

Lamoni Community School Newsletter November 2018

CONTACT INFORMATION

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ADMINISTRATION

Chris Coffelt,
Superintendent

Alan Dykens,
Pre K-12 Principal

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Chip Millslagle- President

Michele Dickey-Kotz-
Vice Pres

Larry Heltenberg

Nate Pierschbacher

Kris Stevenson

School Board Meeting

Wed Nov 14th 6:00 pm

IMPORTANT DATES

Oct 30 & Nov 1- Parent-Teacher Conf 3-7
1 pm dismissal

Nov 5- Fall Athletic Banquet 6:30 pm

Nov 12- Veterans' Day Assembly 9am

Nov 13- PK Family Thanksgiving Feast
6:00 pm

Nov 15- LHS Band & Choir Concert 6:30

Nov 21- No School Prof Development

Nov 22-23 No School
Thanksgiving Break

Nov 29- Elem Music Concert 6:30pm

See the full calendar of events at:

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar>



From the Desk of Mr. Coffelt

Lamoni Community,

At the close of the 2018 State Legislative Session, two bills were passed that have an impact on our local school district, including: Senate File 2364 - Emergency Operations Plan and Senate File 2113 - Suicide Prevention, ACES Identification and Toxic Stress Response Mitigation Training.

Lamoni Community School District has always believed students excel in a safe, nurturing and positive environment. These two new state laws codify the responsibility of all schools in Iowa to put specific plans, strategies and actions into place to better realize this goal.

Senate File 2364 requires all public schools in Iowa to develop a high quality emergency operations plan for the district and individual school buildings. The plan needs to be completed no later than June 30, 2019 and must be reviewed and updated annually by local school boards. The plan needs to include responses to active shooter scenarios and natural disasters, requiring schools to consider recommendations from the Iowa Department of Education and consult local law enforcement and emergency management coordinators as plans are developed and implemented.

We are ahead of the curve in this area, as the District has focused on revising and developing our District Emergency Operations plan for the past three years. During this time, we

have been more intentional about working with local law enforcement and staff to better prepare for a variety of threats including intruder and active shooter scenarios, as well as threats that involve fire, severe weather, and transportation accidents. We will spend this year reviewing state guidance and protocols to ensure our local procedures align with best practice.

We will continue to work with staff and students to talk and walk through a variety of different drills in order to ensure we are better prepared when we do have to respond to an actual event. Just this past month, during our early release for staff professional development, staff spent time reflecting on procedures in four areas, including: district vehicle and bus evacuations, classroom materials and resources needed during a crisis, the impact of concussions on learning, and procedures during mass crowd events, such as concerts or athletic competitions.

The second law, **Senate File 2113**, directs the State Board of Education to adopt rules requiring school districts to adopt protocols for suicide prevention and postvention, the identification of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), and strategies to mitigate toxic stress response based on nationally recognized best practices.

Lamoni continues to be a leader here as well. The District participated in a trauma-informed care conference for our staff and with educators from Mt. Ayr, Diagonal, Central Decatur and Mormon Trail School Districts in

August. This event provided nearly 250 educators that serve 1,750 students in Decatur and Ringgold Counties the opportunity to interact directly with state and local agency personnel and better understand what adverse childhood experiences are, as well as how to more effectively respond to and support all students in the classroom.

Staff are deepening their understanding about adverse childhood experiences after this conference by participating in professional development with Community Health Centers of Southern Iowa this semester as well as going in greater depth with by reading the *Deepest Well* by Nadine Burke Harris. This book provides an excellent insight from a medical perspective about the social-emotional, physical and behavioral impacts of trauma on students, families and communities.

While we have work to do to realize the goals established by each of these laws, I am confident we will not only meet the mandate, but create a school community that is safe and supportive for each of our students and families.

Thank you for your continued support.
In all we do, PRIDE!

Sincerely,

Chris

From the Desk of Dr. Dykens

Welcome to November. It is almost time for turkey and I couldn't be more excited. The weather is starting to turn, but we are still making the most of our opportunities outside. As a district we have had the opportunities to participate in a Walking School Bus day and our annual Red Ribbon Week. The Walking School Bus was especially exciting for our students as several Graceland Student-Athletes joined them on our walk to school. Red Ribbon Week was also a very powerful reminder of our fight against drugs and alcohol. Our students participated in several daily themes and events including tying ribbons on our fence to display our support of "Saying NO", and listening to local law enforcement share with us about marijuana and the dangers associated with it. Many thanks go to our school nurse, Alice Sweeten, for her work on these events.

Our athletic teams have now officially wrapped up their fall campaigns. The volleyball team had a great season as they made it to the second round of regional play. They were a lot of fun to watch as they continually fought, as a team, for each point. Congratulations on a great season. We are very proud of you.

The football and cross-country teams were no less exciting as they continued to fight and improve in every opportunity that they had. Each of them had a great competitive season and represented our school and each other very well. We are also very proud of them. We would like to specifically recognize our JH

combined Cross-Country Boys Team. This team competed in the state JH meet and took home the championship. Congratulations to those boys.

Our school has many more activities to look forward to as the month progresses. We will be celebrating our Veterans with our annual Veteran's Day Assembly the morning of the 12th at the school. All are welcome. You will hear kids singing and the orchestra and bands playing as we celebrate those who have defended our country and what we ultimately stand for. Our fall sports banquet will be occurring on the 5th and our winter sports will be getting started. All in all we are very busy and loving every minute of it.

As we move forward into the holiday season, may we be truly thankful for what we have and mindful of those who might be less fortunate. May we continue to be UNCOMMON, as we allow our students to be unique in their educational endeavors, respectful and responsible for their actions, and exhibit pride in all they do. Thank you for your continued support of our students and our school.

In ALL We Do - PRIDE,

Dr. D

Veterans' Day Assembly

Lamoni Schools will honor our veterans with a Veterans' Day Assembly on Monday, November 12 at 9 a.m. in the high school gymnasium. This assembly will honor all current and past veterans. The veteran does not have to be a graduate of Lamoni Schools to be honored.

Breakfast will be served free of charge to veterans and their spouses beginning at 8:15 a.m. in the Media Center.

To help honor our veterans, we will be presenting a slide show of servicemen and servicewomen with ties to Lamoni. If you would like to have your picture or your loved one's picture included, please drop it off at the elementary office and fill out an information form. You can also scan the picture and email it to Sheryl at sharrison@lamonischools.org. Please be sure to include the veteran's name, the branch of the military, name of the war or conflict, years of service and the connection with the Lamoni School, students or staff. Plan to attend the assembly and help us honor our veterans.

LAMONI COMMUNITY SCHOOL
202 N WALNUT
LAMONI, IOWA 50140

MISSION STATEMENT FOR LAMONI COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Through our collective efforts in a caring environment, we will prepare students for a life-long process of learning, which promotes the ability and motivation to contribute to a better world.

November NEWSLETTER

