



MUSTANG ROUND-UP

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT:

- P. 2 - District Message, Welcome New Staff
- P. 3 - Enrichment Projects, Summer Learning
- P. 4 - School Highlight, Bleachers Donations
- P. 5 - Board Spotlight
- P. 6 - Alumni Staff, Substitute Teachers
- P. 7 - Community Fitness, Costa Rica
- Back cover - Calendar of Events

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LITTLE CHUTE
Area School District
fostering a community of learners

1402 Freedom Rd. | Little Chute, WI 54140
(920) 788-7605



ROUND-UP

FALL 2023 NEWSLETTER

Message from the Administrator



After a summer of our Leadership Team working together and finding time to step away, we are thrilled to have our students and families back in our buildings. Last May, each employee was asked to identify three words that were the most important in our mission statement: The three words most frequently chosen were: community, learners, and all. Therefore, our theme this year is Community for ALL Learners. As we set our annual goals in motion and head into our third year of our Blueprint for Brilliance measures, we are excited about the success of our district. We are committed to ensuring that each student and staff member is set up for success.

- Heidi Schmidt, District Administrator

Welcome New Staff

We welcomed new teaching staff to the Little Chute Area School District and held two days of in-service to introduce them to our mission and vision, as well as best practices and logistics. The new teaching staff were also paired up with their mentors. We are excited to have this great group of educators join the Mustang family!



Back row: Jackie Ulman, Health; Jennifer Hietpas, Special Education; Cory Diedrick, Special Education; Will Vandenheuvel, Tech and Engineering; Tristan Persson, Science; Jordan Pulda, Speech and Language; Brianna McCarthy, Music; Ross Valentyn, Spanish.
Front Row: Lori Van Pee, Special Education; Sadie Stadler, 3rd Grade; Tricia Bons, 3rd Grade; Jessica Demerath, Speech and Language; Tricia Evers, Art.

As a district, we also welcomed: Madilyn Haddock, high school special education aide; Ana Garcia, 5-12 EL aide; Emily Hieptas, District Receptionist; and Julie Sampson, ISMS special education aide.

Educational Enrichment Fund Supports Innovative Learning



Thanks to the Little Chute Area School District Educational Enrichment Fund, the district is able to make learning projects possible with the generous help of individuals and businesses. The district's operating budget is limited and can not support every innovative idea that our teachers, administrators, and support staff have to enrich our students' learning. Established with support from local business Crystal Print, Inc., the grant program provides private funding for scholarships, innovative projects, and creative programs not included in the operating budget.

This past spring, representatives from our Building Leadership Teams joined district administrators to review applications submitted by teachers and award grant money based on specific

criteria that must be met. There were three staff members who were awarded money for their projects.

Rudy Botz, Associate Principal of the Elementary School, and the Behavior Committee were awarded online licenses for Conscious Discipline training modules. This platform will allow the team to explore the resources and strategies related to school culture and behavior. The committee will bring forward ideas throughout the year and an implementation plan in the spring if they decide to move forward.

Angela Wachtel, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment, and the Culturally Responsive Committee were awarded funds to allow all staff and Board of Education members to take

part in professional learning through book clubs. The book clubs will meet six hours during our early release times and read their choice of selected books and learn from one another through discussions and application of their learning.

Andy Kratzke, first-grade teacher, and his team were awarded funds to bring in Author/Illustrator Rick Chrustowski. Chrustowski will present to each class, as well as the whole grade, and share his process of creating and publishing books.

If you are interested in donating to this fund, you can learn more on our website under Community > Educational Enrichment Fund.



Summer Professional Learning

Professional Learning is one of our core areas of our Blueprint for Brilliance. Over the summer, LCASD staff learn and grow to better serve our students. Many teachers spent time preparing for new courses, updating curriculum, and collaborating with teams. Since we are committed to Professional Learning Communities, this year we sent teams from each school to attend the Professional Learning Community Institute in Lincolnshire, IL. They were part of the planning for professional learning and activities for staff to support our commitment to working together to ensure high levels of learning for every student.

School Highlight: Summer Upgrades

Over this past summer, the Buildings and Grounds Team was hard at work making some significant upgrades.



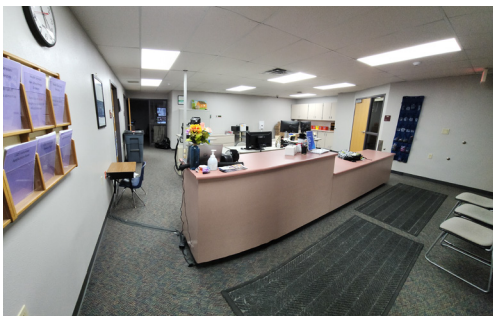
At the 5-12 complex grounds, we swapped out our irrigation control system with a “smart” controller that allows the system to automatically adjust watering duration based on real-time weather data. Even though it took us a couple of months to calibrate it, preliminary numbers indicate that we have reduced our water consumption by 100,000 gallons in August alone.

Inside our 5-12 complex, we finalized our audio/video upgrade in the auditorium which allows for a better experience for both the presenters and audience. The Field House lights received an upgrade to L.E.D. panels for more control and better efficiency. Our summer also included painting spaces on rotation and general maintenance to keep our facility inviting.

The Elementary school front office and work room, including principals and

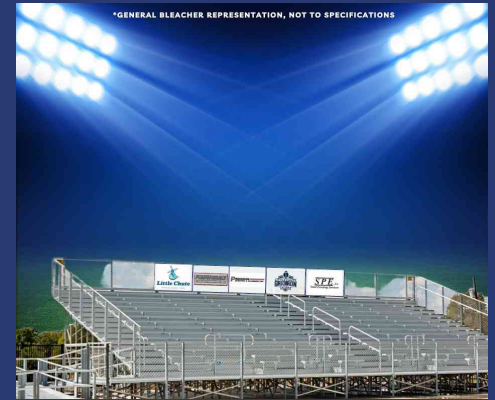


health offices, were renovated to be more efficient and cohesive. The photos are the before, during, and completed images of the office. In addition to the renovation, we also replaced two boilers that were original to the building in 1991. The new boilers allow for a 16% upgrade in gas efficiency, as well as full modulation and better control.



Donate For A Better Viewing Experience

LCASD is still seeking donations to purchase new bleachers for the visitor’s side of Unison Credit Union Stadium. With the remaining balance from the turf project, we are in need of about \$88,000. The new bleachers will provide a better viewing experience for spectators which will impact football, soccer, track and field, marching band, and any community event that takes place in Unison Credit Union Stadium.



The proposed new bleachers feature:

- Elevated front walkway
- 15 rows
- 550 seats
- 6 ADA seats
- 1 ADA ramp
- 2 exit stairs

We are offering two ways to support this project and all donations are tax deductible:

- Purchase an advertising sign (contact Kelly Wallace)
 - » 4 available signs
 - » \$25,000 per sign
 - » Approx. 6’W x 3’H
 - » 5 year agreement
- Make any size monetary donation
 - » Check and cash donations can be sent to the District Office

Board Spotlight

Our Board of Education (BOE) governs the policies and the resources of our district, as well as supervises and evaluates the District Administrator.

The meetings, which are held on the second and fourth Monday of each month, consist of building and department reports, financial and facilities updates, and action items.

The Board president and District Administrator work collaboratively to plan the Board calendars and each agenda. Each of our members also serve on 1-2 committees that require Board representation per our policy and align with our mission, vision, and Blueprint for Brilliance.

Recently the BOE members were asked:

What has been the most rewarding part of being on the Board of Education?

Joe Roehl, Board President: Elected in 2014

To see the growth of the staff, students, and the board. In addition, the passion of the staff during presentations at board meetings.

Shannon Pomeroy, Board Clerk: Elected in 2020

I love being connected and there is a sense of pride and excitement knowing you are able to help advocate for staff and students. We have an incredible district!

Sarah Beahm, Board Vice-President: Elected in 2018

As an LCASD Board member, something that has been very rewarding to me has been incorporating the Student Spotlight into our Board agenda and listening to the student's experiences. Students refer to the district as family, as well as reflect on the groups and activities they have been involved in as growth and leadership opportunities that will benefit them in the future. I was also able to experience a very proud moment to give my daughter her diploma at her 2023 Graduation Ceremony this past spring.

Leon Biesterveld, Board Member: Elected in 1994

The most rewarding part is watching the district grow as far as the facilities and charter schools. I also take pride in the extension of the administrative staff. Lastly, seeing all the kids grow up and go through the school system.

Rob Eiting, Board Treasurer: Elected in 2020

Being able to help make a difference in how the (school) district runs. To feel a part of the (school) district as a whole. Being an advocate for village residents.

LITTLE CHUTE BOARD ELECTION NOTICE

Two offices are to be elected during the Tuesday April 2, 2024 election. Election information will begin to be updated on our website at the end of October.

Board of Education



PRESIDENT: Joe Roehl

VICE PRESIDENT: Sarah Beahm

TREASURER: Rob Eiting

CLERK: Shannon Pomeroy

MEMBER: Leon Biesterveld

Little Chute Area School District Board of Education encourages you to become involved in the district.

You are invited to attend Board of Education meetings. Meetings are held at the District Office, 1402 Freedom Rd., Little Chute, WI 54140.

Meetings are generally held on the second and fourth Monday of the month at 4:30 PM.

For agendas and past meeting minutes visit littlechute.k12.wi.us.

Governance Council



PICTURED LEFT TO RIGHT: Josh Mcquillan, Heidi Schmidt, Leslye Moraski Erickson, Carl Rambo, Tara Strasburg, Shaena Van Handel, Dawn Grenzer, Aimee Recla, and Tony Bird

Council meetings are generally held on the first Monday of the month at 5:00 PM.

For agendas and past meeting minutes visit littlechute.k12.wi.us.

Alumni Staff Share Pride for LCASD

Did you know that 39 of our 187 employees are alumni of our district? It really is a remarkable testament to their belief in our district. We pride ourselves on being a small community district with big opportunities to meet the needs of all students. When we asked a few of our alumni why they chose to work for LCASD and what makes them proud to be alumni, here's what they shared.



DAN VANEPEREN - CAREER PATHWAYS ACADEMY HUMANITIES TEACHER

As a student, I always found my teachers to be the type of educators that I wanted to be when I entered the profession, and so when I had the opportunity to come back and work with/under many of those same educators that I held in such high regard, I knew it would be the right move for my future. I've always found the educators in this district to be heart-first people, and now, as a parent, I've always said that the Little Chute Area School District is the type of place I'd feel very satisfied sending my children, knowing that the adults in the building are looking after my children with the same sort of care that I'd have for them.



GREG VERHAGEN - 5TH GRADE TEACHER

The reason I chose to come back to teach in LCASD was in part because of the great educational experience I had as a student here, one that was made possible not only by great teachers and staff in the district but also by the strong support of the community! I want to continue to provide and enhance that experience for kids in Little Chute. As an alum, it simply means a chance to give back to a place that has given me so much growing up. I am bringing my own educational journey full circle, helping others to be ready to contribute positively to society, in the same place I learned how to!



LYNN VANDERPAS - 5-12 COMPLEX PUPIL SERVICES ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

I choose to work in LCASD because I love being able to make a difference in, and give back to, the community that shaped the person I am. I enjoy being able to create as positive an environment as I can for all students, whether they were born here or transferred in. I hope that I can instill that same pride and connectedness in all the students who pass through our doors as I feel being an alumni. It's a unique opportunity to bridge the past and the future. "Once a Mustang, always a Mustang!"



KELLY LAMERS - FLEX ACADEMY K-1 GRADE BAND TEACHER

When I think about Little Chute, I think about home. It is the community I grew up in. It is the school community I went through. It is the community I choose to live, raise my children in, and work in today. When I think about each of those statements, one word comes to my mind, community. Growing up, there was always a feeling of support and family. There were people who loved me, guided and empowered me, and inspired me to help me be the best that I could be. And with that, to be an alum of LCASD means a lot. This is a family community that roots for your success and supports you in all of life's things. Returning to Little Chute was a desire of mine to get back to this home community. I wanted to be involved in the community that gave me so much and give back to them.

Seeking Substitute Teachers!

There is no substitute for a great substitute! Do you enjoy working with children while maintaining a flexible work schedule? Have you considered becoming a substitute teacher? The Little Chute Area School District is seeking talented 4K-12 Substitute Teachers who want to join our team!

- Daily Rate: \$130
- Bonus Pay of \$50/day when you sub at least 12 days in a month
- Free Taher Lunch on days you are working as a sub
- Orientation provided prior to starting (sub packets)

Visit the LCASD Substitute Teaching Information webpage at www.littlechute.k12.wi.us/district/substitute-teaching-info.cfm for additional information or call the District Office at 920-788-7605. Positions are posted on the Wisconsin Education Career Access Network (WECAN) website, an online application system.

SUBSTITUTE TEACHER REQUIREMENTS

(Not all bulleted requirements need to be met)

- Valid Educator License OR Associate degree or higher and completed approved substitute training
- **New Certificate Option!** Complete CESA 6 teaching certificate
 - » If you have a Bachelor's or Associate's degree but do not hold a teaching license/degree, CESA 6 offers training that allows the applicant to obtain a substitute teaching certificate through DPI
- Apply for an Educator License on the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) OR
- Enrolled in an educator preparation program approved by the state

Community Fitness Opportunities

Are you looking for a convenient and inexpensive place to workout or maybe get some extra steps? Consider heading over to Little Chute High School to open a Mustang Community Fitness Center Membership or walk a few laps on our track. The Mustang Community Fitness Center, located in Little Chute High School, offers the residents of the Little Chute Area School District a venue to utilize weight training and aerobic exercise equipment during regularly scheduled community hours. A wide variety of equipment is available for our citizens to use, including free weights, treadmills, exercise bikes, yoga mats, exercise bands, plyo balls and elliptical trainers. The fitness center is located on the top floor of the high school.

MUSTANG COMMUNITY FITNESS CENTER HOURS

M - F	5:00 am - 7:30 am	Morning hours during summer months:	
M - TH	5:30 pm - 8:30 pm	M - F	5:00 am - 6:00 am
Saturday	8:00 am - 11:00 am	Saturday	8:00 am - 11:00 am

EARLY BIRD WALKERS

November 1- April 30, Monday-Friday, 5:30 am-7:30 am. Requires a returnable \$10 key fob deposit available at the LCHS office.

COMMUNITY TRACK HOURS

*Monday-Friday 6:30 am - 8:30 pm (not open during recess or track practice): April 1 through Friday before Memorial Day AND Tuesday after Labor Day through Oct. 31

*Monday-Friday 6:30 am - 4 pm: Tuesday after Memorial Day to Friday before Labor Day

Visit www.littlechute.k12.wi.us/community/fitness_center.cfm for more information or stop by the LCHS office.

Costa Rica: Earth & Spanish Clubs

Written by Jayda Missall, High School Senior

Over the summer, I had the opportunity to go to Costa Rica with Earth Club and Spanish Club. The trip was around 11 days and we were able to visit four out of the seven provinces they have in Costa Rica. I first heard of this trip during an RTI meeting with Mr. Rankin where he talked about if we are interested in learning about a different culture we should think about attending the trip down to Costa Rica. My favorite parts about this trip were the homestay and ziplining. For the homestay, our group split up into groups of two or three and then we were assigned to a family for a few nights. My partner and I were assigned to an elderly couple and they were the nicest people. We would stay up and talk with them for an hour or two every night we stayed there. They also made us the most delicious breakfast and dinners. My favorite was a traditional Costa Rican meal called rose campio. We went ziplining on our first day in Costa Rica and we took a sky tram up a mountain and then took 7 ziplines back down. The view was amazing and if I was able to relive anything it would be that.

Every day on the trip, I learned something new. Some of them were small things like Costa Rica's national animal or how to pick out the best pineapple in the grocery store. Then there were big things like how Costa Rica's economy relies on technology exports, agriculture, and tourism. I believe that getting this opportunity through Little Chute High School was the best way I could go about going out of the country for the first time. The trip was already planned for me so I didn't have to worry about buying airplane tickets or figuring out what I wanted to do when I got there. I also was able to bond with classmates who I didn't know very well before this trip. I was forced to be independent and away from my family so I was able to make decisions for myself instead of my parents making them for me.





LITTLE CHUTE
Area School District

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Little Chute, WI 54140**

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Calendar of Events

EARLY RELEASE (1:45 PM) DATES

All Wednesdays **except:**

- October 25
- December 20
- January 3 & 31
- February 15

NO SCHOOL DATES

- October 27
- November 22-24 (Fall Break)
- December 25-29 (Winter Break)
- January 1 (Winter Break)
- January 29 (Staff Professional Learning)
- February 16

OTHER DATES

- October 16: HS Autumn Choral Concert @ 6:00 pm
- October 18 & 25: HS/IS/MS Conferences
- November 9-11: HS Musical
- December 4: Band Concerts; IS/MS @ 6:00 pm & HS @ 7:15 pm
- December 11: Choir Concerts; IS/MS @ 6:00 pm & HS @ 7:00 pm
- December 12: ES Concert @ 6:30 pm
- January 8: 8th Grade Preview Day

Our Mission

The mission of the Little Chute Area School District is dedicated to fostering a community of learners where we meet the academic, social, and emotional needs of all students.

Our Vision

Little Chute schools will be learning communities where students express a genuine desire to learn in a welcoming and secure environment. We will challenge all learners to become engineers of their own future by nurturing their creative and intellectual growth. We will provide the launch pad for students to excel in any field of interest by developing the whole child in a diverse and technical society.