

Dear LHS Students and Parents:

On behalf of our entire staff, welcome back, Berries! I hope you and your family are enjoying the summer break. Now, it is time to get ready for the challenges and rewards of another school year, our 149th and my 9th as principal. This is sure to be another wonderful year at LHS, and I look forward to sharing it with you. I am honored to serve as your principal. It is truly a privilege to be part of a school community where parents, staff, and students care for each other and strive to build positive relationships that foster academic and social growth.



In collaboration with the Century Career Center on the new Graduation Pathways, LHS students have every opportunity to individualize their graduation plans to align with postsecondary goals. In fact, over 90% of our students take courses at the Career Center- the highest in the state. Combined with our dual credits and comprehensive program of studies, pathways give our students a major advantage compared to their peers when it comes to preparation for college and career readiness.

Speaking of college and career readiness, Wednesday is now known as IMPACT Day (formerly Felix) where students will meet for thirty minutes between 2nd and 3rd period with a homeroom teacher. The point of emphasis will be on Naviance, a web-based planning and advising system that helps students and parents navigate through high school and explore post high school options.

Research shows that good student attendance is critical to student success. I encourage you to sit down with your student and go over the attendance policy on page 11 of the online newsletter, as well as other handbook information. One change to note is that we have moved to no backpacks/personal bags in classrooms. Backpacks/personal bags may be carried to and from school, but need kept in school assigned lockers during the day. The rationale is for school safety, the size of the backpacks/bags (so heavy on those backs!) and the room they take up in the aisles, around classrooms, and the need for safe egress in case of an emergency. Students will continue to be able to take a gym bag to PE/weights for a change of clothes. In addition, please see the included letter from Superintendent Mrs. Starkey regarding the new Raptor Visitor Management System.

We thank you for the support with this year's schedule change with school beginning at 8:35 AM and concluding at 3:25 PM. Students may be dropped off beginning at 8:10 AM. Just like employees of other careers, teachers' professional growth is important for future success. We believe this dedicated morning staff learning time will directly impact student achievement by improving teaching and learning. Plus, a little later start time can be beneficial to teenagers who are frequently sleep deprived.

Please make sure to check-out our online newsletter for all the beginning of the year information and so much more at lhs.lcsc.k12.in.us. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us. Enjoy the last few days of break, and I look forward to seeing our students on Wednesday, August 7 and then everybody at Open House on August 14 at 6:30 PM.

Go Berries!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matt Jones', written over a white background.



ONE TEAM. ONE MISSION. STUDENT SUCCESS!