



Lake Harriet Community School News

A Weekly Publication of the Lake Harriet Community School PTA

LHCS News

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September 23rd, 2014

SIXTH ISSUE FOR '14-'15

Professional Development at Lake Harriet Community School

Lake Harriet Community School Upper and Lower campus teachers are spending this year learning how to develop levels 1, 2, 3 and 4 of service for our advanced learner students as well as how to differentiate their instruction to better meet the needs of all learners. We are doing this in partnership with the MPS Talent Development Department. Most of the staff will spend this year working in teams and will have the opportunity to receive the MPS Advanced Learner Certificate. Lake Harriet Community School's primary emphasis in professional development this year is to increase our capacity to differentiate instruction so that all students will make a year's growth this school year.

This is what the professional development looks like for teachers:

Minneapolis Public Schools offers a professional development program to train and support educators interested in talent development, advanced learners and differentiated curriculum & instruction. This certificate is recognized within the Minneapolis Public Schools.

To earn the MPS Talent Development Certificate, participants must complete:

- Two required courses (12 hours total - completed in August):
 - Introduction to Talent Development in MPS
 - Foundations in Advanced Learner Education
- Additional 18 hours of elective courses
- A classroom visit and coaching session
- Portfolio presenting evidence of competencies

Participants will work with other teachers to synthesize theory into practice. All courses align with and support the SOEI (Standards of Effective Instruction – the teacher evaluation tool).

Participants will:

- Recognize the unique cognitive and affective needs of advanced learners
- Assess and nurture all students' interests and strengths
- Use data to plan appropriately challenging learning experiences

- Utilize depth and complexity to differentiate content
- Effectively use instructional methods that foster critical and creative thinking
- Manage a differentiated classroom that encourages small group instruction, student collaboration and independence.

The vision of the MPS Talent Development and Advanced Learner Education Certificate is as follows: All students recognize and develop their talents as a result of enrichment and appropriately challenging learning opportunities.

2014 MCGT Conference

You may now register for the 2014 MCGT conference. Below are important links to information about the conference and to the registration form. For your convenience you may register online or you may download, print and mail a registration form to our office.

Online Registration (<http://mcgt.net/onlineregistration>)

Printable Registration Form (<http://mcgt.net/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/Conf-Reg-Form-2014.pdf>)

Child Program Descriptions (<http://mcgt.net/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/Conf-Reg-Form-2014.pdf>)

Conference Flyer (<https://docs.google.com/viewer?url=http%3A%2F%2Fmcgt.net%2Fwp-content%2Fuploads%2F2014%2F04%2F2014-Conf-Flyer.5.14.pdf>)

Conference Schedule:

8:30 - 9:00 Check-in and pick up program

9:00 - 12:00 Children's morning session

9:00 - 10:30 Welcome, MCGT Friend of the Gifted Award, Keynote Address

10:45 - 11:45 Adult Breakout Session I

11:45 - 1:00 Lunch for adults and students

1:00 - 4:00 Children's afternoon session

1:00 - 1:20 MCGT Annual Meeting

1:30 - 2:30 Adult Breakout Session II

2:45 - 3:45 Adult Breakout Session IV

4:10 - 4:30 Book Swap session for students

All day Vendors & information

Keynote Speaker

Lori Comallie-Caplan is a New Mexico Licensed Master Social Worker, a Licensed Educational Diagnostician with a Master's Degree in Psychological Counseling. Additionally she holds Advanced Certification for Mediation from the University of New Mexico School of Law.

Mrs. Comallie-Caplan has 30 plus years of experience in the field of counseling, coaching evaluation, mediation and educational consultation. She is best known for her work with gifted individuals through the lifespan and frequently provides professional development for school districts and mental health professionals in the social emotional needs of the gifted. Other areas of expertise include behavioral consultation for Autism Spectrum Disorders and the supporting of positive parenting through behavioral analysis and intervention. She is a member of the National Association of Social Workers, National Association of Gifted Children, and SENG (Supporting Emotional Needs of the Gifted). She served on the Executive Board of SENG as Secretary, President-Elect and President .

Mrs. Comallie-Caplan's additional certifications include: Discovering Your Sacred Gifts Facilitator and Guide, Frasier Talent Assessment Profile Evaluator, SENG Model Parent Group Master Facilitator, and SENG Model Parent Group.

Washburn 8th Grade Tours

Attention 8th Grade Families:

It is time to start thinking about high school! Washburn High School has planned tours for 8th graders and their families. Stay tuned for Southwest and other MPS high school information.

Washburn Tours:

Thursday 12/11 9 - 10am

Tuesday 12/16 9 - 10am

Friday 1/9 9 - 10am

Tuesday 1/20 9 - 10am

Friday 1/30 9 - 10am

Thursday 2/5 9 - 10am

Monday 2/9 9 - 10am

Thursday 2/19 9 - 10am & 5 - 6 PM

Tuesday 2/24 - 9 - 10am & 5 - 6 PM

Reservations are required. Families may either call or email Rebecca Felland-Syring, the Washburn Parent Liaison (refel001@mpls.k12.mn.us, or 612-668-3440), with the following information:

8th grade student's name, school the student is attending now, parent(s) email address(es), parent phone number(s), how many people will be attending, and the date (from one of the above) the family would like to attend.

Space is limited and reservations are required, so please contact her as soon as possible.

School Board Election

On November 4, 2014, Minneapolis residents will elect five new school board members, including two citywide representatives. LHCS-Attendance-Area parents can vote for only the two citywide representatives. There are four citywide candidates.

Board members shape this city's public school system, and are a major part of deciding if we have equitably funded schools that focus on educating the whole child.

There are two scheduled School Board Forums to ensure that our voices will be heard in this year's school board race. Please join us learning more about the issues and candidates in this year's Minneapolis school board race!

- 1) Thu Oct 2 6-8pm. Mpls Urban League organized by the Coalition for Critical Change,
- 2) Mon Oct 13 630-830pm. Bryant Lake Bowl organized by Theatre for Public Policy

Girl Scout Troop being formed for Kindergarteners

Attention parents of Kindergarten girls! Are you interested in learning about Girl Scouts for your child? We are hosting an informal meeting to connect families who are interested in forming a Daisy Girl Scout Troop at Lake Harriet.

Come join us on Monday, Sept. 29, 6:30 P.M. at the Linden Hills Community Center (Craft Room). Learn about Girl Scout Daisy activities and programming. Girls are welcome to attend. Contact Jennifer Bertram at jenniferannbertram@gmail.com or Anna Davis at amsdavis@earthlink.net if you'd like to attend or want more information.

Principal Swap day planned for October 6th

On Monday, October 6th, Principal Schleisman (Principal of the Upper campus) will try his hand at being the Principal at the Lower campus. He will have fun greeting all of the K-3rd grade students and visiting classrooms. At the same time, Principal Tilleson (Principal of the Lower campus) will try her hand at being the Principal at the Upper campus, greeting students and visiting classrooms. Remember, she was there as the Assistant Principal for four years. Sounds confusing? It's not. It is meant to be a fun way to bring both campuses together in a positive climate activity. We want our students to get to know and see both Principals at both campuses. Remember we are one school in two buildings.

LHCS Student Placed at National History Day!

Congratulations to eighth grader Jocie C. who placed seventh at National History Day at the University of Maryland this past June for her individual performance titled, The Right to Live: Ann Bilansky's Influence on Minnesota's Death Penalty Laws. Here is a link to Jocie's amazing performance: www.youtube.com/watch?v=wGVrhs2x3xY.

Researching a topic and creating a History Day project is a required project for all MPS seventh grade students. The 2015 theme is: "Leadership and Legacy in History."

Contact Ms. Krawetz or Mr. Wood for more information about National History Day.

Cross Country Running

The South West Cross Country Team needs you!

If you would like to do a fall sport outside with a lot of great kids, join our team. The season has started, but it is not too late. We have practices for middle school kids in the morning or after school. We are trying to build a stronger program and we would like to increase middle school participation. The sport is not offered in MPS Middle Schools, but you can be on the high school team. We have several middle school kids, you could be one of them.

Contact Martin Richmond SWCC Booster Club
<mailto:mrichmo3@comcast.net>
612-926-5226

Walking Bus Opportunity

Are you interested in helping to create a "walking bus" - a group of students walking to Upper Campus daily. This promotes the community aspect of our community school. If interested, contact Ann Smith annsamsmith@outlook.com.

MATHCounts NEED YOUR HELP! (note the updated language)

MATHCounts will be starting in early October but before we can get started we need your help!

MATHCounts will be starting in early October but before we can get started we need your help! MATHCounts, a fun math club for middle-schoolers, will again meet Wednesday mornings from 8:25 AM to 9:25 AM from early October through mid-March. Sam White will be coaching and Joanne Kaufman will be doing the administrative work. Please consider shadowing them this year. This is the last year at Lake Harriet for both Sam and Joanne so parents of 6th and 7th graders should consider shadowing both so the program can continue. We also need parent volunteers to help with coaching each week. The more parents we get the less often you have to do it but we do need more than one parent there each week. Registration information will be coming in the next couple of weeks, once we know we have enough coaches for the upcoming year. For more information on how you can help please contact Joanne Kaufman at jmktjm@hotmail.com or Sam White at icrewps@yahoo.com. Thank you for your consideration!

Curriculum Nights

The curriculum night at the Lower campus will follow this posted schedule:

6:00-6:30 p.m. Kindergarten; Individual classrooms

6:30-7:00 p.m. 1st grade; group presentation in the media room

7:00-7:30 p.m. 2nd grade; individual classrooms

7:30-8:00 p.m. 3rd grade; group presentation in the lunchroom

6:00-8:00p.m. Specialists, School Social Worker and Principal will be available the entire time in the gym, parents can come before or after their classroom time and talk to any of us.

Note: There will not be a formal gathering so please come to your child's classrooms at the posted times and learn about the curriculum for the 2-14-15 school year. This is an adult evening to come and hear about what your child is learning this year. There is no child care available.

Sincerely,

Merry Tilleson

MPS Goes Mobile: Now you can receive MPS text alerts on your cell. Just Text "YES" to 68453.

Community News:

LHCS SITE COUNCIL UPDATE

This posting is the first in a new monthly series created for The Connection by the LHCS Site Council. In an effort to increase communication between the Site Council and LHCS community, a brief overview of the monthly meetings will be posted here. Meeting minutes will continue to be posted on the Site Council web page, but in an effort to communicate more efficiently, this posting will give a snapshot of current issues and important updates.

This is a good posting to read if you are interested in the bigger picture at LHCS including MPS district news, school budget issues, academic achievement, community outreach, equity, and advocacy opportunities.

What is Site Council?

The Lake Harriet Community School (LHCS) Site Council is the school's site leadership team. Site Council members include LHCS parents, teachers from each campus, and the upper and lower campus principals. Site Council parent members are elected and the administrators appoint teacher members. As the advisory and planning body for LHCS, it is a forum for staff and parents to provide feedback about decisions that the administration needs to make, and to support student achievement.

For more information about Site Council, including access to meeting minutes, click here http://lakeharriet.mpls.k12.mn.us/Site_Council

How do I become a Site Council member?

Each May, parents have the opportunity to apply for Site Council. A call for applicants is posted on the school website and in The Connection. All applications are reviewed by the Site Council nominating committee made up of current members. Nominations are brought to the larger group and voted upon. Site Council is a 2-year commitment.

Are there other ways to be involved with Site Council?

Yes! Within Site Council there are five subcommittees that focus on specific issues and tasks. Click here [[link to Subcommittee Descriptions on SC page](#)] to link to a list of the subcommittees with descriptions and contact information.

Site Council Subcommittees

ACADEMICS

The Academics subcommittee goal is to support teachers and administration in providing the highest level of rigor to all LHCS students.

THIS SUBCOMMITTEE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR

- Identifying ways to enhance enrichment opportunities for students during the school day
- Improving communications about professional development for teachers on advanced learner pedagogy
- Updating the Academics section of the website, improving parent understanding of and access to academic services for all learners
- Supporting extracurricular academic offerings (such as Destination Imagination, Math Counts, GISE/GEMS)
- Advocating on behalf of LHCS learners for funding and resources at the district and state levels
- Connecting with the Minnesota Council for the Gifted and Talented Minneapolis Chapter

HOW YOU CAN HELP

- Volunteer as an extracurricular coach for things like Destination Imagination, GISE/GEMS, etc.

- Advocate for LHCS – Attend Area C and School Board meetings and voice your priorities to the school district / write to school board members when topics relating to academics are under consideration
- Share your ideas

Contact Kristin Benson kribenson@edina.k12.mn.us or Lora Joshi lorajoshi@gmail.com for more information about how you can help with the Academics subcommittee.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Communications subcommittee goal is to facilitate and improve communications between LHCS administration and the parent community.

THIS SUBCOMMITTEE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR

- Site Council meeting minutes and their distribution
- The “Site Council Monthly Update” in The Connection
- Facebook Advocacy page administration
- Facilitating special projects to improve communication
- Representing LHCS learners and families at MPS Area C meetings and reporting back to the community

HOW YOU CAN HELP

ALL parents can help facilitate communication at LHCS and many already do.

- Join LHCS PTA
- Read The Connection each week
- Follow proper channels when you have issues or concerns by speaking to your student’s teacher or campus administrator
- Join LHCS Groups on Facebook. LHCS has a School News page that is information only (no comments) <https://www.facebook.com/LakeHarrietCommunitySchoolNews?fref=ts> and an Advocacy Group page open to current Lake Harriet parents and teachers where the community can engage in discourse about school-related issues and events <https://www.facebook.com/groups/220576901299761/?fref=ts>
- Attend MPS district meetings including Area C Meetings http://osfce.mpls.k12.mn.us/area_c_pac.html and MPS School Board meetings <http://board.mpls.k12.mn.us/> Report back to the parent community via the Facebook Advocacy Group page or by emailing subcommittee representatives

Contact Rhonda Bonnabeau rbonnabeau@comcast.net or Lisa Elliott lisa@elliottlaw.net for more information about how you can help with the Communications subcommittee.

EQUITY

The vision of the Equity subcommittee is to support all students, families and staff in understanding the whole child and addressing the needs of all students to develop a positive school climate and students who understand they are global citizens. The whole child includes all aspects of a person, including; learning, race, social-emotional, economic, disability, family, religion.

THIS SUBCOMMITTEE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR

- Facilitating communication around equity in the LHCS community
- Annual equity survey to measure community interest
- Annual projects that support equity goals that reflect LHCS community interest

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Parents are invited to attend Equity monthly meetings on the first Wednesday of each month from 4:15-5:30 pm at the Upper Campus media center

Contact Lisa Bigaouette lisa.bigauouette@gmail.com or Tiffany Moore tiffamoore@yahoo.com for more information about how you can help the Equity & Diversity subcommittee.

STEM

The goal of the STEM subcommittee is to identify and promote learning initiatives that support the LHCS STEM-focused mission.

THIS SUBCOMMITTEE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR

- The STEM information page on LHCS website
- Identifying academic opportunities and activities that could be pursued to support LHCS STEM-focused mission
- Ensuring that STEM opportunities are consistent in quantity and quality across LHCS campuses
- Working with Media centers at both campuses to ensure STEM materials are adequate and available

HOW YOU CAN HELP

- Join the STEM subcommittee as an ad hoc member and help update the STEM web page
- Join the STEM subcommittee as an ad hoc member and help put together findings from past STEM subcommittee meetings and prepare a report for Site Council
- Volunteer to help coordinate STEAM Day at the Upper Campus

Contact Mike Hess mhess@wealthenhancement.com or Erin Wenz wwwenz@yahoo.com for more information about how you can help with the STEM subcommittee.

PTA LIASON

The role of the PTA Liaison is to facilitate communication between LHCS Site Council and PTA.

THIS SUBCOMMITTEE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR

- Attending both Site Council and PTA meetings on a monthly basis
- Providing updates from and to each of these groups

HOW YOU CAN HELP

- Join the PTA Liaison subcommittee as an ad hoc member and assist in meeting attendance and updates

Contact Erika Lamboglia evanvick@hotmail.com for more information about how you can help with the PTA Liaison subcommittee.

Community Education

LHCS has a variety of community education classes available for the kids at LHCS Lower campus. Use the attached document to sign up for your kids favorites. (Matt- this was your submission; insert the additional linked material here)

2014-2015 LHCS News Contacts:

Ann Smith: annsamsmith@earthlink.net

Mark Fullerton: marksatva@gmail.com

Gwen Spurgat: gwen.spurgat@objectpartners.com

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

Submissions: email to Mark Fullerton: marksatva@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.