

Leesville Road High School Bimonthly Bulletin

September 11, 2015

Volunteer Registration

Volunteers in Wake County schools must register with the Wake County Public School System (WCPSS) once a year. It is important that you register prior to 4:00 p.m. on October 30th. After that date, approval processes take longer and are more expensive to the district. You may register or renew your volunteer status in the LRHS Library any weekday from now until Oct. 31, and only on Mondays starting November 1. You may also register or renew at another WCPSS school, just make sure to select LRHS as one of your schools.

Grades in PowerSchool

Grades will be updated in PowerSchool on the 1st and 15th of every month beginning with this Tuesday, September 15.

Principal's Chat Notes

Notes from the September 9 Principal's Chat for parents of Seniors is included with this Bulletin.

Leesville Road Middle School Tutoring Opportunity

Do you need service hours? Are you an A/B student in math or language arts? Volunteers are needed for the Leesville Road Middle School After-School Program. If you have questions, please contact Ms. Barfield via email at kbarfield@wcpss.net. There will be an interest meeting on Tuesday, September 15 from 3:30-4:30 at the middle school in room 204.

Important Forms to Sign

New policies recently passed by the Board and the Superintendent's Office require every student to have an updated Data Sheet, Military Connected, Consent for Technology and Privacy Release form on file. These forms were sent home with students and will need to be submitted to their first period teacher no later than September 16, 2015.

Information about each form is described below.

Student Data Sheet

This form will help us update information in PowerSchool and School Messenger, which in some cases has not been updated since students began their educational career with WCPSS.

Military Connected

House Bill 1060 was approved by the North Carolina General Assembly effective July 1, 2015, and requires the State Board of Education to identify enrolled military connected students. WCPSS will begin its annual identification using the Military Connected Students (MCS) form. Military connected student information is not public record and will not be used for the purposes of determining school achievement, growth, and performance scores.

Consent for Technology and Privacy Release Forms

On July 21, 2015 the WCPSS School Board adopted a new Student Responsible Use Policy (3225). This policy now requires parent permission for the student use of technology and digital resources.

Parents will have the opportunity to choose between granting all technology access or granting no technology access. If a parent chooses to deny access, their student will not be allowed to use any form of technology (e.g., laptop, tablet, smartphone) or access digital resources. Students who have had their individual technology access denied are still able to view teacher or administrator led activities that contain internet content. Students who have their technology access denied are not protected from viewing Internet content in use by other students.

Parents are also asked to update their Student name, photo and directory privacy release forms.

- School web masters will be able to determine which students are eligible to have their name and/or photograph placed on the school website.
- Teachers will be able to determine which students are eligible to be on camera during a video conference; students without permission can then be placed in the room but off camera.
- Teachers will be able to determine which students are eligible to use blogs and wikis in the classroom.
- Media specialists will be able to determine which students have had their Internet access denied.
- Staff will be able to determine which student names are eligible to be submitted to external organizations (e.g., PTA for Honor Roll or Academic Breakfast, and Booster Clubs).

Every student must have a signed form to be included in his or her cumulative school record. Consent remains valid throughout a student's K-12 experience with the Wake County Public School System or until a new form is completed and signed by a parent/guardian and/or eligible student.

Teens and Tech Conference

Please join us for a Teens and Tech Conference on Wednesday September 30 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the LRHS auditorium. The evening will focus on how to handle technology with your teens. Specific platforms will include iOS, Snapchat, iPads, Android, Instagram, Facebook, Whisper, PlayStation, Yik Yak, and more. Parents often feel lost when trying to keep their teens safe on-line. The dangers are real, but this evening will help provide real solutions. Presenters will include a Verizon specialist, a network technician and staff from Cross Culture Church. We thank Cross Culture Church for providing this free service to our community. No registration is needed. Please join us if you can.

President's Volunteer Service Awards

Attached you will find an application for this year's President's Volunteer Service Awards. Each year in December we recognize each eligible student in an evening ceremony. Although we don't volunteer for the recognition, it is enjoyable to recognize our students for their service to others. Please carefully review the specific details in the attached application for information on activities that qualify for recognition. Applications are due by September 25, 2015.

Calendar Highlights

- Wednesday, September 16: (7:00 p.m.) National Honor Society Inductions in Auditorium
- Thursday, September 17: (SMART Lunch) Make-up Day for Ring and Graduation Product Orders
- Friday, September 18: (SMART Lunch) PTSA Spirit Wear Sale
- Wednesday, September 23: Teacher Workday and No School for Students
- Thursday, September 24: Interims Distributed

Attachments:

Notes from Principal's Chat
President's Volunteer Service Award Application

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

Si vous avez besoin de services de traduction gratuits pour comprendre les procédures scolaires, appelez le (919) 852-3303

यदि आपको विद्यालय की प्रक्रियाओं को समझने के लिए निःशुल्क अनुवाद सेवाएं चाहिए, तो (919) 852-3303 पर कॉल करें

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

Nếu quý vị cần sự thông dịch miễn phí để hiểu phương pháp trường học, xin vui lòng gọi số điện thoại, 919-852-3303

如果您需要免费翻译服务来了解学校流程, 请致电 (919) 852-3303

Principal's Chat Notes from 9-9-2015 (Families of Seniors Only)

September Cap and Gown Orders

- at least a \$60 deposit required, payable by cash, check, or credit card
- Even if students reuse an older sibling's LRHS cap and gown, they must purchase the basic cap/tassel unit, which covers the cap and tassel, actual diploma, diploma cover, and senior picnic. This is \$40.95.
- Parent Night: Thursday, September 10 from 5:30 – 7 in the main lobby (orders can be placed at this time)
- Friday, September 11: Jostens will be on campus during lunch to take cap and gown orders as well as orders for announcements and other senior items.
- Thursday, September 17: during lunch Jostens will return for one more order day

Important Spring Dates

Last week of April: Senior Bulletin comes home with all senior/graduation information and Baccalaureate Invitation

- Please put this on your calendar so you can ask your senior about it. It will also be on the LRHS website.

Thursday, May 26: Senior Assembly Rehearsal during 2nd period in the main gym (required for all seniors)

Friday, May 27: Senior Assembly and Picnic at LRHS beginning at 8:45 a.m. (Caps and gowns required.)

Seniors must be lined up and ready to go at 8 a.m.

Tuesday, May 31 – Friday, June 3: Senior Exams will occur during this window of time. The state and county have not made final regulations about when exams must be administered; thus, all we can offer at this point is a window of time.

Tuesday, May 31: Graduation Rehearsal (**MANDATORY**) at the Raleigh Convention Center from 3:45 -5:30 p.m. All work and other obligations must be cleared for these two hours.

Monday, June 6: Graduation Reception at LRHS from 6:30-8 p.m.

- At this event seniors will receive their seven tickets for graduation. This is an event sponsored by parents and attended last year by over 1000 people. Please plan to attend.

Wednesday, June 8: Graduation Ceremony at Raleigh Convention Center from 4-5 p.m. (doors open for guests at 3:15)

- Seniors do NOT need a ticket. All other people, regardless of age, will need a ticket for entrance.

Appropriate Attire for Graduation

- Ladies must wear closed-toed dark shoes and something with a neckline that does not show in the v-neck area. Gentlemen must wear a white dress shirt, conservative tie, dark dress pants and dark dress shoes. It is often easier to find these items during the fall and winter months than in June.
- Only cords provided by these LRHS honor societies may be worn at Senior Assembly and graduation: National Honor Society, Dance Honor Society, Athletic Training Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society, Latin Honor Society, French Honor Society, National Technical Honor Society, and International Thespian Society. These cords are not given out with caps and gowns, but provided by the respective organizations.
**Students must meet all requirements to wear those cords, as outlined by each organization.
- Per Wake County policy, the 3rd quarter report card is the final cumulative average used for determining tassel color. Tassel colors correspond to cumulative weighted GPA: solid gold for 4.0 and above, blue/gold for 3.5 – 3.999, and blue/green for anything below 3.5. Please note that GPA numbers are NOT rounded up.

Seniors must meet not only all academic requirements, but must take care of all fines, fees and obligations to teachers, advisors, and coaches, including uniforms, library books, parking tickets, etc. Until paid in full, seniors may not participate in graduation ceremonies.

Discipline

- Students suspended for any level II offense, will not be able to go to future dances including prom. Level II offenses include (but are not limited to) theft, harassment/bullying, making threats, fighting, alcohol and other drugs, and weapons. In addition to behavior on campus, students are also responsible for their behavior at school events (both on and off campus).

Senior Exam Exemptions

- Seniors **cannot** earn exam exemptions for assessments required by the state of North Carolina. In order to earn an exam exemption for eligible courses, seniors must meet the following requirements for semester courses:

A Average ---- 3 Excused Absences

B Average ---- 2 Excused Absences

C Average ---- 1 Excused Absence

*If students have 4 or more excused absences or even 1 unexcused absence, they must take their final exam.

**5 Unexcused tardies equals an unexcused absence for exam exemption purposes

- Important Reminders
 - A student is absent any time he or she does not attend at least $\frac{1}{2}$ the class, unless they are participating in a LRHS field trip.
 - College visits count as absences and will be excused if proper attendance procedures are followed.
 - **A good rule to follow is to always bring a signed parent note within two days of any absence (but preferably the next day).** An absence will remain unexcused if a signed parent note is not submitted within two days of the absence.
 - **Absences of more than one day that are anticipated in advance should be approved at least 2 days in advance by submitting a Request for Excused Absence for Educational Reasons (form #1710) to the attendance office.**
 - Any questions regarding the Exam Exemption Policy should be directed to the principal prior to the day of the absence.
 - It is the responsibility of all seniors **to review their PowerSchool Parent/Student Portal immediately after an absence to verify the absence has been coded properly.**
 - **Students who have to leave during the school day must check out through the attendance office.**
 - Students who go off campus for lunch and become sick must have a parent call the attendance office immediately to inform the school. Additionally, procedures for excusing an absence must be followed upon the student's return to school.

National (and other) Honor Societies

- For National Honor Society, students must submit their sheet documenting 20 Service Hours by the April meeting to remain in good standing and wear cords during graduation.
- For all honor societies, students must comply with meeting attendance and other requirements to remain in good standing

SMART Lunch

- I need the help of seniors to make this work. At times I may ask them to speak with juniors and other underclassmen about procedures like using tutorials, throwing away trash, behaving appropriately and following other procedures. With our 561 seniors, they probably know underclassmen as siblings, friends, teammates, fellow musicians and club members. So, I may ask to use their influence and leadership to positively impact underclassmen.
- As a class, I also need their help in making sure they attend tutorials and seek teachers out for help. We didn't create SMART Lunch just to provide an hour for lunch. We created it so that students could also accomplish academic tasks during the day. When students are caught up and doing well, they should take advantage of the hour lunch. But when they need help, they should seek it out. I don't want to hear teachers saying the seniors who need help are refusing to attend because they don't want to periodically give up their long off-campus lunch.
- Also, I need students' help driving carefully during SMART Lunch and all other times on and around campus. We have had several accidents and on two occasions student pedestrians have been hit already, one involving a broken bone. If accidents become a problem, we will move to one lane of traffic out during lunch and dismissal times. Student safety is a concern of mine, so if they can't drive safely, I will make the necessary adjustments to help keep them safe. Driving unsafely may result in revoking parking passes. We are going to utilize that option a bit more this year.
- Lastly, students should arrive on time to all classes, and especially coming back from lunch. If tardies to class become an issue, we will revoke lunch passes for individual students.

Academics

- Students need to remember to finish strong academically. It is important for graduation requirements, college admissions and life after high school, and scholarships.
- My first year as principal here when I started in May, 36 seniors didn't graduate. That was heartbreaking to me. Three years ago, 17 seniors didn't graduate. Two years ago, 21 students didn't graduate, last year all but 8 seniors graduated. This year, I challenge the senior class to make sure they all graduate.
- Last year's senior class earned and reported a school record 10 million dollars in scholarships. With approximately 100 more students in this senior class, I challenge them to exceed last year's total. The earning and reporting of scholarships is one way the seniors have their names individually announced during our Senior Assembly at the end of the year, so pay close attention to scholarship opportunities and reporting deadlines.

Prom

- April 30th, 7-11 at Wake County Shrine Club (6015 Lead Mine Rd).
- Students must arrive by 10:00 p.m. or they will not be permitted to enter
- Students must bring their ticket and ID or they cannot enter
- Tickets are usually about 35 dollars (including tax) and typically on sale the week of prom
- Every student will blow into a breathalyzer prior to entry
- Guest information: high school age to 21 years old with Guest List Request Form & copy of guest's ID
- There is no re-entry once students exit the prom
- Students who have been suspended from school for any level 2 offense or higher may not attend. Level 2 and above offenses include (but are not limited to): Theft, harassment/bullying, making threats, fighting, alcohol and other drugs, and weapons.

PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD FORM 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR

The Leesville Road High School PTSA is proud to sponsor the President's Volunteer Service Award and Leesville Road High School Service Award Programs. The LRHS PTSA is a Certifying Organization for the award which recognizes individuals who have demonstrated outstanding volunteer service and civic participation over the course of a 12-month period. The Award for 2015 includes 10, 11, and 12 graders during this school year. The service time is from August 1, 2014 through July 31, 2015. These awards recognize any VOLUNTEER, NON-PAID community-based service. LRHS's guidelines for volunteer service match guidelines promoted by the PVSA. It is very important that EVERYONE carefully read the **Service Hours Guidelines** for detail information about counting volunteer service hours.

In general:

- Awards will be issued for volunteer service only, not charitable donations.
- Students cannot receive payment of any kind for their volunteer service.
- Community service activities may be school-oriented, community-oriented, or faith-based oriented.
- Volunteer service cannot be court ordered.
- Hours are limited to 9 hours on any given day.
- Activities such as participation in marching band, chorus, theater, or athletics DO NOT count towards volunteer hours as these are LRHS sponsored activities.

Awards

	Leesville's Service Award	President's Bronze Award	President's Silver Award	President's Gold Award
Teens (15 or younger as of 7/31/15)	25-49 hours	50-74 hours	75-99 hours	100+ hours
Young Adults (16 years or older)	25-99 hours	100-174 hours	175-249 hours	250 + hours

Award period: August 1, 2014 through July 31, 2015.

You may apply for this award each year of high school.

Everyone will receive an award who qualifies.

Deadline for applications will be September 25, 2015. Place applications in the front office, or you may send them through the mail to:

Leesville Road High School PTSA
8410 Pride Way
Raleigh, North Carolina 27613
ATTN: President's Service Award

The award ceremony will be in early December at the high school.

Any questions, please contact Kimberly McKnight at 919-749-2663 or email at lrhs.pvsa@gmail.com.

PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD APPLICATION

PLEASE WRITE CLEARLY!

Name: _____ Parent's Email: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Home Room Teacher: _____

Current Grade: _____ Age on 7/31/15: _____

Total Hours Served: _____

Certification: By signing this form you certify that you are a US citizen or a lawfully admitted permanent resident of the US; and, you certify that the hours listed on your Documentation of Service Hours Log are true and accurate, were performed between the dates of August 1, 2014 and July 31, 2015; and, that you followed the rules detailed in the **Service Hours Guidelines** in regard to the volunteer hours listed on your log; and, you certify that you are currently enrolled at Leesville Road High School.

Signature: _____

1. You must register online at www.presidentialserviceawards.gov and record all your hours. (See below "How to Log Your Hours for PVSA")
2. Be sure to link your account to LRHS PTSA so we can view and certify your service. The Record of Service Key for Leesville Road High School is **ZHS-16034**.
3. **Be certain your activity qualifies!** Volunteering is the practice of people working on behalf of others or a particular cause without payment for their time and services. Volunteering is generally considered an **altruistic** activity, intended to promote good or improve human quality of life. While singing in the choir, practicing an instrument, participating in sports or dancing are all worthwhile activities, their primary focus is skill development rather than being altruistic in nature and should not be submitted. Please review the **PVSA Service Hours Guidelines** for detailed examples.
4. Reasonable travel time may be included with a max of 9 hours per day.
5. Maximum allowed per day for camp counselor, mission trip, etc. is 9 hours per day. Time spent sleeping, eating, worshiping, socializing does not qualify.
6. Be sure to list a supervisor or contact person for each activity under "Benefiting Organization."
7. Print out and attach a copy of your service log.
8. Attach any records for Key Club and NHS. You may also add a copy of whatever documentation you have received.
9. Turn in your packet to the front office by **September 25, 2015**.

How to Log Your Hours for PVSA at Leesville Road High School

If you performed 100 or more service hours during the 2014-15 school year and want to participate in the Presidential Service Awards Program you must enter your hours on the PVSA website below.

1. Create an account

Go to ***www.presidentialserviceawards.gov***

Click on "Get Involved."

Click on "Volunteers."

Scroll down to the end of the page, click on "Register."

Set up your profile in the system.

Important! Enter your complete first and last names as you want it to appear on your award certificate. Remember your username is your email.

Once registered, you will see the PVSA Welcome Page.

MAKE SURE YOU CLICK on the "MY PROFILE" and then "Add" the Record of Service at the bottom of the page.

The Record of Service Key for Leesville Road High School is ZHS-16034

Entering the correct Service Key will allow us to access your records and order your proper award.

Now you are registered in the PVSA database.

2. Add your service activities and hours.

Go to ***www.presidentialserviceawards.gov***

Click on the "My Service" button.

Click on the "Add Activity" button.

You will need to enter the Activity, Focus Area, Benefiting Organization (include a contact name of a person in the organization), Date of Service, and Hours. Create a separate entry for each date. Do not record more than 9 hours on a single day.

3. Export and print out your service record.

Click on the "Export to csv" button to export your entries to an excel file. Print your entries to include with your application.

PVSA Service Hours Guidelines

What is Community Service? And What is Not?

Community Service is...

There is such a wide range of activities that qualify as community service it is difficult to produce an exhaustive list, but in general, for activities to qualify as community service they should:

- Be for the benefit of others;
- Give service to an area in need;
- Not involve payment.

Community service activities may be:

- School-oriented, community-oriented, or faith-based oriented;
- Performed outside of school hours;
- Direct (one-on-one with a person or persons) or indirect (such as a food drive).

By definition, volunteer community service refers to activities undertaken for the benefit of others for no direct or indirect financial reward or class grade.

At School:

- Performing community service for school based organizations or clubs such as NHS, SNHS, Key Club, etc which require community service as a part of their mission counts
 - Regular meeting time does not count
- Student Leadership (Student Government) service projects during non-class time count
 - Regular group meeting time does not count
- Student Government leaders, Leesville Liaisons, and other volunteer time at school events such as Pride Launch and Open House count
 - Time working a club fair to recruit members does not count
- Performing with the school's cheer/pep/dance/band/choir/theater for senior citizens and/or disadvantaged groups counts
 - Regular performances and rehearsals do not count
 - Any performances required **as part of a class** do not count
 - Any performances where admission is charged does not count
- Helping paint or build sets, sew costumes, etc. for a school play counts only for **time not required for a class**
 - Performing in the play does not count
 - Theater crew hours are limited to 25 hours **per production**
- Tutoring another student during **non-class time** counts provided it is done as part of sanctioned group (NHS, School Counselors, Youth Group)
 - Helping your friend study for a test during class does not count
 - Tutoring a sibling or relative does not count
- Helping a teacher (even if the teacher is related to student) set up their classroom for the year **during non-school time** counts
 - Helping the teacher during class does not count
- All time spent volunteering with the PTSA counts, as PTSA fundraising benefits ALL students and teachers

For Sports:

- Refereeing or coaching, and training/setup, announcing, time keeping, working concessions as a sports volunteer for a non-profit or school counts
 - Practicing, playing, and fundraising for a sport does not count
 - Any activities required for players (such as Varsity players helping at JV games) does not count
- Helping a coach (even if the coach is related to student) set up for the season during non-school time counts as long as the activity is not required

For Performing:

- Performing at a charity event, or for a disadvantaged group (disabled, senior citizens home) counts
 - Practicing/rehearsals for that performance does not count
 - Performing at school does not count
 - Performances where admission is charged do not count
- Performing/marching at a Veteran's Parade, July 4th parade, etc counts
 - School parades (such as Homecoming) do not count
 - Practicing/rehearsing for that performance does not count

At Home:

- Helping a neighbor who is elderly or handicapped with household chores counts
 - Helping anyone in your family or an able-bodied friend or neighbor with a chore does not count

At Places of Worship:

- Helping plant a garden, hand out programs outside of a building, or babysitting while parents attend the service counts
 - Singing/playing an instrument or participating in the service (or anything inside of the place of worship) does not count
- Mission trips where service is the main component and Community service projects as part of a youth group count
 - Sleeping, eating, worshipping, socializing time does not count. (Use best judgment on travel time)
- Vacation bible school, summer camps, Sunday school volunteering counts
 - Any activity **within a worship service** does not count
 - Preaching and proselytizing do not count

In the Community:

- Helping at voter registration or a polling place counts
 - Helping a candidate campaign does not count
- Volunteering to help set up, organize, hand out pamphlets, hand out water, etc. for non-profit organizations counts
- Volunteering at any non-profit charitable organizations or event counts (Examples: PTSA, Habitat for Humanity, Salvation Army, Red Cross, Goodwill Industries, Special Olympics, JDRF Walk, Relay for Life, Breast Cancer Awareness, Stop Hunger Now, etc.)
 - Volunteering at a profit-based business does not count (includes internships and job shadowing)
- Assisting a disadvantaged person with a chore (cleaning out their garage, gardening, repairing their home, etc.) counts
 - Helping a family member or any able-bodied person with a chore does not count
- Volunteering at a non-profit hospital or at a non-profit animal shelter counts
 - Working at a doctor or veterinarian's office does not count
- Volunteering at either the school library or town library count
- Service projects as part of Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Youth Groups, etc including Girl Scouts Bronze/Silver/Gold Awards count
 - Meetings and non-service activities do not count
 - Fundraising for the groups does not count

Misc. that does not count

- Hosting a foreign exchange student or family
- Team-building activities
- Helping family members
- Fundraising for any group where the student is a member (Baseball player fundraising for the baseball team, fundraising to cover student's costs for a mission trip, Fundraising for scouting activities does not count)
- Volunteer service(s) hours above 9 hours per day
- Any activity where the student is paid
- Any activity required for a grade in class