

Lynch Elementary Newsletter



Ryan R. West, Principal

September 2017

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<http://lynch.lapeerschools.org/>

Mission: Elva Lynch will secure a dynamic environment for higher level learning. Together we will provide students with a quality education that will create independent, confident, and critical thinkers.

Vision: Elva Lynch inspires, supports and cultivates leading learners.



Calendar Highlights

September 19

- 5th grade Band Instrument Rental Night, 6:30pm, Zemmer cafeteria

September 22

- PTC School Store

September 25

- PTC Walking on Sunshine Walk-A-Thon

September 25-29: SPIRIT WEEK

- MON** - Pajama Day: dress cozy and comfy for the start of the week
- TUE** - Dress Up Day: dress in your best
- WED** - Wacky Wednesday crazy hair, backwards clothes, mismatch, etc
- THU** - Favorite Sports Team/Hat Day: show support of your favorite team – dress in their gear
- FRI** - Blue and Green Day

September 29

- PAC meeting, 9am
- Popcorn/Spirit Wear Day
- Red Wings Assembly, 2pm

Looking ahead...

October 10

- Picture Day

October 24 & 26

- Parent Teacher Conferences

October 27

- No School for students

BOLTS

At Lynch as well as around the district, we focus on a common set of expectations to support students and offer a clear set of guidelines for positive behavior. These expectations are below.

BE ORGANIZED LEADERS TRUSTWORTHY SUCCESSFUL

Monthly Lynch students will be recognized by their teachers as “Lynch Lightning Leaders”. These students have displayed the qualities of BOLTS throughout the month and will be invited to enjoy a treat with Mr. West.

MAP Testing

During the 2017-2018 school year, kindergarten through 5th grade students will be taking the Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) test. This is an online computer based assessment that students take three times during the school year. Each assessment automatically adjusts for each student’s ability and is paced based on their testing session. Students will take the MAP test at the start of the year to get a baseline score, mid-way through the year to display growth, and at the end of the year to see if students meet the projected growth based on the initial assessment. After all MAP assessments are complete a parent report will be sent home explaining your child’s score.

PAC

Our building level Parent Advisory Committee, also known as PAC, will meet again this year on Friday mornings at 9am. Join Mr. West for coffee these mornings for an opportunity to discuss building level information of all natures. Our first meeting will be Friday, September 29th, at 9am at Lynch Elementary. We discuss topics such as drop off procedures, building security, homework and STEM in addition to any topics the community would like to address. Please consider attending these meetings throughout the year as a way to connect community and school on important topics in education.

Attendance

Attending school makes all the difference! Attendance at school each day is important. Missed days in many cases results in lost learning. However, any child who is ill should stay home. If your child is going to be absent, please remember to call the office at 667-2448. If they are not in school and we do not receive a call, the students’ absence will be marked as unexcused. Our automated phone service will notify families of student absences.

Allergies

At Lynch we have a wide variety of students with allergies ranging from peanut, tree nut, walnuts, citrus, bee stings, eggs, and many more. Each classroom that has students with various allergies will receive letters informing families of the allergies and what to AVOID when sending treats, snacks, and lunches to school. With these letters we also have designated various areas of our school either nut free including classrooms and certain tables in the lunch room. Lynch staff, families, and students appreciate all that you do to help keep our students safe and following through with the various unique situations and requirements with our students.

Teacher Contact

Teachers may be contacted by using their email address at Lynch Elementary. This is a quick and easy way to keep in touch with your child’s teacher. Email addresses are the first initial and last name of the teacher @lapeerschools.org.

Ex: mburel@lapeerschools.org

Volunteer Information

Wanting to volunteer in your child’s classroom, go on a field trip or help at a PTC sponsored event? All volunteers must have an approved application on file in order to volunteer. Applications are available in the school office or online at www.lapeerschools.org, click on the parent tab and volunteer program. Please allow 2 weeks for the application to be processed. All approved applications are valid for 3 years. If you have any questions, please contact the office at (810) 667-2448.

Physical Education News

Your child will be participating in the Elementary Physical Education program this year. The students will be involved in activities that will help them in their growth and maturation, and ultimately help them in the classroom. Your child will receive 45 minutes of physical education per week in grades E5 through fifth grade.

On your child's report card, you will see a grade each trimester for physical education. Below is the grading key.



KEY: P = Performing as expected
IP = Inconsistent Performing
N = Not Performing

Students will be participating in the Lapeer Lightning Fitness Tests. Each test has a goal or benchmark that students will be trying to reach for each test. The benchmark is based on the student's age and gender. In order for students to successfully pass the test they need to meet the benchmark for their age and gender. A benchmark is an objective defining the necessary criteria each student needs to pass each of the fitness tests. Students meeting the benchmark on **all five of the tests** will receive the Gold or Silver award at the end of the school year.

Lightning Physical Fitness Tests:

Sit-ups, Pull-ups/ or Flexed arm Hang, Sit-n-Reach, Shuttle Run, ¼ Mile Run/Walk, ages 6-7, ½ Mile Run/Walk, ages 8-9, 1 Mile Run/Walk, ages 10-12

(THIS DOES NOT INCLUDE E5 & KINDERGARTEN)

Participation in physical activity offers many health benefits, including increasing general mood, self-esteem, confidence and sleep quality. Due to the fact that we only see your child once a week, for 45 minutes, they are expected to participate every week. Students who cannot participate for one week need a written note from a parent. Students who cannot participate for multiple weeks will need a doctor's note.

One way that you can help your child have a successful year in Physical Education is by making sure that he/she is dressed appropriately on the designated day. It is important for students to have tennis shoes for Physical Education class. Tennis shoes are required to participate in Physical Education class. **Four** or more Physical Education classes without tennis shoes will result in an IP grade on the report card.

Sincerely,
Deb Cooper, Ken Baginski, John Fitzpatrick

What is "Title I"?

Title I is the name of a program from the federal government that provides funding to school districts across our nation. The purpose of the funding is to ensure that ALL students who are struggling in reading, writing, math, science and social studies can get extra support at school or in the classroom. This funding is part of the "No Child Left Behind" Act of 2001. This type of assistance has been in existence since 1965 when President Lyndon Johnson signed the Elementary & Secondary Education Act. Every few years, this legislation gets renewed, and gets a "new" name and new requirements. Title I is NOT a special education program. It is an added service to students to assist them in keeping up with teacher and grade level expectations.

Here at Lynch, Title I provides opportunities for our students to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to meet challenging state content standards. Title I funding helps to provide the following services at Lynch: intervention instruction, before-school reading intervention for targeted grade levels, additional targeted activities for home support (take-home reading, literacy and math games, and Super Summer Success), Reading Recovery intervention for 1st grade students, additional learning opportunities and targeted skill groups during the school day, and paraprofessional support during the school day.

Title I Connection: Read for 20 minutes with your child! ☺

Set aside 20 minutes each evening to read with your child. This adds up to about 10 hours of reading time per month!

Reading Tip: Use the "5 Finger Rule" to Decide How to Read A Book.

Have your child open the book to any page in the middle of the book and read that page. Each time she comes to a word she does not know she should hold up one finger.

- If she gets to four or five fingers: this is a **STOP** signal, the book is hard. This would be a book for her to stop reading by herself, and is a book you should read TO your child.
- If she holds up three fingers (3 middle fingers to make a "W"), "W" is for Warning. She can read this book, but be warned that it could be frustrating. She should monitor her reading to be sure it is making sense. You should read this book with your child, allowing her to attempt to do most of the reading as you interact/discuss reading behaviors and help her monitor her comprehension.
- If she holds up two fingers (thumb and first finger to make an "L"): "L" stands for learning. She might need some help, but it will be a "just right" book to grow her reading skills/strategies. You should read this book with your child, allowing her to do most of the reading as you interact/discuss reading behaviors.
- If she doesn't hold up any fingers or holds up one finger (the thumb), thumbs up! The book is probably easy for your child and can be used to build reading fluency. This is a book that should be read independently BY your child.

Student Transportation Changes

If you would like to change your student(s) regular method of transportation, you must send a note or call the office prior to dismissal that day. If contacting the office, please do so by 3:10 PM.



Bus Information

For security and safety reasons, students must ride their assigned bus to and from their assigned stop. Students are not allowed to ride another bus to a friend's home, or get off at another stop. If you wish to change your student's bus stop location permanently this must be done by visiting the school or transportation department and completing a deviation form. Also, please review the bus expectations that are listed in the student handbook, with your child.