



# LIS February Family News



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## Welcome Back Students for the Second Semester



January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021, many students returned from remote learning to direct instruction in the classroom in all of grades three through five at LIS.

Staff prepared well for our returning students, who also adjusted very well to a new setting. Protocols for our safety during this restrictive time of Covid were reviewed for all students. The photo to the left shows some of their smiling faces!

Many 4<sup>th</sup> grade students had some schedule shifting that affected their rotation or the time of day they had a particular class scheduled but the teachers were not changed. Keep in mind that we are continually assessing what and how we are instructing all of our students to provide the best learning and support that we can for each and every one.

I commend our staff and students for their flexibility in adjusting things continually, so that our decisions are always based on what is best for our kids!

**Parent Teacher Conferences:** **Conferences are scheduled on Thursday, February 11<sup>th</sup> from 2:00-9:00.** Time slots are still available for parents/guardians to sign up for a conference time using an app called ***Sign Up Genius***. The links were emailed in January and included in the January update. They are also linked on the sidebar of this page.

**Mid-Year Diagnostics:** Students are in the process of taking the Mid-Year Diagnostics in Math & Reading. Reading Diagnostic tests include The Rapid from LEXIA and the I-ready Reading Diagnostics. I-ready will be used for the Math Diagnostic. These tests are given three times a year to help us track the growth of individual students and plan for intervention.

**Retention Letters:** As listed in our LIS Handbook, we are required to notify parents that if students have failed one or more subjects in the first semester, there is a possibility that retention of the student may have to be considered. If adequate progress is not made during the second semester this would indicate that the student may not be ready for the next grade level. While we realize that these are challenging times in education, the curriculum requirements have been repeatedly adjusted to accommodate the challenges we have been facing in interrupted instruction.

Please know that as we progress through the next few months, we will be monitoring your child's progress and will notify you if we need to take further steps in the retention process. There is ample time for improvement in the next half of the year.

**Remote Days:** The work assigned for remote days is not *homework* **but a part of our instructional plan.** The amount of work that teachers are requiring is minimal and certainly much less than may other districts. As we have stated in previous communication to parents – students are accountable for remote work and it cannot be made up. Due dates are not extended unless students are sick.

### **Special Reminder: February 11th**

- Parent Teacher Conferences Sign Up Using online links listed below. There are still available time slots.

#### **Grade 3:**

[Meeks & DeCesare](#)

[Jones, Rowe & Zigmont](#)

[DeArmitt](#)

#### **Grade 4:**

[Balzer & DeProfio](#)

[Alflen, Cordner & Mackey](#)

#### **Grade 5:**

[Shanower & Wevers](#)

[Cimmento, Glatz & Sabo](#)



## Valentine's Day

Each homeroom will be planning a simple celebration for Valentine's Day.

Scarlet Cohort will be celebrating on Wednesday, February 10<sup>th</sup> and Gray Cohort will be celebrating on Thursday, February 11<sup>th</sup>

(That is also an early release day because of conferences.)

Teachers will plan some valentine activities aligned to instructional standards.

A treat will be provided for the students from the school.



**Early Dismissal  
On February 11<sup>th</sup> at  
1:00.  
Remember to pick up  
car riders early and be  
prepared for an  
earlier bus drop off!**

## Progress Reports – Quarter 3

The 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter began on January 25<sup>th</sup>. Progress reports for the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter are scheduled to be sent home on Wednesday, **February 17<sup>th</sup>**, which is the week after Parent Teacher Conferences.

All parents have been given information to keep

track of student's grades on Progress Report. If you have not accessed that account, our secretary Mrs. Guesman can send directions or walk you through creating and accessing your parental account.

## Guidelines for Valentine's Day

- **Students Can Bring Valentine's for their Homeroom class.**
- Homeroom teachers can provide a list of names for your child's homeroom so students can make a card for each person in their homeroom. Make sure to include all children.
- Students may bring a Valentine Box or Bag to collect Valentines.
- *NO candy should be passed out with the valentine cards. CARDS ONLY. If you purchase cards with candy to attach- just send the cards. This is part of our COVID Safety Protocols.*
- **Do not send any candy or treats for the classroom.**





***President's  
Weekend  
NO SCHOOL  
February 12-15***

***Return Tuesday  
February 16th***

## AIR Testing

State AIR Testing is still  
scheduled to begin in  
March (15 Consecutive  
Days)

ELA:  
March 22<sup>nd</sup>- April 23<sup>rd</sup>

Math & Science:  
March 29<sup>th</sup>-May 7<sup>th</sup>

## Family Support Programs

### Family Success Network

This is a new resource being developed by our County Health & Family Services to help families in many different aspects of family life.

These are free resources that can be made available

as needed through a referral from the school. You can accept help or assistance in areas of counseling, parenting, financial planning, etc.

More information will be sent home as this new program is up and running.

## AIR Testing

Air Testing for Grades 3-5 is still scheduled for the 2020-2021 school year. The dates are located on the sidebar to the left.

Please know that all students are required to take the Spring Assessments. Grades 3 & 4 have two required tests: Math & ELA.

5<sup>th</sup> Grade is required to take Math, ELA & Science.

Students who are still enrolled on Fuel Ed are required to take the Spring Assessments in the school building. We will be notifying Fuel Ed students for scheduling at school during the testing windows.

# Prep Bowl

Elementary Prep Bowl Competition is scheduled for Saturday, February 27<sup>th</sup> at Lordstown High School.

Members of the Prep Bowl Red Teams are: Sophia Balzer, Mason Lutz, Sienna Fields, Paige Marsh (pictured right).

In the newsletter last month, the Gray team was featured

along with their photos. They are: Maria Bustard, Robert Stevens, Liam Stillwell and Audra Van Dyke.

Advisors: Mrs. Morgan and Mrs Cusimano



## Mrs. Balzer

I am sure that many of you are aware that our 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, Jennifer Balzer was in a rather serious car accident on January 15<sup>th</sup> on her way to school. She has a serious injury with broken bones in her left leg above and below the knee. She had surgery to repair the damage and is home for a rather lengthy recovery.

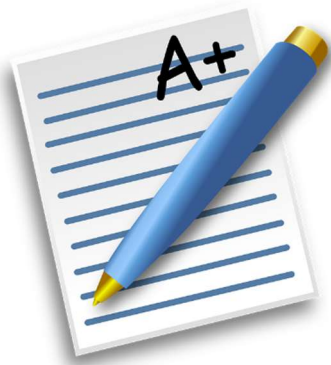
Miss Laura DePiero will be filling in for Mrs. Balzer for an

extended period of time. Miss DePiero just finished her student teaching at Bascom Elementary and was ready for her own classroom.

We appreciate Miss DePiero's willingness to take over so quickly and I appreciate how the staff rallied together to plan and direct the instruction for our 4<sup>th</sup> grade students.

Mrs. Balzer is doing well and is grateful for all your support.

***If students or families have Get Well Wishes to deliver to Mrs. Balzer, we will make sure she gets them!***



# LIS Honor Roll Quarter 2



THIRD GRADE	FOURTH GRADE	FIFTH GRADE
Nina Armeni*	Marshal Babione	Sophia Balzer*
Zarenitee Beans	Noah Bailey	Maria Bustard*
Johnny Bustard*	Molly Beck	Kaydence Church
Jaxson Carter*	Sophia Bosley-Hearn	Aubree Colburn*
Amory Dalton	Remy Brundage	Sienna Fields
Toby Howell*	Zachary Delka	Lanai Gordon
Isaiah Johnson	Kaylee Duncan	Macey Hill
Curtis Keystone	Emma Goldbach	Zabella Lengel
Baylee King	Kaiden Hall	Mason Lutz
Jaxsen Morelli	Allison Hartwood	Ally Magoulick*
Kiley Stehura	Kailyn Johnson	Paige Marsh
Jackson Sullinger*	Kaleigh Kascak	Elizabeth McCabe
Wyatt Vasbinder	Jaxson Kuszmaul	Adalyn McCullum
Dawson Wray	Shelby McManus	Diya Patel
Alayna York	Isabella Michael*	Conner Sackett
	Emma Middleton	Robert Stevens*
	Eliana Milliron	Liam Stilwell
	Anthony Moran	Garrett Sullinger
	Lasey Rogel	
	Ashlyn Royal	

***Final Notes: In some ways it seems impossible to be the middle of the school year and yet the beginning of the year seems like an exceedingly long time ago. I am so grateful to be part of a staff who have risen to every challenge. Looking back at the number of times we have had to regroup and reconfigure our instruction to meet the needs of our students during this time, I am amazed at the flexibility, creativity, and perseverance of our staff. Never once have we taken the easy way out to just get through, but for each step forward that required innovation and change, we considered what the best options would be to meet every child's needs. Each change has successfully moved us forward so that even during this time of upheaval we are steadily gaining ground.***

***I so appreciate, as well, the support and encouragement from our families. We are keenly aware of the many challenges that our families face daily with alternating days of attendance, remote work, childcare as well as the impact walking through this pandemic has had on our families socially and emotionally. Thank you so much for your continued patience and flexibility as we partner together to walk through this extended time of Covid realities. We are all looking forward to a time of greater freedom from so many restrictions and a returning to a time where we can safely be socially interactive with one another. Please know that here at school, we continue to be vigilant in doing all that we can to keep our students safe and learning. With all the obstacles to learning and growing academically during this time of quarantine and shutdowns, I honestly believe that our students are continuing to progress and grow. Happy Valentine's Day! KAS***