Highlights...

- Cover: LCPS Links; Department Leadership
- Page 2: Inclusive Technology Spotlight
- Page 3: Outreach Services; Social Emotional Learning
- Page 4: Social Emotional Learning
- Page 5: SIF-R's Present at Conference
- Page 6: Transition Team Presents at Conference
- Page 7: When the Bus Stops Coming 2022
- Page 8: Links to Office of Student Services Sites/Newsletters; Upcoming Events

DEPARTMENT LEADERSHIP

Dr. Asia R. Jones, Assistant Superintendent
Dr. Clark Bowers, Director of Student Services
John Lody, Director of Diagnostic and Prevention Services
Dr. Patricia D. Nelson, Director of Special Education
Donna M. Smith, Director of Special Education Procedural Support
Sarah Kish, Acting Assistant Director of Special Education Procedural Support
Beth Robinson, Assistant Director of Special Education Specialized Instruction

LCPS Links

https://www.facebook.com/LCPSofficial/timeline/
https://twitter.com/LCPSOfficial
https://vimeo.com/lcpstv
INCLUSIVE TECHNOLOGY SPOTLIGHT

Support Literacy Skills with Immersive Reader

Immersive Reader is a literacy support tool from Microsoft which is also integrated into many technologies available in LCPS. One of its many features is the ability to break words into syllables which can help a user decode, recognize, and pronounce the individual word. Each word can also have a part of speech indicator to help learners better understand the usage and meaning of a word. Different color schemes can also be used to provide a preferred contrast between the text and the background. Immersive Reader also has a speech to text function to have text read aloud. To activate Immersive Reader, look for the book with a speaker icon symbol in Microsoft products and embedded into tools which have partnered with Microsoft.

Look for this symbol to activate

Immersive Reader Options

Sample high contrast text in Immersive Reader with Syllable markers turned on
The Outreach Services team would like to thank our generous community partners for their support of LCPS students and families. Loudoun United Soccer donated 200 tickets for students at Title I or Title I eligible schools and their families to attend their home opener game at Segra Field on March 12. Additionally, Old Glory D.C. Rugby Football Club donated 200 tickets for their March 26 game against New Orleans, with admission to their family fun day activities including face painting, live music, and games. Help 4 Our Children also donated vouchers of up to $300 to 100 of our families to spend at the Galilee United Methodist Church Rummage Sale on March 26 and 27. We are so appreciative of this generosity and the continued collaboration between LCPS and our business and nonprofit partners.

Social Emotional Learning (SEL)

On Friday, March 11, 2022, Loudoun County Public Schools recognized International SEL (Social-Emotional Learning) Day. SEL Day is a time when schools and communities across the world celebrate the importance of SEL. This year, the theme for SEL Day was, “Finding Common Ground, Pursuing Common Good.” Schools throughout the division took this opportunity to celebrate through a variety of activities, highlighting their SEL skills in ways that promote kindness, empathy, understanding, and community. From supporting local food pantries to school-wide events and spirit days, student SEL skills were shining bright on SEL Day 2022. Below are some of the events shared by schools through social media.
Aldie Elementary School

The students at Aldie Elementary worked together to pursue common good by creating a fundraiser to support the Seven Loaves Food Pantry in Middleburg, VA.

Emerick Elementary School

Emerick held their PBIS House Meetings with the SEL Day theme, “Finding Common Ground, Pursuing Common Good.” They paired 4th and 5th grade students with students in their house from grades K-2 to create their "SEL Day People" and hang them on a poster for each house.

Eagle Ridge Middle School

The students at Eagle Ridge Middle School participated in their own version of March Madness, on a quest to find the ultimate Self-Care Champion Strategy.

Banneker Elementary School

The PTO at Banneker Elementary joined in the celebration of SEL Day by providing coffee to the staff from Middleburg Common Grounds coffee shop, going along with the theme of “Finding Common Ground, Pursuing Common Good.”

Tolbert Elementary School

Students at Tolbert pursued common good by spreading kindness with sidewalk chalk messages for the community.
SPECIALIZED INSTRUCTIONAL FACILITATORS (READING) PRESENT AT CONFERENCE

Dr. Tiffany Brocious and Erin Savage presented Multisensory Phonics for Tier 3: Loudoun County Lesson Plan at the Virginia Department of Education's Training and Technical Assistance Center (TTAC) at George Mason University at the Region 4 OG (Orton Gillingham) Community of Practice Spring 2022 Conference on March 7, 2022.

MEP-3 Days 1-5 Lesson Plan (Teacher Copy)

Multi-sensory Explicit Phonics for Tier 3 Reading Invention provides a fully scripted reading program, assessment tools, scope and sequence, teacher and student instructional materials and embedded professional learning through an overview and modeling, all in one. It is based in Orton-Gillingham and Direct Instruction methodologies and contains additional components of phonological awareness (Heggerty) and visualization during phoneme-grapheme mapping and connecting concepts to semantic networks.
goopenva.org
Beth Robinson, Bridget Gorey, Jenna Arndt, and Sarah Conlin recently attended the annual Virginia Division on Career Development and Transition Conference (VADCDT). This is a statewide conference focusing on improving transition outcomes for students in the commonwealth. The team was invited to present in collaboration with Virginia Commonwealth University’s (VCU) Center for Transition Innovation (CIT) team about Loudoun’s initiatives to increase career development for middle school students.

Did you know middle school special education teachers have had yearlong professional development on this topic? Did you know the LCPS Transition newsletter has had over 90,000 views? Did you know that every middle school has an interdisciplinary team focused on this topic with a general education teacher, a special education teacher, an administrator and CTE teacher? When the attendees heard these facts, they were very impressed. The team shared resources, ideas and lessons learned to a full room! The main topics included student focused planning, student’s development, interagency collaboration, program structure and family engagement.
When the Bus Stops Coming 2022

When the Bus Stops Coming is an annual event that LCPS Career & Transition and Parent Resource Services offers. The focus of the event is to provide information on transition planning for students who will need more intensive or ongoing support upon exiting school. This year's event was on Saturday, March 5, 2022 and was a huge success. We were excited to be in person this year and had approximately 106 participants, representing 25 schools. Twenty-three vendors were present to share information with families. We also had a panel of students who graduated from LCPS speak about their experiences, hopes, and dreams. The graduates did an amazing job and left many in happy tears or overwhelmed with pride. We received a lot of positive feedback, some of which is shared below:

- Great information and excellent presenters. Really appreciate the kids and parents’ involvement.
- Fantastic job! Kudos to all involved.
- Great mix of materials, agencies, and speakers. Thank you!
- Great presentation: invaluable support for parents of special needs children and young adults.
- This is my first time attending and it was worth every minute. Thank you so much. Leaving with a ton of information.
Links to Student Services Newsletters/Sites
In case you missed it...

- Career & Transition Services: [November 2021; October 2021; Winter 2022]
- Dyslexia Awareness [Site]
- Parent Resource Services (PRS)
- LCPS Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS)

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **April 6, 2022:** SEAC Meeting
- **April 8, 2022:** End of Third Grading Period
- **April 11-15, 2022:** Spring Break (All Schools Closed)
- **April 14-15, 2022:** Spring Break (Administrative Offices Closed)
- **April 21, 2022:** Student Services Committee Meeting

SPRING BREAK IS UPON US!
Take the time to rest and renew while enjoying time with family and friends.
Have a wonderful break!