
3rd Quarter Newsletter

Volume 5, Issue 3

Shawnee Middle School, Lima OH

January 15, 2024

From the Principal's Desk

By Anthony J. Cox
Shawnee Middle School

In my lifetime, I have had the fortune to play on two really good sports teams. They were both baseball teams, one in junior high and the other in high school. Neither team won a state championship, but both were able to win some tournaments and end their seasons with successful records.

Being older and looking back at this, I realize now what makes a great team. A great team needs a good leader. My definition of a great leader is one who leads by example. A leader is someone in authority who can resolve conflict positively, is able to get every team member moving in the same direction and is able to “forgive and forget.” A leader gets every player to focus on the team rather than self. A good team may or may not have a star, but the team always has someone they can depend on in pressure situations, a player who has been tested and has withstood the test. A good team needs players who know their roles...think Tom Brady’s (the New England Patriots’) offensive line. Role players possess talents others do not have and do the jobs that no one else wants to do. However, I think the most important attribute of a great team is what Sean Covey (author of the book *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens*) calls a “Win-Win” attitude.

A “Win-Win” attitude is not an attitude that says, “I am going to get mine first. I don’t care how well anyone else performs as long as I do well.” A “Win-Win” attitude is not a give-in attitude. It is not an attitude with low expectations where it is easier to give-in rather than do what is right. A “Win-Win” attitude is not about revenge. Everybody loses when revenge enters the picture.

According to Sean Covey, a “Win-Win” attitude says, “You don’t need to step on others to find success. Success is abundant. There is plenty of success to go around.” Looking back at both of my successful baseball teams, I realized we had this “Win-Win” frame of mind.

How can we teach teens to have a “Win-Win” attitude? We can support them while they struggle. When a conflict arises, we can listen to them. We can teach them that their attitude can make the conflict a success or lead to failure, and we can model an attitude that expects positive outcomes.

Sometimes this may take perseverance and toughness on our part, but over the course of time, we can succeed.

Spring State Testing

These assessments will be given at the beginning of the day on these dates. These assessments are an important benchmark for your student’s learning. Please try to have your student present at school and on time for their assessments. If an appointment is necessary on these dates, please schedule the appointment in the afternoon. Thank you.

Date	Test
Monday, April 15, 2024	7th/8th ELA Part 1
Tuesday, April 16, 2024	5th/6th ELA Part 1
Wednesday, April 17, 2024	7th/8th ELA Part 2
Thursday, April 18, 2024	5th/6th ELA Part 2
Thursday, April 25, 2024	5th & 8th Science Parts 1&2
Monday, April 29, 2024	7th/8th Math & Algebra Pt.1
Tuesday, April 30, 2024	5th & 6th Math Pt.1
Wednesday, May 1, 2024	7th/8th Math/Algebra Pt. 2
Thursday, May 2, 2024	5th/6th Math Part 2

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Yearbook Sales End SOON!

Only 2 weeks left to pre order a Middle School yearbook! Last day to pre order is Friday, January 26th, 2024. Students can grab a form from the literature tray or order online at www.yearbookforever.com.

Be sure to choose Shawnee Middle School when ordering online.

News from the 7th/8th Grades Guidance Office

8th Grade Students & Parents,

This is an exciting but often overwhelming time of the school year as we begin to discuss the transition to high school. Below is a timeline of the 9th grade scheduling process. Please keep in mind that the winter weather often disrupts the timeline so it is subject to change over the next few weeks.

Fri., Jan. 12th: All 8th graders in regular 8th grade Math will take the HS Math Placement Test. This test along with other data from current 8th grade teachers will be used to create the 9th grade Math recommendation for all students currently in regular 8th grade Math.

Week of Jan. 16th: 8th Graders receive the red SHS Course of Studies booklet and view a presentation about the booklet. A link to a parent presentation created by the high school counselors will be posted and emailed.

Week of Jan. 22nd: Students will receive their ***green*** 9th grade course recommendation scheduling sheet in Social Studies class. I will work with them during the class period on creating a four year plan. This four year plan will be electronic on their google drive for parents to view and help work on at home.

Jan. 25th-Feb. 9th: Students can sign up for individual time slots to meet with me if needed. The time slot sign up spreadsheet is posted in the "classwork" section of my 8th grade google classroom. Parents are welcome to join this appt. in person, by phone, or over google meet.

Fri., Feb. 9th: The ***green*** 9th grade course recommendation scheduling sheets are due to Social Studies teachers signed by parents.

Week of Feb. 12th: I will work with 8th graders during Phys Ed/Wellness/Art classes to electronically submit their 9th grade course requests. I will look over their requests to ensure that they are reasonable and satisfactory at that time.

If you have any questions throughout this process, do not hesitate to reach out to myself or the HS counselors. We are all here to help!

Mrs. Schmiedebusch

7th and 8th grade counselor

419-998-8072

Email: ericas@limashawnee.com

Math Help and Moby Max

On Tuesdays and Thursdays, our weekly schedule affords our seventh and eighth grade students a twenty-five minute extra period called "Connections." Most of the time during connections, students are working on a self-paced math software called "Moby Max." This software is being used to help teachers fill in gaps about math concepts, review and extend concepts. Students are using their chromebooks to complete activities during the time period. Fifth and sixth grade math teachers are using Moby Max at their discretion.

During this connection's period, our seventh and eighth grade math teachers are free of a class **so students can see them for help**. If your student is struggling in math please encourage them to see their math teacher during this time.

Did you know that all students can **also** stay for **free math tutoring** on most Tuesdays and Thursdays until 3:30 PM (as long as they have a prompt ride home, please.) In summary, there are **three times during the week** when students can get help in Math. *We need more students to seek out this help.*

5th/6th Tuesdays & Thursdays Mrs. Azzarello A-24

7th/8th Tuesdays & Thursdays Ms. McKinney B-11

***Please pick up your student by 3:30 p.m.**

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SMS Daily Announcements

Use the Middle School Website or app to **view our daily announcements**, "Indian Information":

limashawnee.com - Schools - Shawnee Middle School - Under "Live Feed"

****SMS Attendance Phone Number: 419-998-8058****

The attendance office has voice mail available 24 hours a day for your convenience. Failure to call regarding absences for any reason will result in your student being counted unexcused for the day.

Reminder

Please **DO NOT** send candy, flowers, balloons, vases of flowers, etc. for Valentine's Day to your student. These items are not allowed on the bus at dismissal time and create a problem for the Office and the Transportation Dept.

Jr. Optimist/Jr. Leadership News

Jr. Optimist/Jr. Leadership students will be selling Valentine's Day Carnations for \$1. Carnation orders will take place Tuesday, Feb 6th - Thursday, Feb 8th during the lunch periods and will be distributed on Wednesday, February 14th to their last period teacher.

Spring Picture Day

Spring Picture Day is **Wednesday, February 14th**. Once again the Middle School will be using Lifetouch for spring pictures. Lifetouch will be using a prepay program where you select your package and pay for pictures on picture day, just like in the fall.



Breakfast at School

The food service staff would like to remind you that we serve breakfast every morning in the cafeteria except on delay days. We serve breakfast in every building. As you have heard for years, breakfast is the most important meal of the day. Statistics show that students who eat breakfast have fewer trips to the nurse, better test scores and can stay better focused to learn.

If your child isn't hungry first thing in the morning, then let them try breakfast at school. Some of the items we offer are warm cinnamon rolls, breakfast pizza and sandwiches, yogurt, cereal and fruit.

High School serves 7:05 – 7:25

Middle School serves 7:10 – 7:30

Maplewood serves 8:40 – 9:00

Elmwood serves 8:30 – 9:00

Encourage your child to give breakfast a try at school. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Kim Dotson, Food Service Supervisor
419-998-8036

kimd@limashawnee.com

3rd Quarter Newsletter

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From the Nurse

Happy 2024! As we move into the new year, please note we are still being advised to follow a strict algorithm to keep our school healthy and well. Therefore, if your child wakes up with a temperature over 100 degrees, cough, shortness of breath, fatigue, muscle aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion, nausea, vomiting or diarrhea, please keep them home. Please, contact the nurse to receive further instruction. Thank you for doing your part in the bigger picture of keeping our school community healthy and well!

Parents of 6th Graders: The Ohio Department of Health school immunization requirements include a Tdap booster (tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis) and meningococcal vaccine (MCV4) before a student enters the seventh grade to protect children from preventable diseases.

These immunizations can be obtained at the Allen County Department of Health. Their phone number is 419.228.4457 and appointments are available by appointment only. No one will be turned away due to the inability to pay. **Once the immunizations are obtained we will need a copy for our school record.**

If you have already obtained the vaccines please send a copy via email to: sosbyh@limashawnee.com or fax (419) 998-8065. **If you refuse the vaccine(s), by state law a signed waiver form needs to be on file for the current school year in order to be compliant. This form can be found on our school website at www.limashawnee.com.**

- Select District
- Health & Wellness
- State of Ohio Legal Immunization Exemption

You will need to have these immunizations completed prior to the start of the 2024-2025 school year.

You will need to provide the school with an updated immunization record. If an updated immunization record is not received at the start of the 2024-2025 school year, you will be asked to temporarily keep your child at home until this state requirement is met.

Stay well! ~Nurse Heather Sosby, R.N.
419-998-8065 sosbyh@limashawnee.com

TOP AR POINT EARNERS

1st Quarter:

8th Grade

1st: *Quinn Frazier* 96.3 points

2nd: *Stella Miller* 32.7 points

3rd: *Parker Seffernick* 29.0 points

7th Grade

1st: *Ava Extine* 125.1 points

2nd: *Tofunmi Balogun* 110.1 points

3rd: *Fiona Minnick* 107.1

6th Grade

1st: *Malachi Onan* 115.7 points

2nd: *Aja Veters* 110.5 points

3rd: *Wyatt Wahlgren* 66.1 points

5th Grade

1st: *Shriya Naroore* 220.2 points

2nd: *Henry Harmon* 76.0 points

3rd: *Sneha Mishra* 72.3 points



Kindness Locker Donation Shawnee Middle School is accepting donations for our Kindness Lockers which offer personal care items and other supplies to students who can use them. Deodorant, shampoo/conditioner, toothpaste, toothbrushes, school supplies, snacks, and water are needed. Mark donations Attention: Mrs. Adlesh or contact her with any questions at adleshk@limashawnee.com

3rd Quarter Newsletter

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Chromebook Care

SMS Families please review these with your student. If we take care of the Chromebooks we can ensure their use for years to come and keep this program operational.

- No food or drink or pets should be near the Chromebook, charger, or the case.
- Bring your chromebook to school each day fully charged. A good strategy is to plug it in as soon as you finish your homework for the night, but leave it in your backpack to charge. This way you won't forget it! :)
- When moving the Chromebook use two hands. Do not pick it up by the monitor.
- Never pile items on top of your Chromebook.
- Lock your Chromebook when it is not in use.
- Protect your Chromebook from exposure to extreme heat or cold.
- Sign out and shut down daily or at least once a week at a minimum for operating updates.
- Do not put any stickers on the Chromebook or remove the school asset tag.
- Only clean the screen with a soft dry anti-static cloth or microfiber cloth.
- Remember you are responsible for any damage to the chromebook, charger, and case and will have to pay to repair it. If something comes up missing you are responsible to pay for it.
- The \$30 chromebook insurance payment is required for ALL students regardless of Free/Reduced Status.



A Glance Ahead:

Mon, Jan 15th: NO SCHOOL – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Wed, Jan 24th: 2 Hour Delay – Teacher In-Service

Mon, Feb 19th: NO SCHOOL - Presidents' Day

Wed, Mar 6th: 2 Hour Delay – Teacher In-Service

Fri, Mar 15th: End of third quarter

Wed, Mar 27th: Early Dismissal 12:53pm

Thurs, Mar 28th - Mon, Apr 1st: *NO SCHOOL – Spring Recess

Tues, Apr 2nd: School Resumes

Fri, May 24th: Early Dismissal 12:53pm and Last day for students

To view the District Calendar go to limashawnee.com and click "2023-2024 Calendar" along the right side.