEP and/or ESE services, please contact your child's case manager.

PAWS 52- Mrs. Barbara Miller

3-2-1 Action!

TV Production is a class designed to introduce students to television production techniques. The course covers script writing, interviewing techniques, storyboarding, taping the TV industry. Students will be introduced to production roles, basic equipment use and editing techniques using Final Cut Pro. Students produce their own segments which will air on their weekly news broadcast during homeroom. Stay tuned every Wednesday to Paws 52 for late breaking news at LCMS!



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From The Front Desk...Things You Should Know...

EARLY DISMISSAL:

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. Students cannot be released to leave early without the presence and signature of an authorized adult.

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 Mr. Linquist 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.

PLANNERS:

One of the best sources of LCMS information will be found in the student planner. All students received a planner during the first week of school. Please encourage your student to use their planner every day.




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To Addressee or Current Resident

8

Skyward, eCampus, and ePassport

Skyward, eCampus, ePassport what is my child talking about? **Skyward** is the official grade book where all grades are entered. This will show each child's grades as well as any missing assignments. To receive Skyward access, please fill out the Family Access form which is located in the Parents/Skyward section of LCMS website. Please bring the completed form along with your photo ID to the front office, as we are only able to provide access to parents/ guardians with custody. We will then send you your Skyward username and password via email. If your child is coming from an elementary school to LCMS, your login carries over. Your child will login to SCPS computers using their student ID. They will create their own password within the first two weeks of school. At home students will login to **The Portal** <https://www.scps.k12.fl.us> (top righthand corner) to access eCampus courses, Skyward, online textbooks, Office365, etc. Every course at LCMS has an eCampus page. **eCampus** courses have all of the students' assignments on the calendar, a syllabus, course information, etc. You too can have access to your child's eCampus courses and view when your child's assignments are due. Visit <http://www.lcms.scps.k12.fl.us/Parents.aspx> and click on sign up for eCampus here. There's also additional tech information on Office 365, ePassport and more. Did you know your child has access to Office365 on up to 5 devices?

Do you have still have questions about Skyward, eCampus, and ePassport? Email Mrs. Miller @ Barbara_Miller@scps.k12.fl.us so she can better assist you.

SAC News

The School Advisory Council is a volunteer group of parents and school personnel who advise the administration on local issues. All community members are welcome; meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month at 4:00 PM with exception of our October meeting scheduled for Wednesday, 10/16/19, at 4:00 PM. If you are interested, please plan to join us at the next meeting or contact Mrs. Darcy. We are currently looking for parent and community members to join. For more information, please email Mrs. Elizabeth Darcy at Elizabeth_Darcy@scps.k12.fl.us.

PTSA News

Hello Panther Parents! We hope your school year is off to a great start!!! Did you clip any Box Tops over the summer?? Are they sitting in a baggie in your junk drawer?? Just a friendly reminder that we are still collecting clipped Box Tops!!!! Please send them in with your child to school. They can be turned in at the school store.

Eventually the Box Top program will become digital-only. Clipping Box Tops will be a thing of the past. Please see the YouTube link provided to learn more about the new Box Top app. More information to come!!! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hh94b2BvFK4>

Did you know our largest group of PTSA members are our students? So far, we have 237 student members this year. Way to go students! Our first student incentive will be in the month of October. It's not too late to purchase your student a membership. Memberships are \$8 and can be purchased in the school store or through the school store's website. The link can be found on the bottom right hand corner of the LCMS website. Students, be on the look out for your first incentive next month!

2019-2020 Lawton Chiles Middle School PTSA Welcomes You!