



LHCS News

A weekly publication of the Lake Harriet Community School PTA

November 28, 2017

17th ISSUE FOR '17-'18

Junior Great Books

The Junior Great Books program is coming back to Lake Harriet! Signup forms are on their way for students to participate in Junior Great Books and parents to volunteer to lead a discussion group. The deadline for submission is 12/19. Junior Great Books will start mid to late January and is open to 2nd through 5th grade students. In this program, students read age appropriate literature and then discuss the material using a 'shared inquiry' approach which encourages students to search for meaning in stories and to consider and express different points of view. The discussion groups, led by parent volunteers, help students increase their comprehension, interpretive thinking, and oral and written language skills. Second and third graders will meet on Wednesday mornings at the lower campus from 8:40 to 9:25. Fourth and fifth graders will meet at the upper campus on Thursday mornings from 8:40 to 9:25. If you are interested in signing your 2nd 5th grade student up, getting more information, or volunteering to lead a discussion group please contact Andy Schoenke aschoenke@yahoo.com or (503) 702.1621. Thank you.

Student Surveys

In late November or December, students at Lake Harriet will be taking two online surveys. One survey assesses our school climate (grades 5-8) and the other gauges dimensions of teachers and classroom life (grades K-8). Surveys are standardized and used district-wide and help provide data that can drive professional development and growth at the teacher and school level. All answers provided by students are anonymous. Data/results from the surveys are received in the spring and are used by school administration, teachers and the site council to assess and create climate and instructional goals.

2016-17 Yearbook Supplements Ready for Pick-Up

If your student attends Upper Campus this year, and purchased a 2016-2017 yearbook last

year, they may pick up their supplement in the school office. If students have a current 9th grade sibling, that purchased a yearbook last year as an 8th grader, they may pick theirs up too.

Lower Campus yearbook supplements were delivered to classrooms.

Volunteers still needed for STE(A)M Day this Friday!!

STE(A)M Day is here, on December 1st from 2pm- 3:40pm, and we need more volunteers to help our Presenters. No planning is required. Simply fill your name in on the class of your choice. The Presenter will tell you what to do. Here's the link. <https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/30E0E4EA4AD2FA2F85-steam2> It's easy!! Any questions, contact Heather Hunt at hfishhunt@yahoo.com

Reminder - Upcoming Student Concerts

Middle School Band & Orchestra Concert

When: Tue, December 5, 7:00 PM

Where: Lake Harriet Upper School

All Middle School Ensembles

6th Grade Band

7th/8th Grade Band

6th – 8th Grade String Orchestra

Jazz Band

6th, 7th and 8th grade Guitar Orchestra and Choir Concert

When: Tuesday, December 12th, 7:00 PM

Where: Upper Campus Gym

Lower Campus Music Concert

When: Wednesday, December 20th

Where: Lake Harriet Lower School

K 9:50 – 10:00

2nd 10:10 – 10:30

1st 10:40 – 11:00

3rd 11:10 – 11:30

Last Chance to Share your Priorities in MOS Budget Spending

The costs of the programs and services we offer at MPS continue to be more than available dollars. MPS is facing a \$33M shortfall for next year's budget. For MPS to build a path to financial sustainability, there will need to be program changes/reductions. The district is asking for participation in a parent survey to understand the community's values.

****LHCS Parents**** Please take the survey! It is important that the district hear our priorities as they decide upon cuts for next year's budget.

MPS Message: *Share your Values*

We want to know what you value for your child and for all children in Minneapolis Public Schools. If you had to make difficult budget and programming decisions, what would you do?

Please take our survey and send other input to the district from October 23 through the end of November. MPS will post related links on our website for the following:

- [MPS Budgets including information](#) on how school budgets are created and how MPS got where we are today
- The "[MPS Values Survey](#)"
- Opportunities to send us your questions, concerns and, best of all, ideas! Try to come from a solution frame of mind. If you identify a problem, try hard to suggest a solution.
- Upcoming "MPS Values Focus Groups" to participate in

Results of the survey and other gathered community information will be posted on the MPS Website later this year.

Our budget should reflect our values. Let's find our common values and put them to work for our students. Let's be MPS Strong - together!

Educational Benefits Form needs to be filled out by all families

Educational Benefits Form - to be filled out by all families

The Application for Educational Benefits is a form that the district has asked all families to complete. This is essential because it not only determines the students' lunch aid, but also determines State dollars allocated to support students who need additional resources. These funding sources generate approximately \$80 Million for the district each year, but would be more if more eligible families fill out the form.

At Lake Harriet, these funds have been used to pay for Associate Educators who support students in the lunchroom, at recess and in the classrooms.

Eligibility is based on family income combined with household size. For example, a household size of 5 with an income of \$53,000 would be eligible. The information is kept in confidence.

Online: Please visit the site, www.schoolcafe.com, and select the eligibility tab and click on "Apply" to fill out the form. Complete the registration online by November 30th. (Because this State Funding threshold is the same as the State Lunch Program threshold, MPS is using the lunch-pay service's online form to simplify the online process. You can use it even if your student does not eat lunch at school. Remember, the eligibility has benefits beyond the lunch program and the school will gain funding for every eligible student.)

Paper Form: If you would like a paper form, please request one from the school. Complete the form by November 30th to help ensure your school gets the funding it needs.

- The paper form should be returned to the school in an envelop marked "Educational Benefits"
- Note, the paper form includes an option to check a "we are not eligible" box. In this case, please fill out the student information and check the box.
- Also, the newsletter editors attempted to get a downloadable file to print from home, but were told that the district scanner doesn't work with home-printed forms, therefore we should use the forms from the school.

Please contact Hashep Seka with questions Hashep.seka@mpls.k12.mn.us

Amazon Smile

The holiday shopping season is here. When you're placing those Amazon.com orders use "Amazon Smile." For every purchase you make, Amazon donates to our PTA. It's quick, easy and free! smile.amazon.com/ch/41-1399811

Parent pick-up at Lower Campus - REMINDER

This note is for those of you who do parent pick-up. The school would like to remind families that due to high sidewalk traffic, bus safety, and icy conditions, the only place teachers will be releasing students to families after school is at the corner of 40th St and Drew Ave. We apologize and know that parking can be a challenge at dismissal time and with the cold weather we're all tempted to make the shortest walk possible to our cars. However, kids coming in and out of lines at various points along the dismissal line is a safety concern, and as such all classes have been directed to release students only at the designated corner.

Thanks for helping with this!

A Note from the Health Office

Attention Lower Campus Parents:

The school nurse has requested that you send your students with extra clothes in their backpacks. It is the time of year where the weather can change at any time and some students find themselves needing extra clothes after damp play outside at recess and even an occasional "accident". The health office staff has some clothes to share, but are unable to meet all of the needs. Having extra clothes in your student's backpack can give the student peace of mind.

Thanks in advance from the LHCS Nursing staff.

Volunteers Needed in the Lower Campus Media Center

Your kids LOVE to read - which means they bring all those wonderful books back to the library when they are done. Here's where you come in. Can you volunteer 1-2 hours a week to help shelve books. It's not hard and would help me get the books out faster for those voracious readers. A set schedule is best but I can be flexible if you need that. Thanks in advance from Mrs Delebo and all the readers at lower campus n.delebo@mpls.k12.mn.us

Last Chance - Pledge Drive ends November 30!

Don't forget, the annual LHCS Pledge Drive is still happening! How can you Pledge? Visit: http://lakeharriet.mpls.k12.mn.us/Annual_Pledge_Drive489

Community News:

2017-2018

LHCS

News

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Submissions: email to Anne Arden: annearden@yahoo.com or use the online submission form at:

<http://lakeharriet.mpls.k12.mn.us/connection1.html>.

Please try to limit each submission to approximately 150 words in length.