

Pirate Press



Counselors Corner:

<https://sites.google.com/site/studentpirates/>

Athletics and Clubs

Schedules:

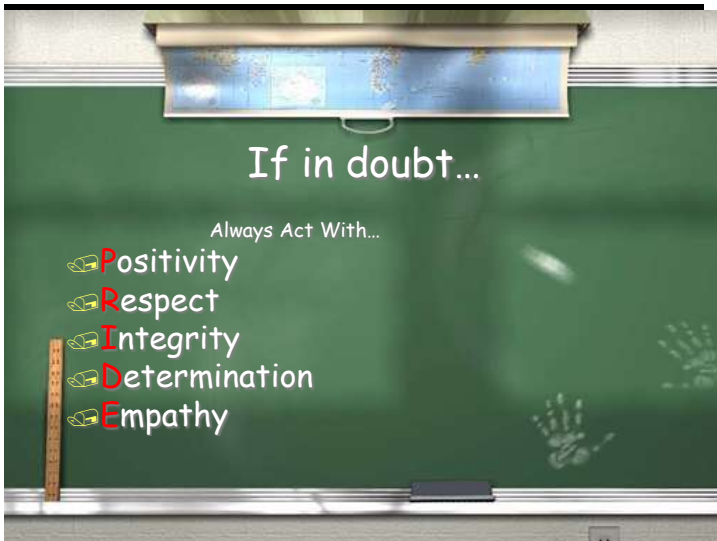
<http://bvsvd.org/schools/louisvillemiddle/>

Latest Video Clips:

<http://www.bvsvd.org/schools/louisvillemiddle/pirate/Pages/default.aspx>

Monday Feb. 6 RED	Tuesday Feb. 7 BLACK	LATE START Wednesday Feb. 8 BLACK	Thursday Feb. 9 RED NJHS PENNY DRIVE	Friday Feb. 10 BLACK NJHS PENNY DRIVE
TaG Café 7:30 am <i>Literacy Testing</i> <i>5th period Comp. Lab</i> Knitting Club 3:40 pm Play Practice 3:40 pm Crow's Nest 3:40 pm Jazz Band 3:40 pm Wrestling and 8GBV Team and Individual Photos 3:45 pm	Skate Club 7:30 am Math Counts 7:40 am Men's Choir 7:45 am Book Club 8am Art Club #3 3:40 pm Wrestling 3:30 pm 8 GBV 3:40 pm Crow's Nest 3:40 pm Sign Language Club CANCELLED for today Play Practice 3:40 pm	Writing Club 7:30 am Sound & Light 8:30 am Lego League 8:30 am <i>FT: 7/8/ Choir to MOHI</i> <i>Literacy Testing period 7</i> <i>and E7 Comp. Lab</i> SHINE 3:30 pm Board Games 3:40 pm Yearbook 3:40 pm 8 GBV 3:40 pm Play Practice 3:40 pm Wrestling Meet #4 @ Monarch K8 4pm 7/8 Choir Concert @ MOHI 7pm	Brain Bowl 7:30 am <i>Literacy Testing period 1</i> <i>Comp. Lab</i> Crow's Nest 3:40 pm LAST Chess Club 3:40 8 GBV 3:40 pm Wrestling 3:40 pm Science Club 3:45 pm Teen Voices 3:45 pm	Debate Club 7:30 am Wrestling 7:30 am 8 GBV 7:30 am PRIDE Assemblies (Math) Jazz Band 7:30 am Math Counts 7:40 am Play Practice 3:40 pm Dance Club 3:45 pm 13th Annual Jazz Band Swing Dance FUNDRAISER: 6:30-9 p.m

STUDENT ANNOUNCEMENTS:



☺ **Really.**
Our motto pretty
much covers it!

Dear LMS community,

As many of you may have heard, I had a bit of a ski accident, and due to a broken back, have been forced into a few weeks of bed rest. Can you imagine me on bed rest?

Anyway, the big issue that cropped up during this time has been the how/why/what of student honor roll and what constitutes a student being given an honor for a certain GPA. I apologize I was not able to get ahead of this, but rest assured my leadership team was able to gather lots of feedback and I am fully in the loop.

Here is a short contextual understanding:

Each and every school can decide to have or not to have “academic honors” based on GPA. This is not a “standard of the industry,” rather a decision each school needs to decide. LMS was one of the very first middle schools in the area to adopt an honors system (as well as other innovative academic practices such as advanced classes, clinic classes, differentiated classes, Pre- Advanced Placement Curriculum, Smart technology, PRIDE programs, etc) and our views as a school of continuous improvement have been more dynamic, rather than static. For a time we had honors for kids who achieved a 4.0, based on a semester, then changed to a year, then for 3 years, then back to a semester. As one of the first schools to have NJHS, and be certified by that association, we hold that GPA to a standard of 3.5 and for 8th graders only. This NJHS alliance also requires a minimum amount of service, so not all 3.5 GPA 8th graders decide to become NJHS members, yet we still average about 75 NJHS kids per 8th grade, so we always get a sizable number of kids! So how do NJHS and honors relate?

Great question:

It was easy to have honor roll (open to 6-8 graders) and NJHS (open only to 8th grade) equate to the same GPA of 3.5. This was done just as a way to be consistent, not due to any national or state mandate. This is a site based decision and one that worked for many years until the last 2 to 3 years. Like any dynamic system, LMS teachers and school leadership noticed that the number of students receiving 3.5 GPA had significantly increased from under 50% to over 80%, making it more of the norm and thus requiring logistical changes. More importantly philosophically, staff debates were had regarding what is “worthy of honors recognition,” and the new higher metric was instituted. While this was communicated to the community, clearly more could have been done to assure everyone had multiple methods to have been fully informed.

Finally and in summary:

Based on a community parent list serve that was created last week, where parents were able to email their thoughts to one another it was clear that some parents did not support our change from 3.5 GPA to 3.75 GPA as our honor role metric. Interestingly, I also had quite a few parents thanking me for raising the GPA. So, I want to be clear that whatever metric we use will not please all LMS families.

Here are some examples of how LMS honor roll recognitions could look: a letter home, a certificate home, posters placed in the school or a sticker on a report card, etc. LMS “does it up,” holding a specific assembly because we enjoy celebrating our students academic achievements separate from the other school awards. LMS debates each year if we should have an evening presentation (as we are the only school doing a formal evening presentation). This event will remain a year to year decision. I want to be very clear that LMS has a core belief that students should be honored for great work (PRIDE certificates, Pride Matrix winners, Service awards, Louisville Leader breakfasts...etc), and as we approach resolving this year’s honor role issue we will hold true to that core value and maintain our academic celebrations.

LMS is willing to look at rolling back the honor roll metric to 3.7 or even to 3.5. As part of normal SAC meeting in May, we will be adding this item to the agenda. If this issue is important to you please feel free to attend this meeting; time and date will be advertised through all the typical LMS communication systems.

Best Regards,
Adam Fels
Principal LMS



Sunday Feb. 5	Monday Feb. 6	Tuesday Feb. 7	Wednesday Feb. 8	Thursday Feb. 9	Friday Feb. 10	Saturday Feb. 11
Hoops McCall Valerie Jonas			Clare Mackin Isabel Waterbury	Aspen Bentley MRS. FARRELL	Matthew Bertleson Maclain Rowan Colin Crawford Emily Jacobs Isaac Jacobs Estevan Carrera Jorge Quiroz Zaragoza	Dane Jones

A note from Mrs. V.

Take advantage of the numerous wonderful opportunities in the next few weeks to support our kids and their myriad talents...

- "Break a Leg" to the 7/8 choir concert at Monarch High on Wednesday evening
- Good Luck to our wrestlers who are competing with our neighbors at Monarch K-8
- And the east county Jazz Bands will be inspiring dancers and toe-tappers at the Annual Swing Dance in our very own MPR

Thank you to Ms Martin, Ms Moriearty, Mr. Allen and Mr. Hill for your inspiration and hard work!

A young fan of 'To Kill a Mockingbird' named Jeremy wrote to Harper Lee in 2006, and asked for a signed photo. He didn't get one, but instead received this lovely piece of advice from the author that is far more precious.

06/07/06

Dear Jeremy

I don't have a picture of myself, so please accept these few lines:

As you grow up, always tell the truth, do no harm to others, and don't think you are the most important being on earth. Rich or poor, you then can look anyone in the eye and say, "I'm probably no better than you, but I'm certainly your equal."

(Signed, 'Harper Lee')

Thank you to all our wonderful parents who sent in donations to the health room! You are the best. Debbie Chabon



Fairview High School

Evening of Transition

8th Grade Student and Parent Information Night

Wednesday, February 15, 2012, 6:00-9:30pm

We are looking forward to welcoming you to FHS during our Evening of Transition on February 15, 2012! The information you will receive will help you select appropriate classes for ninth grade and beyond. There will be time for you to hear our large-group presentation by counselors and to attend presentations in four out of five academic departments, during which teachers will explain the differences between traditional college prep and Pre-IB/IB/AP/Advanced level courses. This should give you a good idea about the appropriate level for your student. Your child's middle school teachers will also be providing input regarding course placement.

• **Last name A—M**

- 6:00-6:30 pm **Welcome and Introduction—Auditorium** Don Stensrud, Principal
6:30-7:00 pm Opportunity for parents and students to walk around the school or talk to elective, athletics, or co-curricular representatives in Student Center.
7:00-7:25 pm **Breakout Session I**
7:30-7:55 pm **Breakout Session II**
8:00-8:25 pm **Breakout Session III**
8:30-8:55 pm **Breakout Session IV**

• **Last name N-Z**

- 6:00-6:45 pm Opportunity for parents and students to walk around the school or talk to elective, athletics, or co-curricular representatives in Student Center.
6:45-7:15 pm **Welcome and Introduction— Auditorium** Don Stensrud, Principal
7:30-7:55 pm **Breakout Session I**
8:00-8:25 pm **Breakout Session II**
8:30-8:55 pm **Breakout Session III**
9:00-9:30 pm **Breakout Session IV**

Locations of Break-out sessions: Language Arts Rooms 853/854
(The same information will be World Language Rooms 658/659
presented in each session. If a) Social Studies Rooms 660/661
room is full, please plan on Science Science Lecture Hall 425/426
attending the next session.) Mathematics Room 339—Double lecture Hall

- 6:00-8:00 pm **ELL Program** (with translator) Library Viewing Room; located in the library
6:30-9:30 pm **Special Education / Resource** Room 648
6:00-9:30 pm **AP/IB Program** For information on specific courses, go to Department Sessions.
Darren Bessett will be available in the **library** to answer questions.

6:00-9:30 pm **Elective Areas in Student Center**
Representatives from Art, Consumer and Family Studies, Special Ed/Resource, Business/Computers, Industrial Design, Physical Education, Health, Sports, Student Council, Newspaper, and Yearbook will be on hand to answer questions. You may also pick up information on sports teams and sign-up to be called if you are interested in being on a team.

6:00-9:30 pm **Choir & Drama** program information will be available in room 524; **Orchestra & Band** information will be available in the Band Room.

Knight Crew student leaders will be available throughout the evening to direct you to the library, student center and cafeteria!

2012

COMMUNICATION to all parents - School Newsletter Version

BVSD Parent Snapshot Surveys coming in February (online) and March (mailed)

BVSD surveys students, parents and staff each year in order to gather information that can be used to guide efforts to improve schools. The survey of parents is called the "Parent Snapshot Survey" and parents will be receiving it in the next few weeks. We hope all parents and guardians will take a moment to complete and return this survey. The more parents who participate, the more accurately the survey data will reflect parents' perceptions and opinions. The survey results are reviewed by school staff to determine what programs and processes are working and which ones need improvement. Consequently, the survey results can have a significant impact on school operations.

The Parent Snapshot Survey will be administered online for all parents who have provided an email address to their student's school and who receive all communication in English. This supports a greener and more cost effective process by reducing the amount of paper used, mailing cost, and data entry required. We also hope this will increase the parent participation rate. Online surveys will be sent by email the week of February 6th to only **one** email address per household. If you don't see an invitation in your "inbox," please check other email addresses you have given the school.

If there is not an email address associated to your household or if your primary language is Spanish, you will receive a survey via U.S. postal service consistent with last year. Paper surveys will be mailed at the beginning of March.

Because the same survey has been given for several years, school staff and School Accountability Committees are able to study trends and patterns in responses. All of this information helps schools serve you in the best way possible.

2012

COMMUNICATION to all parents - School Newsletter Version

En febrero (en línea) y marzo (enviadas por correo) llegarán las Encuestas Instantáneas para los Padres de BVSD

BVSD encuesta a los estudiantes, a los padres y al personal todos los años para poder reunir información que se pueda utilizar para guiar el trabajo para mejorar las escuelas. La encuesta de los padres es conocida como “Encuesta Instantánea para Padres” y pueden esperar recibirla en las próximas semanas. Esperamos que todos los padres y tutores tomen un momento para completarla y devolverla. Cuantos más padres participen en la encuesta, mejor reflejarán los datos sus percepciones y sus opiniones. Los resultados de la encuesta son analizados por el personal de las escuelas para determinar qué programas y procesos están funcionando y cuáles necesitan ser mejorados. Por consiguiente los resultados de la encuesta tienen un impacto significativo en las operaciones de las escuelas.

Una vez más este año, la Encuesta Instantánea para Padres se va a administrar en línea a aquellos padres que han proporcionado una dirección de correo electrónico a la escuela de sus hijos y que reciben toda la comunicación en inglés. Esto apoya un proceso más ecológico y barato al reducir la cantidad de papel utilizado, los gastos de envío y la entrada de datos necesaria. También esperamos que esto aumente la tasa de participación de los padres. Las encuestas en línea serán enviadas por correo electrónico la semana del 6 de febrero a **una** sola dirección electrónica por familia. Si usted no encuentra una invitación en su “bandeja de entradas”, por favor revise las otras direcciones de correo electrónico que proporcionó a la escuela.

Si no hay una dirección de correo electrónico asociada a su familia o si su idioma principal es el español, ustedes recibirán la encuesta por correo postal al igual que el año pasado. Las encuestas en papel serán enviadas a principios de marzo.

Debido a que se ha utilizado la misma encuesta desde hace varios años, al personal escolar y a los Comités de Responsabilidad Escolar les es posible estudiar las tendencias y los patrones en las respuestas. Toda esta información ayuda a las escuelas a servirles de la mejor manera posible.

Platt

PEN Parent
Engagement
Network

Presents

Mark Twarogowski

The Secret Life of the Teenage Brain

Thursday, February 9, 2012

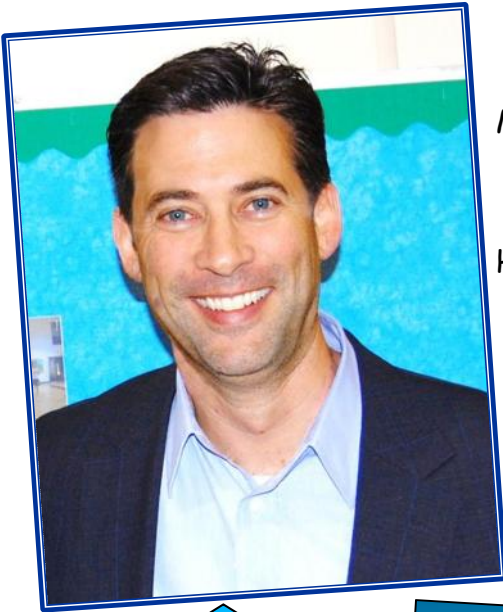
6-8 pm

Nevin Platt Middle School Auditorium

Register online at <http://plattpen.wordpress.com>

Recent studies have demonstrated what many parents and teachers already know- the teenage years are a time of dramatic ups and downs characterized by mood swings, impulsive behaviors, and poor judgment. Join Mark Twarogowski as he translates the latest brain research into real-life understanding of what makes our teenagers so "darn interesting."

Teens Welcome



Mark Twarogowski is a respected presenter at local, national, and international education conferences. He speaks frequently on the learning process and the developing brain.

He has presented this session at such conferences as: The Sterne School Lecture Series; The National Association of Independent Schools Annual Conference; Jefferson County Public Schools; and, The Positive Behavior Support Symposium for the Colorado Department of Education.

Mr. Twarogowski is the Director of Education at Denver Academy. He holds a BA in Psychology and an MA in Education and has over 25 years experience in education.

Suggested
Donation \$5

Space is Limited
Registration Recommended

Questions? Contact Meg Tierney, Platt Parent Engagement Network
plattpen@gmail.com 720-406-0158



13th Annual Jazz Band Swing Dance

Ticket PreSale Form

Event – February 10, 2012

6:30 pm – 9:00 pm

Host: Louisville Middle School

Please return this form with a check or cash to your band teacher by February 3, 2012. Tickets will be distributed to your band teacher and sent home with your student by Feb. 8th, 2012. Please make checks out to Louisville Middle School.

Name of Student: _____

School: _____

Grade: _____

Adult Tickets @ \$6/each

Tickets will be \$8.00 at the door.

Tickets _____

\$ _____

Student Tickets @ \$4/each

Tickets will be \$5.00 at the door.

Tickets _____

\$ _____

Total: \$ _____

Please contact Tricia Uchida at (303) 868-3210 or tricia_uchida@comcast.net with questions.

Note: Tickets are wristbands – so simply wear your wristband to the event and you will not have to wait in any lines. Also, all participants, including volunteers, will need to buy tickets except for the jazz band members.



Feb 13th

8:30 – 9:30 am
in the library

RESPARK



PIRATE PEN

Join Adam Fels and Betsy Fox, PEN Coach, who will facilitate a discussion engaging our parents with each other about ways to bring PEN at LMS forward.

Questions contact: Ralph Lippert at ralph.lippert@penbv.org 303-666-4006 or Betsy Fox at betsy.fox@penbv.org or Adam Fels

A Time To Reconnect

Do you wish to come together and be a part of the programs PiratePEN can offer at LMS to enrich our families, children, and our school? LMS is an energetic place. The sky's the limit with the direction and types of programs we could present at our school with your involvement.

PEN is not about traditional meetings. Rather it's about coming together and getting to know each other, understanding our school community and family desires. We can then find programs and people to help us achieve our aims.