

Leonard Middle School School Board Report

November 17, 2021

COVID Updates

We continue to have weekly positive cases that we have to process. All of our cases lately have been single cases and have come from families and community, and not from spread in the school.

We have increasing numbers in pooled testing. Some joined so that they could participate in school sports, and many joined after required quarantines.

With the help of Nurse Hannah Cloutier and our new CNA Amy Damboise—along with Nurse Vanessa and other helpers at our school, our pooled testing is increasingly efficient. We start at 8:30 every Wednesday morning, and have it all packed up and ready to go to the courier by 10:00.

The Big Read

Our virtual visit from Christina Soontornvat is November 17 at 9:15 A.M. She will do a short presentation, and then a panel of 8th graders will serve as the moderators as students ask questions. We are very excited that Alex Hinrichs was able to arrange a visit with a Newbery-Award winning author!



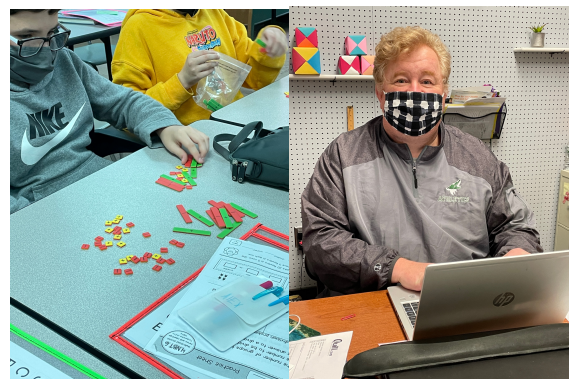
Math Specialist Update

Our math specialist, Danny Schlaefer, is busy supporting math teaching and learning at LMS. In addition to teaching 2 G/T math classes, his activities so far have included the following:

- > Analyze NWEA data
- > Get Moby Max up and running
- > Inventory, order, organize, and distribute math books and materials
- > Visit math classrooms to support students and teachers
- > Find, evaluate, and share digital resources
- > Plan math PD to follow up from summer week-long PD
- > Create lists for and support long- and short-term math intervention

And coming soon...

- > Math PD, driven by teacher needs
- > After-school mathematics lab, with help available through teacher referral, parent referral, or student self-referral
- > Mathematics team at each grade level
- > Re-examine math reporting standards



Literacy Consultants Update

We had our first meeting with our literacy consultants, Dr. Susan Bennett-Armistead and Dr. Dee Nichols, on November 2.

On Tuesday, November 16, they will visit ELA classrooms to get an idea of literacy our teaching and learning at LMS. After school, the group will meet to create our common vision of a literacy ideal.

Expectations and Routines

After a year and a half of remote and hybrid learning, we are finding that students need more support in learning the routines and expectations of school.

We started the year creating common team expectations, building safe and caring classrooms, and understanding the social contract. We have now started to build our common school expectations and routines. We started with our common areas—hallways and bathrooms. Teachers taught a common lesson in their homerooms on the expectations, and they are now practicing and re-teaching those routines.

One of our routines is reading at the end of the day. Students read quietly, in pairs, and in small groups with an adult. In one 8th grade classroom, a different student each day reads a picture book to the class before they settle into individual reading.



These routines have made our hallways and bathrooms much more calm and less busy.

Our next task will be to determine common classroom guidelines, so that students will know the basics of what to expect in every classroom. We will certainly allow room within the common expectations for students and teachers to build their own routines.

Veterans Day

Our 7th grade spent some time learning about Veterans Day and honoring veterans. They usually talk with veterans through the Cole Land Transportation Museum program, but that was not an option this year due to COVID.



Winter Sports

Tryouts for basketball were last week and teams were chosen. We did have to cut some students. Cheer tryouts are this week.

In the future, we would like to explore effective ways to give every student the opportunity to learn and participate in a variety of sports.