

September 2023

Lancaster Middle School  
148 Aurora Street  
Lancaster, New York 14086

Welcome Back To School  
Lancaster Middle's September/October Newsletter

Important Fall Dates

September  
5th First Day of School  
14th and 15th Picture Day  
20th HSA Meeting  
28th Open HUse

October  
1-31st Online Yearbook Sale  
9th No School, Columbus Day  
23rd-27th Red Ribbon Week

Quick Links  
District Website  
District Calendar  
LMS Webpage  
Meal Portal  
Parent Portal

Main Office Phone Number  
716-686-3220

Nurse's Office  
716-686-3225

Counseling Center  
716-686-3247

LMS families,  
We have had a great start to the 2023-2024 school year. It was great to see students, teachers and staff back in the building, ready and excited for all this year has in store. Our buildings were in great shape thanks to our custodial and cleaning staff who were working all summer. We continue to work on ways to improve our home to school communication, so we hope you appreciate and find this newsletter helpful and informative. We are looking forward to a great school year!

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Stephanie Lackie and Mr. John Tresmond  
LMS Principal and Assistant Principal

### Important Reminders

**Morning Drop Off:** Please be sure to utilize the drop-off loop located in last (third) parking lot off of Madison Avenue. Please refrain from dropping your student off on Aurora Street as this creates congestion and is not safe for our students. Students may arrive at school as early as 7:00 am. Students will enter the building at door 12 (nearest to the back parking lot) and report directly to the cafeteria until the first period begins. To keep traffic moving, please have your child ready to exit the vehicle with their belongings and continue on once they are safely out of the car. Staff is located at each door to ensure your child enters the building safely. Please refrain from parking in a car space or idling in the loop.

**Absence From School:** Students returning after an absence must bring a note to the attendance office. Advanced notice of absences due to illness, vacation, or personal matter is appreciated. If notice of an absence is not given, you will receive a call from the attendance office.

**Early Dismissal:** A written parent signed note must be provided and turned into the attendance office at 7:30am. Parent picking up must come into building to pick up, please bring ID. In the event of an emergency please call the attendance office with as much notice as possible, please bring ID.

**Chromebooks:** Any issues with Chromebooks can be brought to the HUB

**Agenda Planners:** \$4; can be purchased at the school bookstore

**School Issued Lock:** \$6; can be purchased in the Main Office. Students **MUST** have their locker locked and secured using a school issued lock. They may use their lock for the duration of their time in the LCSD.

### 2023-2024 Bell Schedule

Lancaster Middle School

Daily Bell Schedule

Homeroom/Period 1 start time 7:35 end time 8:20

Period 2 start time 8:24 end time 9:04

Period 3 start time 9:08 end time 9:48

Period 4 start time 9:52 end time 10:32

Period 5 start time 10:36 end time 11:16

Period 6 start time 11:20 end time 12:00

Period 7 start time 12:04 end time 12:44

Period 8 start time 12:48 end time 1:28

Period 9 start time 1:32 end time 2:12

Announcements and dismissal start time 2:12 end time 2:15

## LMS Open House

Please join us Thursday, September 28th 2023 for our annual Open House. Open House will be from 6:30pm-8:30pm. You will have the opportunity to follow your child's schedule, meet their teachers, and learn about what exciting academics are in store for them this year. Please be sure to have a copy of your child's schedule with you so you are able to visit each class. Schedules can be found on the Student Portal. Rotations will be timed as follows:

Homeroom/Period 1 6:30 to 6:38

Period 2 6:42 to 6:50

Period 3 6:54 to 7:02

Period 4 7:06 to 7:14

Period 5 7:18 to 7:26

Period 6 7:30-7:38

Period 7 7:42-7:50

Period 8 7:54-8:02

Period - 8:06-8:14

## FROM THE LMS HEALTH OFFICE

**HEALTH SCREENINGS:** Vision, hearing, and scoliosis screenings will begin in October for all 7th graders. Testing will take place during physical education classes. Please remind your 7th grader to wear their contacts, or have their glasses with them on a regular basis. This will give us the correct results in our testing and save you unnecessary visits to your eye doctor.

**SICK STUDENTS:** As always, any sick student should report to the Health Office after receiving a pass from their teacher. All contact to a parent during the school day that is related to illness **MUST** be made through the Health Office **ONLY**. Safety is our priority -- with this in mind, students are not permitted to use their cell phones to call, text, or email a parent (or other) to make their own arrangements to get picked up. Disciplinary action will result. Please feel free to contact the nurse with any questions, 716-686-3225.

**WINTER SPORTS:** Winter sports online sign-ups are scheduled to start October 2, 2023. Please check the Athletic Department's web page frequently for information regarding the Winter athletic season. All athletes must have a current physical (within one year of the season start date) on file in the Health Office by November 1st. Send physicals by: mail, student drop-off, fax (716-686-3223), or email ([bkulpa@lancasterschools.org](mailto:bkulpa@lancasterschools.org) or [jshurmatz@lancasterschools.org](mailto:jshurmatz@lancasterschools.org)). If we do not have the paperwork in the Health Office by November 1st, there may be a delay for the athlete to start the season.

**MEDICATIONS:** All medications (either prescribed by your physician or any over-the-counter medications) that need to be taken in school require a note from both the physician and parent/guardian giving permission to the nurse/school to administer the medication. Please contact the MS Health Office (716-686-3225) and we will forward the correct form to you.

**PHYSICALS:** New York State mandates a physical examination be done on all 7th grade students and new registrants to the school district. Your own health care provider is always the best choice for these exams. If you do not provide an exam form by October 20, 2023, an exam

will be scheduled with our school medical director.

If there are any questions, please call the Health Office at 716-686-3225.

#### Lancaster Middle School Counseling Center

##### Secretary

Janice Alexander

Phone: 716-686-3247

Fax: 716-686-3361

[jalexander@lancasterschools.org](mailto:jalexander@lancasterschools.org)

##### Social Worker

Sydney Pittner

Phone: 716-686-3220 x7185

[spittner@lancasterschools.org](mailto:spittner@lancasterschools.org)

##### School Psychologist

Eileen Voss

Phone: 716-686-3320

[evoss@lancasterschools.org](mailto:evoss@lancasterschools.org)

#### SCHOOL COUNSELORS

Marla Varrone

A-HA

716-686-3321

[mvarrone@lancasterschools.org](mailto:mvarrone@lancasterschools.org)

Ryan Arnold

HE-PE

716-686-3355

[rarnold@lancasterschools.org](mailto:rarnold@lancasterschools.org)

Tracy Rabey

PF-Z

716-686-3322

[trabey@lancasterschools.org](mailto:trabey@lancasterschools.org)

#### Important Dates

Week of September 18th

Introduction to the Counseling Center during 7th grade Science classes.

Week of September 25th

Re-introduction to the Counseling Center during 8th grade Social Studies classes.

September 28th: Open House

Month of October

7th grade annual reviews begin October 2nd. (Students will be informed on how to make an appointment with their counselor.)

Scheduling

Students can book an appointment to meet with their school counselor by following this link: <https://www.lancasterschools.org/Page/18811> Available from 7:35am to 2:45pm.

When to see the School Counselor

Students can meet with their counselor during the school day, preferably during a study hall or free period. We will also be available to support immediate issues if they arise. Students can be referred to see their counselor, or make their own appointment. Scheduled appointments are preferred.

Who we are

School counselors are not only advocates, but also staff members within the school who have specialized training to assist students in a unique and meaningful way. School counselors are dedicated to the well being of the total student within their academics, social/emotional functioning, and career interests.

LMS Home School Association

Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year! The 2023-2024 LMS HSA Board is excited about this year:

President: Kristi Perillo-Okeke

Vice President: Amy Newman

Treasurer: Anita Schiavone

Secretary: Lisa Anne Voelker

The LMS HSA membership drive has begun! Attached you will find the membership letter and form. We are kindly asking for a donation of \$10.00 from each family. Please send cash or a check (made payable to LMS HSA) in a labeled envelope with your child's name, grade, and first-period teacher's name. Your child can drop it off in the main office or give it to their first-period teacher.

The LMS Fall Apparel Sale is here! It will remain open until December 29th. You will receive your order within two weeks and it will be delivered to your house if you live in the Lancaster/Depew area.

Here is the link for the Class of 2028: <https://adworks.ink/.../lancaster-schools/lms-class-of-28/>

Here is the link for the Class of 2029: <https://adworks.ink/.../lancaster-schools/lms-class-of-29/>

Our first HSA meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 20th at 6 PM. It will be held in the conference room near the main office.

We are looking forward to a fun-filled year for our LMS students! If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to [lancastermiddlehsa@gmail.com](mailto:lancastermiddlehsa@gmail.com).

### Guest Speaker

Lancaster Middle School is excited to welcome Kimberly Smith, Community Outreach Specialist with the FBI, Buffalo Division on Tuesday, September 19th.

Kimberly Smith has worked for the FBI in Buffalo for 14 years as a tactical analyst. She works in Crimes Against Children and Human Trafficking. She is also a member of the FBI's National Child Abduction Rapid Deployment Team and a member of the FBI Buffalo Evidence Response Team. The presentation "Your Device, Your Safety, Your Future" will teach students on how to be safe online.

2023-2024

Yearbook

Ordering Yearbook directions below

Yearbooks will only be available for order online

Please go to <https://tinyurl.com/year-book-order>

The order code is 2958824

Please save a copy of your confirmation email as a receipt

Lancaster Middle

Halloween Dance

Friday, October 27th

7:30-9pm

\$5 bracelets will be sold the week of the dance, not at the door

Costumes are encouraged but not required

No masks or toy weapons

### Staff Spotlight

Mrs. Melanie Baerhe

Mrs. Baehre teaches grade 8 art at LMS.

The 2023-2024 school year is Mrs. Baehre's 20th year!

She became a teacher to merge her love of working with kids and art together. "It seemed like a natural thing to teach my love of art to children."

If she wasn't an art teacher, Mrs. Baehre would own a bakery.

In her spare time... "I like to read. I bake. I have been raising my children. I also like to make stuff, online shop, and I love to be on the announcements [at LMS]. I also enjoy fashion and cricuting with holographic vinyl". Plants are not just a hobby to Mrs. Baehre, they are her passion.

"Teaching middle school kids is weird. But I too am strange and unusual".

Mr. Justin Young

Mr. Young teaches 7th and 8th grade Science at LMS.

He has been teaching for 16 years with 10 years of service at Batavia Middle School and 6 here in Lancaster.

Mr. Young became a teacher to share his excitement for science with kids.

If he wasn't a teacher, he would be a marine biologist.

In his spare time he enjoys boating with his wife and kids, gardening- especially in his vegetable garden, and listening to music.

### Spectacular Students

#### [Laila Sengbusch](#)

Laila is an 8th grader at LMS.

Her favorite subject is gym because "I am a very active person and I am very good at a lot of sports like soccer, kickball, football and much more".

Laila's favorite teacher is Mrs. Glowicki because she always is in a good mood and has positive energy and "I feel I can really connect with her on a lot of things like reading and working out".

Laila is a varsity soccer player, the Student Council Vice President, and an active member of NJHS as well as the Drama Club.

Laila can sing very well. Her favorite music types are rap and pop. Laila also participated in gymnastics for 8 years.

When Laila grows up she would love to be a Marine Biologist.

After High school she plans to go to a good college and make a good career for herself.

#### Lauren Zak

Lauren Zak is an 8th grader at LMS.

Her favorite subject is Math because it has always come to me very easy and I enjoy it.

Lauren's favorite teacher is Miss McTigue "because she is a great teacher and you can ask and tell her anything".

Lauren plays on the Lancaster girls modified volleyball team, is an active member of NJHS and dances at Dansations.

Lauren went to Cape Cod, MA over summer with Dansations for Nationals and her opening dance won first place in a competitive group at the whole competition.

Lauren is an only child and has a dog named Harper.

When Lauren graduates from high school, she wants to go to college. She's not sure what she wants to do yet, but is very interested in going into professional volleyball.

#### Caleb Darnley

Caleb is an 8th grader at LMS.

His favorite subject is Social Studies. He finds history interesting and sometimes funny.

Caleb's favorite teacher of all time is Mrs. Pregitzer "because she was able to incorporate moving and games into school when most teachers just sit you down and give you a textbook".

Caleb is involved in the 8th grade modified football team.

A hidden talent of Caleb's is his secret ability to juggle fairly well. His favorite color is blue and yes, his hair is naturally curly. Caleb resides here in Lancaster with his brother Lucas, mother and father. "When I grow up I would like to go to New York University for law and become a lawyer. From there I ideally would take that career on and become a Supreme Court Justice or possibly a Senator or Governor".

Clubs at LMS  
Air Rifle Club  
Art Club  
Book Club  
Bookstore  
Chess Club  
Current Events Club  
Design Club  
Diversity Club  
Drama Club  
Foreign Language Club  
Future Engineers Club  
GSA (Gender Sexuality Alliance)  
Jazz Ensemble  
LEO Club  
LMS Gazette  
Marching Band  
Minecraft Club  
NJHS (National Junior Honor Society)  
Peers Helping Peers  
RAKE (Random Acts of Kindness)  
Robotics Club  
SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions)  
Selector Chorus  
Ski Club  
STEM Club  
Student Council/SWISS  
Technology and Engineering Club  
Trap Club  
Writers Cafe  
Yearbooks

More information about upcoming club dates and events on the following page.

#### Additional Club Information

##### NJHS Upcoming

First all member meeting on Thursday, September 21st in room 157 at 7:00AM

Working on flag football event for October, more information to come

Member dues of \$15 are to be given to Mrs. Gregory in room 157 by October 13th

October 23rd-27th, Breast Cancer Awareness Week; organized by Elaina Khangi

Jazz Band will be starting rehearsals on Wednesday, September 27th from 2:15 to 3:15pm.

There will be an information meeting on Wednesday, September 20th at 2:15pm in the band room if you are interested in joining. Please see Mrs. Giordano if you have any questions. Thank you!



Lancaster Middle School Art Club

Info meeting

Wednesday, October 4th after school in room 209

You must have a ride at 3:00PM

#### Drama Club Announcement

There are multiple clubs you can join at LMS and a great one to consider is the Drama Club. Drama Club offers a lot of positions that are not just singing or acting. For example, Tech Crew is in charge of the lights, mics, and more. Stage Crew is responsible for the scenery and props that go on and off stage. So, there is a part for everyone!

At the first Drama Club meeting on September 20, 2023 in the auditorium from 2:30 - 3:30PM, Ms. Conlon and the officers will talk about what Drama Club is and how you audition or apply to earn a spot in the production. We will review the timeline of events and what you can expect at each step of the process.

You might not be able to make it to the first Drama Club meeting but here at drama club we have multiple membership meeting opportunities! In order to be eligible to audition you have to attend at least 1 out of the 3 membership meetings. The second meeting is on October 5th where we will announce this year's musical and the third is on October 26th where we will practice the audition process together and go over tips for success while auditioning. Finally, we set up a day to view the musical together!!

Some things that we love about Drama Club is that everyone here is family. You can go to anyone to talk about your day and they will listen. Drama club is a big commitment that involves hard work, attention to detail and teamwork, but in the end you will feel accomplished and have an amazing musical to show your friends and family. For some, it is an experience where you try it out and finally find where you belong. We are all so excited to see all the new drama club members, and CANNOT wait for the musical!

Sincerely,

The 2023-2024 Drama Club Officers