

SMOKE SIGNALS

Lakeside Academy

September 2024

Issue # 1

We are deep in Sasquatch country, with no signal or wifi for phone, text, or email, so what better way is there to communicate from this desolate and beautiful region to our families than by smoke signals. . . so here is our first inaugural newsletter from Lakeside. "Smoke Signals" will come out once per month and will contain various information from our PTO and our staff. I will also use the newsletter as a chance to share some important information for our families! So here we go!

We are three weeks in, and we continue to tweak various processes and procedures. I was interested in the word tweak so did a quick Google search and it means "to make fine adjustments" and comes from a Middle English Word *twicken* "To draw, tug, pluck." Pretty cool! These fine adjustments all add up to improved outcomes. The result is things such as. . .

Yesterday we cleared the car rider line by 3:19 and the parents who came in afterwards were pretty shocked. I know this because I jokingly asked one parent, "You didn't think we'd be done yet, did you?" They shook their head no. A few tweaks from staff and students and families and we have improved this procedure incredibly well.

Our lunch processes have improved. Students understand how to order and whereas before our serving lines were getting backed up, now we're seeing the lines move smoothly and kids enjoying their lunch. We arranged through our amazing PTO to get parent volunteers to come help open all those wily yogurt tubes, impossible-to-open-milk cartons (seriously, no one has designed a better one in 50 years), and beef jerky sticks with the impossible-to-rip encasing, and things are going smoother. . . just with a few tweaks.

Our builders are fine-tuning as well. The sod has been laid down and they continue to press it down to ensure safety for our littlest sasquatches. Our gymnasium has received its last coats of clear coat and needs to cure (It looks so awesome!), our stage has been painted and coated (Shakespeare, anyone?), our sound systems are almost complete, and the PE Pavilion is close to occupancy. Along with our Project Manager, we will inspect before school on Tuesday to ensure our kids are safe and can utilize these areas before clearing them. Dean Miller is busy getting lockers ready. Nothing brings us Gen Xers more joy than watching these young whippersnappers grapple with technology from a bygone era. These kids with their fancy phones, fingerprints, and facial scans finally get to tackle a technology from the 1900's. . . an old fashioned combination lock! Rest assured we will try to assist but will probably enjoy a little laughter as kids struggle with this procedure. I might put a card catalog and a rotary phone out for students to tackle as well, just for kicks. Once again, little tweaks and processes begin to improve.

But it's not just our school that can continue to tweak and make fine adjustments! Parents and families, you can help too. After all, this school is our school and part of our community. I have a few humble asks. . .

I have received several emails of concern about bikers and e-bikers riding recklessly on the way to and from school. While the community has large pedestrian paths, these paths are filled with hundreds of walkers and kids and families. Parents, if your child is a biker, take a few moments to share a few safety tips with your child. I have four kids, and I used to be one (I was a Dukes of Hazzard Fan), and while weaving in and around pedestrians might seem fun, our students on bikes should know pedestrians do have the right-of-way. I would suggest walkers walk on right side of the path and bikers announce when they are passing on the left. In addition, please instruct your children to keep speeds lower than they might normally ride when the path is congested. We have had some students hit by bikes on the way to school. Of course, please continue to dismount the bikes and walk to the bike racks.

In addition, please continue to reach out to our school and staff with any concerns you might have. We are here to help. I know other schools across the country and world suffer from something I call Facebook Shaming, and I'm asking (obviously I can't order) families and parents to reach out when they have concerns about policies or procedures taking place in class instead of venting on social media. I'm proud of our staff and our teachers and trust their professionalism and am quite certain the majority of issues or concerns can be handled with a conversation to clear up any misunderstanding. Of course, our administrative team is happy to support you as well. A huge number of our teachers and staff live in this community and seeing your name on a Facebook post can be an especially vulnerable feeling. If you have questions you would like to share or discuss online, I'm asking everyone to keep specific names off social media unless it's mine. I'm not on Facebook or social media, so feel free to blast me for the parent pickup line as often as you'd like!

In conclusion, September will be a month of continued tweaks to continue improving by our whole school community. That's all I have for now, but as always, keep on the lookout for more, "Smoke Signals!"

WELCOME SASQUATCH FAMILIES



Clinic Corner

Upcoming Health Screenings

October 10th and 11th
for K, 1st, 3rd and 6th
grades

*opt out letters coming in
September

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday Sept. 2nd - Labor Day
Student/Teacher Holiday

Friday Sept. 20 - Teacher Inservice Day
Student Holiday

Saturday Aug. 31 - IKEA Event

SCHOOL HOURS

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday
8:40 am - 3:00 pm

Wednesday
8:40 - 2:00 pm

School doors open at 8:20 & close at 8:40
Students who arrive after 8:40 they must check in at the front office.

Fun family events

HELP SUPPORT THOSE HELPING US!

IKEA has become a strong community partner with Lakeside Academy PTO and Lakeside Academy as a whole. We are thankful for their support in getting our classrooms set up for success!

Wear your PJs to Ikea Saturday August 31, 2024 at 11:00am and get free breakfast (9:30am -11am) first 50 families that RSVP in the Ikea Family app will get a free stuffed animal.

Sleep essentials tour of Ikea

You will receive a passport at the store entrance and visit various stops along your shopping experience to learn about the six sleep essentials. All participants will take home sleep essentials to begin their path to a more restful night of sleep. Enjoy our fantastic pajama party and improve your sleep routines. Must be an IKEA Family member and RSVP to the event to participate (Free to sign up). Open to adults only, aged 18 or over. Due to the timed nature of the event, attendees who arrive 30 minutes prior to event end time may not have the opportunity to visit all stops. Event ends promptly at 2 pm.



Physical education

Physical Education Reminders for Parents and Students

- Bring a refillable water bottle, with child's name written on it.
- Wear athletic sneakers/tennis shoes (croc's in any mode, flip flops, sandals/open toed shoes, shoes with heels or dress shoes are not safe and may require student to not participate in certain activities.
- Students that cannot tie their shoes yet should not wear shoes that need to be tied as this is an additional safety hazard.
- Limit the layers (sweatshirts, jackets, etc. should be left in the classroom) students may wear hats that secure to their heads for sun protections, but are the responsibility of the student like that of sunscreen.
- We will be inside and outside for PE based on weather and accessible spaces...so bring your "I believe, I can" Sasquatch energy because we will be practicing our flexibility for the next two weeks.

MEDIA CENTER NEWS



Click the SSYRA Junior link above for the Sunshine State Young Readers Award Junior Books for 24-25.



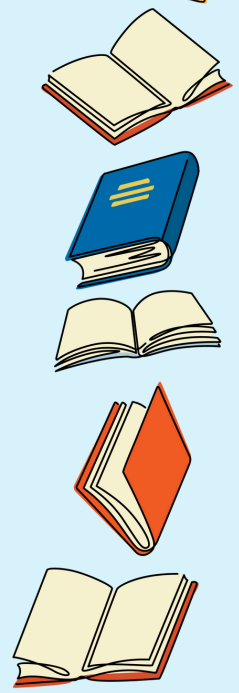
Donations needed! Please [click here](#) for more info, thank you in advance for your generous support of our media center!



The Lakeside Academy Media Advisory Committee is looking for members!

The committee assists with reconsideration of library materials at the school level, as well as collection development for the library media center. Membership is not anonymous and any meetings are subject to public records. Please contact your school librarian by September 6th if you are interested in joining the Media Advisory Committee. Members will be selected in September using a lottery system.

If interested, contact: jamie.masitti@stjohns.k12.fl.us or belinda.lanese@stjohns.k12.fl.us



MEDIA CENTER NEWS

Congratulations to our Sasquatch Summer Readers!



Those students that turned in their summer reading log, should have received a Sasquatch Summer Reading Brag Tag! 😊
Reading Logs were due August 30th

Jackson May
Carmine Turano
Victoria Bedin
Dominic Masitti
Gianna Masitti
Kamryn Puller
Aubrey Halladey
Natalie Brendel
Deacon Halladey
Bailey Halladey
Abigail Denapen
Zayden Brahmhatt
Korin Pietrick
Nyelle Sarethchandra
Yuriy Zalishchuk
Isabella Sancho
Eli Anderson
Zenno Coutinho
Lana Davenport
Eloise Read
Natalia Turano
Hemkrish Satheeshkunar
Guilana DiFranco
Zubiya Mahrosh
Lana Davenport
Eloise Read
Lana Davenport
Eloise Read
Grayson McDonald
Theodore Faatz
Mia Elena Chiano
Ellie Davenport
Harper Seiler
Olivia Volpe
Addysen Sholette
Shraddha Hairharan

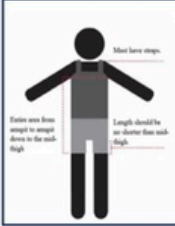
Brody Weller
Beatriz Rossi
Jaslynn Plants
Tessa Plants
Zoe Bretton
Alma Sancho
Abby Wonderly
David Ten
Shwasthi Ravi
Subiksha Pitchala
Emma Delgado
Lilly Dell
Brody Philhour
Brianna Bucci
Carolina Hartmann
Sharanya Yachwad
Adalyn Drager
Roman Turner
Mya Zerrahn
Carter Bensi Doty
Norah McQuillian
Aiden Bagunnu
Iliyana Bahmbhatt
Tucker Danielson
Nathan Bagunu
George Zalishchuk
Jordan Mourges
Kinsley Anderson
Grace Dell
Rockland Halkitis
Evan Serang
Tatum Fromm
Piper Felix
Chase Einhorn
Olivia Danielson

From the Dean

DRESS CODE POLICY

CELL PHONE POLICY

Dress Code Policy



ALL STUDENTS

Clothing must cover areas from one armpit to the other armpit, down to the mid-thigh. Tops must have shoulder straps and be long enough to adequately cover the waistline and not expose the midriff.

Reminders


- Clothing, piercings and accessories displaying profanity, violence, discriminatory messages, sexually suggestive phrases, symbols or phrases of alcohol, tobacco or drugs is unacceptable.
- Pajamas shall not be worn as exterior clothing on campus.
- Head gear, including but not limited to caps, hats, bandanas, and/or sunglasses should not be worn indoors.
- Students must wear shoes with backs that are safe for the learning environment. Bedroom slippers are prohibited.
- Rips or tears in clothing above the mid-thigh must not expose skin.

In accordance with statutory requirement F.S. 1006.07 (students are prohibited from wearing clothing that exposes underwear or that exposes body parts in an indecent or vulgar manner) enforcement will focus on positive guidance without embarrassment to the student and should not disrupt the educational process.

Page 14 in the St Johns County School District Code of Conduct

Phone Policy

Expectation: Upon entering school, phones and other wireless communication devices must be turned off and stored in student's backpack, purse, or locker. To assist students in maintaining academic focus, the device shall not be used during the school day without administrative approval.



Recording other students and staff is PROHIBITED

Failure to put phone away after teacher reminder will result in discipline consequences including confiscation of the device or loss of privilege to possess such a device on school campus as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct.

When there is reasonable suspicion that a student has used a cell phone in violation of the Code of Conduct or other school rules, or for an unlawful purpose, the school administration may search the phone's call logs, voice messages, text messages, photographs and any other applications in its investigation of the suspected violations.

Students can contact parents/guardians from a school phone if the need arises throughout the academic day.

Page 26/27 in the St Johns County School District Code of Conduct

LOCKER INFO

6th and 7th graders: Lockers are almost ready and will be issued to students during middle school lunches starting Tuesday, September 3rd.

Classroom teachers will help students practice using combinations and opening lockers throughout the week.

If you have any questions, contact Dean Miller jenna.miller@stjohns.k12.fl.us



FORTIFYFL

SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY REPORTING APP

FortifyFL is a suspicious activity reporting tool that allows you to instantly relay information to appropriate law enforcement agencies and school officials.



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