

WELCOME TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STUDENT SERVICES

Fall Newsletter 2016

Volume 2, Issue 1

Celebrations in Professional Development!

This year our department has been engaged in hours of meaningful learning opportunities. Below you can find a list of what we have been considering as a department.

- ◇ Technology (Assistive, Adaptive, Augmented)
- ◇ Autism
- ◇ ADHD in the Classroom
- ◇ Positive Behavior Supports
- ◇ Mindfulness
- ◇ Crisis Prevention Institute
- ◇ Collaborative Problem Solving
- ◇ Reading Strategies
- ◇ Social Emotional Health and Well-being
- ◇ Grief
- ◇ Mindfulness
- ◇ Inclusion
- ◇ Co-Teaching
- ◇ Positive Social Interactions
- ◇ Peer Buddies
- ◇ Foundational skills for our Teaching Assistants
- ◇ First Aid
- ◇ Literacy and Dyslexia
- ◇ Legal Training
- ◇ IEP Writing
- ◇ Section 504
- ◇ ...and much much more

IN SCHOOL COUNSELING

Career Cruising

Helping Students Reach their Full Potential Through Self-Exploration and Planning

Livingston High School is proud to introduce Career Cruising to all grade 9 students. Career Cruising is a web-based, self-exploration and planning program that drives students to recognize their full potential in school, career, and life. Students in grade 9, in collaboration with their school counselors, will start by building awareness of career options and pathways. Through exploration, they will identify personal interests and preferences through a variety of surveys. Students will learn about themselves, their interests, skills, preferences and aspirations so they can explore the opportunities that are right for them. Students can continue to utilize the key features of the software to guide them through the process of understanding their career opportunities as it pertains to their chosen courses at Livingston High School. They will learn about career possibilities and educational pathway by exploring rich, engaging content. School counselors plan to begin the implementation of Career Cruising with grade 9 students in December.

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Welcome!

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the Department of Student Services. We are supported by many wonderful professionals including Learning Disability Teacher-Consultants, Social Workers, Psychologists, Nurses, School Counselors, Student Assistance Counselors, Teachers, Behavior Specialists, Behaviorists, Teaching Assistants, Speech Therapists, Occupational Therapists, Physical Therapists. In addition we are very fortunate to be served by a team of five administrators. The newest addition to the leadership team in Student Services is Mrs. Krystie Loeuis. Krystie has worked in Livingston for nine years as both a school counselor and coordinator of the Monmouth Court Campus of Livingston High School. In her new role, Krystie will remain at the Monmouth Court Campus, but she will add to her responsibilities the role of transition coordinator. In this role, Krystie has already provided a parent evening on the topic of Post-Secondary Transition for Students with Learning Disabilities. This can be found on the School Counseling and Student Services Websites if you missed the event. Krystie will continue to provide professional development to our staff and serve as the liaison to state and local organizations who support the transition services for students with disabilities. Her next parent event will be held on January 26, 2017



and the topic will be "Transition to Life for Students with Disabilities". Families of students aged 14-21 are invited to this event. You will receive a personal invitation from my office soon.

Technology for All!

This year LPS students have access to even more technology that has opened new and exciting avenues of learning. One of these exciting avenues originated within the Department of Student Services and is now accessible by all LPS students. TextHelp Read and Write for Google is one of a growing number of extensions available for download. Based on accolades from last year's pilot, coupled with evidence of successful student utilization of the software, we have decided to invest in a District subscription for 2016-2017. Read and Write is a program that allows learners to access a number of helpful tools that support the reading and writing process. Tools for reading include text to speech and study tools that result in higher levels of interaction and understanding of instructional texts. Writing tools include speech to text and research tools that promote increased writing proficiency. Additionally, this software allows teachers and students to communicate via voice notes to comment on or ask questions about their reading and writing. To learn more about TextHelp Read and Write for Google, visit www.TextHelp.com or attend our parent training scheduled for January 10, 2017.



Learning Ally is an additional technology based resource that is being accessed by K-12 special education teachers. The resource contains over 83,000 titles of audiobooks for students to have access to a human voice reader, as well as accompanied text with highlighting to assist with their reading process. In addition, since each student has a unique login, they are able to access the audiobooks from home. This is another avenue for incorporating technology as a tool for assisting with learning. Teachers will be assigning students to specific books as it relates to their guided reading, current novels and content specific materials. Students also have the opportunity to add books for leisure and recreational reading purposes. If you would like to explore this resource to learn more, please visit the Learning Ally Website at www.learningally.org or attend our parent training scheduled for January 10, 2017.



Parent Programs for this School Year:

We are VERY excited to share with you a growing calendar of parent programming for this school year. Please see page two for the events that our staff and leadership team will be offering throughout the year.

SEPTEMBER 2016**September 9th and 12th**

LHS Senior Toolkit Large Group Meetings – Class of 2017
Livingston High School

September 6th—30th

PSAT Registration (10th and 11th grade students)
Livingston High School

OCTOBER 2016**October 13th**

Transition to Post-Secondary Education for
Parents of Students with a Disability
6:00—6:50 p.m.
Livingston High School Media Center

October 13th

Overview of the College Process for
All Parents
7:00—8:30 p.m.
Livingston High School Auditorium

October 27th

PRIDE Parent Workshop
Social Skills
2:00—3:00 p.m.
Burnet Hill Elementary School

October 27th

Financial Aid Presentation
with Kimber Decker for All Parents
Livingston High School Auditorium
7:00—8:30 p.m.



DECEMBER 2016**December 8th**

PRIDE Parent Workshop
Building Motor Skills in the Preschooler
2:00—3:00 p.m.
Burnet Hill Elementary School

**Special Education Parent
Advisory Committee**

Reminder... Please refer to your
child's school calendar for
building-based SEPAC meetings!

JANUARY 2017**January 10th**

Google Read & Write and Learning Ally for
Parents of Students with a Disability, Grades K-5 6:00—7:15 p.m.
Parents of Students with a Disability, Grades 6-12 7:30—8:45 p.m.
Heritage Middle School Media Center

January 19th

PRIDE Parent Workshop
ABCs of Behavior: Make 'n Take Behavior Charts
2:00—3:00 p.m.
Burnet Hill Elementary School

January 19th

8th Grade Transition Night for
Parents of Students with a Disability
6:00 p.m.
Livingston High School Media Center

**January 19th**

8th to 9th Grade Orientation Program for
All Parents
7:00—9:00 p.m.
Livingston High School Auditorium and Breakout Classes

January 26th

Transition to Life Program for
Parents of Students with a Disability, Ages 16-21
7:00 p.m.
Livingston High School Auditorium

MARCH 2017

March 30th

PRIDE Parent Workshop

Developing Speech and Language Skills in the Preschooler

2:00—3:00 p.m.

Burnet Hill Elementary School

March 30th

Vocational and Technical Post-Secondary Panel for

All Parents

6:00—7:00 p.m.

Livingston High School Cafeteria

March 30th

College Admissions Panel for

All Parents

Livingston High School Media Center, 5:45 p.m. Reception

Livingston High School Auditorium, 7:00—9:00 p.m.



APRIL 2017

April—Date To Be Determined

6th to 7th Grade Transition Night for

Parents of Students with a Disability

Heritage Middle School

April 20th

PRIDE Parent Workshop

The Basics of Behavior

7:00 p.m.

Burnet Hill Elementary School Media Center

April 20th

Livingston High School College Fair

LHS Fitness & Wellness Center/Auxiliary Gym

7:00—8:30 p.m.

April 30th

Abilities Expo

Livingston High School Cafeteria



MAY 2017**May 18th**

PRIDE Parent Workshop
From PRIDE to Kindergarten: The Transition Process
2:00—3:00 p.m.
Burnet Hill Elementary School

May 18th

Overview of the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services
and Division of Developmental Disabilities for
Parents of Students with a Disability, ages 16-21
6:00—7:00 p.m.
Livingston High School Media Center

May 18th

Applying to College for
All Parents
7:00—9:00 p.m.
Livingston High School Auditorium

**JUNE 2017****June 12th**

Managing Expectation of the Junior Year for
Parents of Students with a Disability
6:00—7:00 p.m.
Livingston High School Media Center

June 12th

Overview of the Junior Year for
All Parents
“Getting Started... Where do we begin?”
7:00 p.m.
Livingston High School Auditorium