

From the Desk of the Principal:

Dear Families,

We now have the budget numbers for next school year for LHCS upper and lower. We are working on staffing projections based on these numbers. The following is a rundown of where we will be placing teachers and grade configurations for 2011-12.

- **Kindergarten** will remain with two half-day morning, two half-day afternoon sessions and one full day. The Kindergarten teachers will remain in their assignments and the same classrooms.
- **First Grade** will have five classrooms and no split first/second class. The current first grade teachers will remain in their assignments and in the same classrooms.
- **Second Grade** will have five classrooms and no split class. The current second grade teachers will remain in their assignments and in the same classrooms. Ms. Colonga will teach second grade.
- **Third Grade** will increase to five classrooms. The current teachers will remain the same and in the same classrooms. Mr. Marchetti will join the third grade team. He will remain in room 104.
- **Fourth Grade** will continue with three full classes with the same teachers and in the same rooms. Ms. Nachman will teach a split class of fourth and fifth grade students in room 114. Parents of students currently in the split three/four will have the right to select if they want their child to remain with Ms. Nachman or to have a new classroom experience. That form will be sent home with Ms. Nachman's students after spring break.
- **Fifth Grade** will have three full classrooms and half of Ms. Nachman's split class. Ms. Pier, Mr. Badenhoff and Ms. LeVahn will remain as fifth grade teachers in their current classrooms.
- **Middle Grades** will remain as is for staffing and in the same classrooms. We will be adding an additional math teacher. This teacher will teach the sixth grade Academic Extensions as a reinforcement in math skills and organizational skills. The teacher will also teach one section of mixed seventh and eighth grade students who will be identified for math support in addition to their grade level math class.

This is the time of year for parents to complete the "Student Placement Information Form" if they choose to do so. The form is available electronically through the LHCS web site and also in paper form in the upper and lower campus offices. Submit the form electronically, or send/bring the paper copy to the office. These forms must be submitted by Friday, April 8th. In an effort to keep the process fair, forms will not be honored if they come in beyond the deadline. We need time to process the information before teachers arrange class lists for the 2011-12 school year. Completing and submitting the form is a parent choice and not a required step for placement of your child for next year.

Sincerely,
Mary Rynchek

UPPER CAMPUS LOST AND FOUND

We are again looking at a small mountain of clothing and lunch boxes. The lunch boxes are beginning to give off offensive odors. It is time to take home your children's lost articles. We will again be donating unclaimed items that are still here after March 18th.

Health Forms for Next Year's Seventh Graders

Dear Parents of 6th graders,

Please check your US mail for your 6th grader's health forms necessary for entrance into 7th grade. Physical exam and immunization forms need to be completed by your child's physician and returned to the health office before school resumes in the fall. If you have any questions, please call the health office @ 668-3315.

Thank-you,
Kathy Frey, RN, Licensed School Nurse
Janet Kautz, LPN

Vision Screening

Dear Kindergarten, First, Third, Fifth and Sixth Grade Parents/Guardians,

Your child will have their vision screened at school in the upcoming weeks. While this screening is designed to identify issues with your child's vision, it is not considered a full eye exam. Parents/Guardians will be notified if a child does not pass the screening test – at that time, your child should be seen by an eye care professional to further evaluate their vision.

The Early Youth Eyecare (EYE) Community Initiative, an outreach program of the Phillips Eye Institute Foundation, provides the screening and coordinates follow-up to ensure students receive timely access to eye care. The follow-up includes providing interpreter service, transportation, and financial assistance with eye exams and glasses, as necessary. The EYE Community Initiative is designed to help remove vision issues as a barrier to learning.

If you have any questions, or would not like your child to participate, please contact Kathy Frey, RN, Licensed School Nurse or Janet Kautz, LPN at 668-3315 (Upper) or 668-3222 (Lower).

Science Fair – Tonight!

Don't miss the Science Fair tonight, from 6-8 p.m. at the Upper Campus. Everyone is welcome to attend this fun, educational event, whether or not you display a project. For more information, visit http://lakeharriet.mpls.k12.mn.us/science_fair_3.html

Tickets on Sale Now for Parties Galore Fundraiser

The PTA Parties Galore fundraising event is finally here!! Parties Galore is a collection of many grade-level and all-school parties hosted by Lake Harriet parents and community members. Tickets are now on sale to attend any number of fabulous parties from a Twins game to a fabulous Casino Night to a Pig Out B-B-Q. Go to the Lake Harriet Community School website and follow the fundraising link to Parties Galore to purchase tickets or simply click: http://lakeharriet.mpls.k12.mn.us/Parties_Galore.html



Buy NOW before they are GONE!!

History Day Winners Advancing to Regionals at South High on April 2nd

From: Debra Krawetz, Social Studies Teacher

We congratulate the following LHUC students moving to the MPS Regional National History Day event on April 2nd at South High. In addition, we have students who entered the Website and Historical Paper History Day categories whose projects go directly to state for "preliminary" judging. We will know if these entries qualify for State History Day on April 1st.

Mr. Warren Kaari, MPS History Day Mentor, will be at school on March 15 and 16 to give students feedback on their projects so they can improve them for Regionals. Good luck to all of our winners. The winners at Regionals event will advance to MN State History Day at the U of M on Sun. May 2nd. If you have questions, please email Debra Krawetz (debra.krawetz@mpls.k12.mn.us)

Dramatic Performances Category Individual Performance

1. Luc L., Wilberforce and Huxley: Changes in Science
2. Claire M., Israel: A Land for the Jews

Exhibit Boards Category Individual Exhibits

1. Emma F., Business v. the Environment: Reserve Mining Debate
2. Adele G., How the 1970 Mpls. Teacher Strike Influenced PELRA
3. Cleo K., Vietnam War Debate: Nixon's Diplomacy Strategy
4. Finn L.: The 1970 Mpls. Teachers Strike: Successful Diplomatic Negotiations
5. Margaret Anne P., The Dred Scott Decision & Its Impact on the American Civil War
6. Anna W., Rainy Lake Watershed: A Debate to Preserve Pristine Wilderness
7. Anna P.,: Japanese American Internment
8. Christopher P., How Silent Spring Initiated a Public Debate Over DDT: Rachel Carson's Legacy
9. Paige A., The 1980 Olympic Boycott
10. Emerson C.: The Debate & Diplomacy of the Magna Carta

Group Exhibits:

1. Ellen B. and Nina B., The Matanuska Valley Colony Project of 1935: American Pioneering or a Dangerous Experiment in Socialism?
2. Nat C. and Dugan: The Bay of Pigs Invasion: A Failures on Many Fronts
3. Mina K., Mira M. and Chloe R., "Dr Death": Debate Over Euthanasia
4. Michael S. and Sarah Kate S., Debate Steps off the Bus: The Montgomery Bus Boycott

Video Documentary Category A. Individual Documentaries

1. Joey K., BWCA Act of 1978: The Fight for a National Wilderness
2. Sarah S., Anti-Semitism in Mpls. in the 1940s: Humphrey's Successful Diplomacy
3. Colleen S., Iran Hostage Crisis: The Failed Diplomacy between the U.S. and Iran
4. Max J., Northern Ireland: The IRA and Failed Diplomacy

B. Group Documentaries

1. Carl J. and Ben M., U.S. Senate and The League for Nations: War & Peace Debate
2. Piper S.A. and Becca T., Rosie the Riveter: Women Working After WWII
3. Hannah F. and Madeline S., Operation Save a Duck: Two Oil Spills that Changed MN Future

Lake Harriet Fitness Fun Run/Walk

The 3rd, 4th & 5th grade students will participate in the annual Fitness Fun Run/Walk at Lake Harriet on Friday April 1st at 10:00. This fun run/walk is a culmination of the General Mills Active Lifestyle Program the students have been involved with over the last six weeks. The assembly will take place in the gym at 10:00 with speakers discussing the importance of staying active.

At 10:15 the 3,4 & 5 grade classes will make there way to Lake Harriet for a fun run/walk around the lake. Parents are welcome to join the students and teachers on the fun run/walk around Lake Harriet. Look forward to seeing you on April 1st.

March is Brain Injury Awareness Month

The health office would like to remind parents and students of the importance of wearing protective headwear. Snowboarding, skiing, hockey and other winter sports should be enjoyed with a helmet. Bike and scooter riding and skateboarding are just around the corner.

For more information on concussion facts, [read this](#). An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.
Kathy Frey, RN, Licensed School Nurse

Lake Harriet Jazz Ensemble Spring Concert

The Lake Harriet Jazz Ensemble, fresh from their performance at the Minnesota Timberwolves and Los Angeles Lakers basketball game, will present their annual Spring Concert on Thursday, March 17, 2011. The Jazz Ensemble will perform a variety of works including standards and contemporary pieces. We invite all families, friends, and members of the community to join us at this performance on Thursday, March 17, 2011, 3:15 p.m., in the school gym.

Peer Mediation at the Upper Campus

Peer Mediation is available at Lake Harriet Upper. Conflict is both natural and inevitable when people interact. It is neither good nor bad, but the response can either be destructive or productive. Communication is the most effective way to resolve differences between individuals. One of the most frequently used skills-based approaches to conflict resolution is peer mediation.

Peer mediation relies on neutral third parties to help students engaged in a conflict to use communication, negotiation, and problem-solving skills to reach a mutually beneficial agreement. Mediators don't render a judgment, force a solution, or otherwise influence a decision. Peer mediation is designed to teach students to find alternative ways to resolve conflicts and to encourage constructive problem solving. Positive effects have been found in elementary, middle, and high schools with children of all ability levels and diverse backgrounds.

At Lake Harriet Upper we have a group of 16 Middle Grades students (6th-8th grade) who were selected by their teachers and peers because they show good judgment, engender trust and respect, display leadership skills, and communicate well with others. The mediators received specific training in conflict resolution and mediation and learned the importance of remaining unbiased and keeping information confidential.

Students in grades 5-8 can use the Peer Mediation program. A teacher, student, or mediator can request mediation by filling out a request form on the Lake Harriet webpage (http://lakeharriet.mpls.k12.mn.us/Peer_Mediation_Request_Form.html) or in the main office, or by contacting Julie Hirsch (School Psychologist). All mediations are voluntary and each disputant must agree to follow basic ground rules. The mediations occur during the school day with an effort to minimize loss of academic time. Please encourage your student to use the Lake Harriet Peer Mediation program!

If you have questions or comments about Peer Mediation, please contact Julie Hirsch, School Psychologist at 668-3318.

Peer Mediators: Aidan B., Alison C., Spencer K., Maya K., Kaitlyn V., Nina B., Nat C., James G., Sadie H., Anna I., Carl J., Madeline K., Emma P., Karl S., Ella W., Peter M.

Southwest Golf Team

Southwest High School Golf: Boys and Girls (7th-12th Grade) Varsity, JV and Beginning Clinics. Any and all are welcome. Driving range, par 3 and full 18 courses available. Opportunities to compete or just learn to play.

We have golf clubs available for those who need them. Give it a try! Questions, contact Bo Dolphin [612.229.0992](tel:612.229.0992) or Annie Child [612.819.8785](tel:612.819.8785)

Lake Harriet Heroes

Congratulations to the February Lake Harriet Heroes at Upper Campus! These students were chosen because they are respectful, responsible, safe, and ready to learn everyday they come to school.
3rd-5th Grade: Sophia K, Ruhi P., Caroline B., Pablo G., Tommy L., Jack W., Mike W., Sebastian S., Emma

P., Isla E., Connor B., Beck W., Jackson S., Verania G.

6th-8th Grade: Lauren A., Jon V., Sarah Kate S., Karla F., Ben K., Griffin B., Nisi C., Charlie H., Mina K.

Spirit Wear on Sale Tuesday, March 15

Kindle your spirit with cozy LHCS sweat pants this March. Find the spirit wear table at the science fair. Checks or cash!

School Advocate

Are you looking for an opportunity to get more involved in district-wide issues? Are you interested in the district level decisions that impact LHCS? Would you like to be an advocate for LHCS within the district and larger community? If so, being a member of the District Parent Advisory Committee (DPAC) could be the right place for you! The LHCS Site Council is currently looking for an interested parent to serve in this vital role.

Please contact Fiona Lefebvre, Site Council Co-Chair, fiona.lefebvre@hotmail.com by March 31, to learn more and find out how to get involved.

Save the Date for the Easiest, Tastiest Fundraiser Ever!

Mark March 27th on your calendars and join the LHCS PTA for a pancake and waffle breakfast fundraiser provided by the Lake Harriet Masonic Lodge. The Masonic Lodge has generously offered to partner with the PTA by providing a full breakfast of pancakes, waffles, scrambled eggs, sausage, juice, milk, coffee and tea. All this is only \$7.00 for an adult donation and \$4.00 for children 6 to 12 (kids under age 5 are free)! Of these amounts, the Lake Harriet Masonic Lodge will give \$3.00 of the adult donation and \$2.00 of the children's donation to the Lake Harriet PTA, and will request a dollar-for-dollar match of those funds from the Minnesota Masonic Foundation.

This is a wonderful opportunity to meet community members, mingle with other LHCS families, and have a delicious breakfast, all while raising funds for the PTA! Breakfast will be served from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm on March 27th. Watch this space for additional details in the near future!

Join the LHCS Green Team

Join the LHCS Green Team and support organics recycling in the LHCS lower campus cafeteria. Volunteers help the kids separate organics (food scraps, paper, and cardboard) from the rest of their lunch trash. The time commitment is two lunch periods per month (11:25 – 1:40). If you can help, please contact Keren Price (kprice@pro-ns.net). This is a fun and easy program that has a real impact -- on our kids and on our planet!

2010 - 11 Connection Contacts:

Anna Mraz: anna1028@gmail.com

Gwen Spurgat: gwen.spurgat@objectpartners.com

Published every Tuesday. Deadline for submission is 4pm the preceding Thursday.

Submissions: email to anna1028@gmail.com or use the online submission form at <http://lakeharriet.mpls.k12.mn.us/connection1.html>. Please try to limit each submission to approximately 150 words in length.