

Leesville Road High School Bimonthly Bulletin

September 30, 2016

SMART Lunch Update

As you have heard by now, we have cancelled SMART Lunch until further notice. I regret that I have not kept parents more informed about the potential of having to cancel or postpone SMART Lunch, and I apologize for any inconvenience or stress the quick decision has placed on your student and your family.

Over the past two days, I have had many opportunities to engage in informative conversations with students and parents about SMART Lunch and the decision to cancel it. While I know about the benefits that SMART Lunch provides for students, I have appreciated hearing your personal stories of how beneficial it has been for your student. I have also enjoyed mature and productive conversations with students about the reasons SMART Lunch is important to them and their willingness to help make it more effective so it can remain a part of our school day.

As a result of some of these student and parent conversations, I have decided to temporarily reinstate SMART Lunch effective this Monday, October 3.

We will continue to work with students to make SMART Lunch more productive for more students. At the same time, we will work as a staff to continue to explore and implement strategies to improve attendance in tutorials and maintain safety. However, we need students to do their part. I am asking for your help as parents to emphasize with your students the importance of attending tutorials on a regular basis. The expectation is that students who are earning a D or an F in a class should attend a tutorial at least twice per week, and students who are earning an A or a B should attend a tutorial at least once per week. Even if a student does not need extra help in a class, the student should report to a teacher's classroom to ask questions or even just get a start on homework. We are fortunate to have close to 1,500 students who are currently earning Cs or higher in all of their classes, so if those students simply go to a tutorial once per week (along with increased attendance by students with a D or an F) we can increase our participation significantly. Our goal is to see a minimum daily average of 20% of our students attending tutorials while maintaining a safe environment for all students.

I cannot promise that I won't again have to make a quick decision to shut down SMART Lunch on short notice. I will communicate this to parents as soon as possible. Additionally, I will keep parents updated through the Bimonthly Bulletin regarding the progress and status of SMART Lunch, so you will be more aware. At the same time, our staff will develop an alternative schedule that provides a time for more mandatory academic support during the school day if we determine that SMART Lunch is not providing the academic benefit for which it was designed or it becomes an unsafe environment for students.

Thank you for your support, and I look forward to continuing to work collaboratively with staff, students, and families to maintain and improve upon the excellence that we have established at Leesville Road High School.

Ticket to Play for Winter Sports

Ticket to Play for winter sports will be held on October 17, 18, and 19 during lunch and after school (2:30-3:15) in room 1301. We will stop checking eligibility each lunch at 12:40. **THIS WILL BE THE ONLY TIME TICKET TO PLAY WILL BE OFFERED. If you do not get your "ticket" during these times, you will not be able to try out for a winter sport.** Remember that every athlete must have a current physical on file (within one year). All paperwork that is not currently on file must be submitted prior to Ticket to Play or brought with the student-athlete the day of Ticket to Play. Even if you are currently playing a fall sport, you **MUST** get your ticket during this time. Please contact Coach Rogers (jrogers@wcpss.net) with any questions.

Interims and Grades in PowerSchool

Interims should have been distributed in all classes this week, and grades should be updated in PowerSchool. Please ask your student if you have not seen an interim report.

Pre-ACT

All 10th grade students will take the Pre-ACT on Friday, October 21. The test lasts 3 ½ hours. All students must bring their own calculator for testing.

Math Honor Society

Mu Alpha Theta is a National Math Honor Society for high schools and community colleges. Membership is open to students who meet the qualifications outlined below and are interested in being regularly involved in math activities outside of class. Applications are available outside the door of Trailer 06 and are due by October 10 for induction this fall. To be admitted into National Math Honor Society, a student must have completed Math III, completed at least one honors-level math class, completed at least two math classes during high school, and have an unweighted GPA of 3.5 or higher in math classes.

Free and Reduced-Price Lunch

If you have not completed an application for free and reduced lunch, please do so immediately. The deadline to receive free and reduced-price lunch is October 6. On October 7, those students who have not submitted an application will have to pay regular prices for meals. All students must fill out a new application this year to qualify, even if you received free and reduced lunch last year. It does take central services time to approve the application, so please do not wait until October 6.

Student Services Updates

Financial Aid Support

Sallie Busby, our Financial Aid Counselor, will be here starting October 12. Ms. Busby is here to assist parents and students with completion of the FAFSA form. Parents can make an appointment with Ms. Busby by calling 919-870-4260. She is here one day a week until April.

FAFSA Day

FAFSA Day is scheduled for October 29, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at Wake Technical Community College and William Peace University. Get free help on completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Go to this website to register:

<https://www.onlineregistrationcenter.com/registerlist.asp?m=227&p=12&group=93&mpf=12&s=1&tid=222>

National Bullying Prevention Month

October is National Bullying Prevention Month. Throughout the month, Student Services will sponsor activities to raise awareness on how to prevent bullying.

Senior Conferences

The counselors continue to meet with each senior regarding graduation requirements and post-secondary planning. Students should come home with a green folder. Please email your child's counselor if you have questions.

Calendar Highlights

- Wednesday, October 5: (2:30-4:00) PowderPuff Practice on Soccer Practice Field
- Thursday & Friday, October 6&7 (11:54-12:47) PrideWear Sales in Main Lobby
- Monday-Friday, October 10-14: Homecoming Week
- Tuesday, October 11: (6:30-8 PM) PowderPuff Game on Football Field
- Thursday, October 13: (11:54-12:47) PrideWear Sales in Main Lobby
- Thursday, October 13: (6:00-7:00 PM) College Fair and Info Night in the Cafeteria and Auditorium
- Friday, October 14: (1:00-2:30) Homecoming Pep Rally and Parade
- Saturday, October 15: (7:00-11:00 PM) Homecoming Dance in Cafeteria
- Monday, October 17: Blood Drive
- Wednesday, October 19: PSAT Testing
- Thursday, October 20: Underclassmen Picture Retake Day
- Friday, October 21: Early Release Day
- Friday, October 21: Pre-ACT Testing

Attachments:

N/A

Si necesita servicios de traducción gratuitos para comprender los procesos escolares, llame al (919) 852-3303

إذا كنت بحاجة إلى خدمات الترجمة المجانية للتعرف على سير العمليات بالمدرسة، اتصل بالرقم (919) 852-3303

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학교/교육 과정에 관한 무료 번역 서비스가 필요하시면 다음 번호로 연락하여 주십시오 (919)852-3303

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