



Timothy Green, Principal

Lori Ferguson, Assistant Principal

Patricia Barthwell, Dean of Students

Lincoln Consolidated Schools 8744 Whittaker Road Ypsilanti, MI 48197 (734)484-7033 Fax (734)484-7088

LMS Parent Newsletter

October 2022

October brings the most beautiful autumn colors. It is that time of the year when we enjoy the cool weather, gather at fall events to celebrate and it is full of fun and excitement in the community. In terms of academics, we are in full swing after we took the first two weeks of the school to focus primarily on relationship building throughout our community. We also completed the Measure of Academic Progress Test- NWEA to assess where our students are academically to inform our daily instruction and focus. I encourage you to communicate with your student's teachers on a regular basis to ensure they are making the academic progress and connections essential to their growth, which includes their social emotional well-being.

Also, we will complete the first semester on October 28th. We will celebrate our first **"Student of the Month"** in person on **October 19th at 9:30am**. We are so excited to have parents back in the building to attend this honor celebration with their students. I look forward to seeing all the recipients and their parents for this celebration. Please note we are only allowing 2 family members per student. Thank you for your cooperation in advance. We will also celebrate the harvest season with our **"Trunk or Treat"** event on **Wednesday, October 26th at 9:30am**. The PS3 group has been advertising this event for some time and more specifics are forthcoming. We ask that every parent donate a bag of candy for this event.

In addition, **Parent Teacher Conferences are October 27th** in the evening (**4pm to 7pm**). It is imperative that parents come and be a part to discuss your student's progress thus far with their teachers. This is the time to ask questions and build a strong alliance with your student's teacher (s). Please remember that you are able to spend 15 minutes with your student's teacher. If you require more time that will need to be arranged with that individual teacher.

Likewise, vaping is a major problem in all schools today. At the middle school, we are seeing and learning that students are using vaping and accessories at a higher rate. Although we do not know the percentage of students that are vaping, we do know we must ensure our students are aware of this potential epidemic. Recently, I have spoken to parents and students both at Lincoln and other places and they advised that students are vaping as early as the second grade. Moreover, many students are also using marijuana through smoking mechanisms, as well as edibles. We are working on several things to educate and eliminate the use of vaping in our building/district. We will again have assemblies that talk about the dangers of vaping, how it is being marketed to our students and the short and long effects it can have on students' health. These assemblies will be **Friday, October 14th**. Again, our purpose is to inform and give students real information around vaping. Vaping is prohibited at LMS and against the Student Code of Conduct. Please make sure you are speaking with your student about this most important social/ health topic.

Moreover, in the interest of serving the social emotional learning (SEL) needs of our students, we have implemented restorative practices to help them resolve conflicts. These practices also include processes to aid students in taking ownership of their behavior and engage in acts of empathy and forgiveness. Many of the staff have been or are being trained to utilize restorative practices in their classrooms, to assist in managing the personal growth and development of our students. We are excited about this new discipline method in our building.

Lastly, I want to thank everyone for their support and hard work in making September a successful and exciting month for our students. We are grateful for all the support from the following parents that volunteered as chaperones for the Middle School Ice Breaker last month. We had well over 300 students that attended this event. Please join me in recognizing them. The names are as follows:

Decorations:

Led by PS3 Member at Large, **Cassandra Paylor** and assisted by:

Melissa Johnson

Merrika Brown

Julia Koumbassa

Chalise Meckl

Dance Chaperones:

Jason Moore

Amanda Allen

Melissa Johnson

Connie McGuire

Nita Sims

Lyla Rickman

Tina Price

Merrika Brown

Pam Lewis

Chalise Meckl

Cassandra Paylor

Kim Dunn

Heather Silander

Please do not forget that **Wednesday, October 5th** is **Count Day**. It is important that your student is in school so that they will be counted. Our school fundraiser started **September 21 and ends October 5**. All proceeds from our school fundraiser helps supports our school programs. LMS will have its first Fall Harvest Festival Thursday, **October 13th from 3:00pm to 4:30pm**. The cost to attend is **\$3**. More information is forthcoming.

Principal Green