



- #1 School in Appleton, WI Metro Area
- #4 Wisconsin Charter School
- #34 in WI High Schools
- #204 in Charter High Schools
- #1,222 in Nation Rankings



LCCPA is Ranked #1,222 in the National Rankings. Schools are ranked on their performance on state-required tests, graduation and how well they prepare students for college.

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MESSAGE FROM MR. BIRD

Hello Career Academy Families & Community Partners,

During the month of November it is always good to take time and reflect on the things you are grateful for. I can honestly say I am grateful for working in a community that supports charter schools and provides students educational opportunities outside of the classroom. Our first newsletter of the year also provides us an opportunity to showcase the great things that are happening at the LCCPA and throughout the community.

One of the things I would like to share with you is a resource called Inspire Wisconsin Network. This nonprofit entity supports students throughout our area by cultivating career based learning experiences and helps foster the next generation of workforce talent. Inspire provides students and educators the opportunity to explore options, prepare for experiences and secure placement in future careers with local community and industry partners. I am very grateful for this partnership and I encourage all of you to check out www.inspirewi.org

Go Mustangs,
Tony Bird, LCCPA Principal



LCCPA was recognized as the ranking of #2 in Best Charter High Schools in the Appleton Area for Niche's 2024 Best K-12 Schools.

Career Exploration
Twenty-First Century Skills
CORE Education

Si necesita algunas partes del boletín trimestral traducido, favor de comunicarse con Sra. Kuna en su correo kkuna@littlechute.k12.wi.us o 920-687-6650.



STAFF SPOTLIGHT: JAMES TAYLOR



This season's staff spotlight features James Taylor. Mr. Taylor joined the LCCPA in 2019 as the second ELA teacher. Over the years, he has taught the Upper Level self-paced ELA courses, AP Language and AP Literature, some high school face-to-face classes, and has co-taught Humanities. Mr. Taylor sees learning to read and write as the gateway to success in any walk of life, and so he summarizes his teaching philosophy to what he calls the 4 C's: Competent and Capable Communicators and Contributors. Essentially, Mr. Taylor considers his students successful if they are able to demonstrate what they're taught by thinking critically, communicating their ideas clearly, and using their skills and learning to contribute meaningfully to society.

Mr Taylor has been intrigued by the LCCPA's innovative self-paced method of learning and has been exploring how this model can enhance his vision of education and how students can use it to work towards their academic and career goals. That's what he loves most about working in the LCCPA: the fact that his work has such a huge influence on his students' success after high school, no matter what pathway they follow.

What he's most proud of is the hard work he's put in to create a variety of self-paced upper level courses to offer students a variety of meaningful options to earn their ELA credit. For example, in talking with students about what they need and would like, Mr. Taylor developed courses that offer students opportunities to earn ELA credit while studying a more interesting and engaging approach, such as in Film & Lit where students can practice reading analysis skills while watching movies. He also wanted to provide opportunities for students to get a leg up on skills they'll need in college, such as the Independent Capstone Research course where students can develop their own topic and learn how to conduct university-level research. He's also put together courses to prepare students for communication in the workplace too!

At the end of the day, Mr. Taylor finds great satisfaction when he hears from an alumni who used what he taught to help them in college, get a scholarship, or just that they remembered something fun from class. When asked to give a shout-out to students, he wouldn't name any specific names but did want to give credit to his AP students who accepted the challenge and continuously work hard despite the rigor because they know how important a good work ethic is. Furthermore, Mr. Taylor is proud of all those who work hard to achieve their own goals, have the grit and determination to work through their challenges, and strive to do the right thing and lead by example. "This is what the LCCPA is all about," he says, "it is so important it is to take control of your own learning and your life. Whatever happens happens, but how you respond is what matters and how you persevere is what you're remembered for."

Mr. Taylor also serves as the head girls soccer coach, Chess Club advisor, and assistant advisor to Forensics. He lives in Appleton with his wife and dogs and when he's not working, he enjoys going for walks, reading, weight training, and working on his house and in his woodshop. He's a big fan of pizza, zombie apocalypses, and dad jokes.



CAREER EXPERIENCES

BELLIN HEALTH-ASHLEY GRAF (LCCPA SOPHOMORE) & ADDI HOEFLER (LCCPA SOPHOMORE)

On Monday October 13th, the Human Body Systems and Principles of Biomedical Sciences Project Lead the Way classes got the chance to experience a hands-on healthcare event sponsored by Bellin Health right here at Little Chute High School. At the event, there were several different occupations available for students to learn about. Bellin Health presented students with a doctor, several nurses, an ultrasound tech, and a physical therapist with different activities and information to share, including what being in their fields is like and the various opportunities their respective programs offer.

The physical therapist discussed the different situations he sees every day and showed students how he would typically work to treat the patients. He also walked the groups through the different exercises and the tools he uses to monitor patient progress.

The ultrasound tech talked about her steps in school and the types of tasks and duties she performs each day. Students got the chance to use an ultrasound probe to experience what it looks and feels like to perform an ultrasound on a patient

Each of the nurses had a unique station with something fun to learn, such as an anatomy table, how to perform a dressing change on a wound, and CPR.

Overall, this experience was very beneficial to the classes and offered something for everyone interested in the medical field. Learning about the different careers, what they're like, and their highs and lows was an excellent opportunity to help students decide on a career path and set them up for success after high school.



FRESHMAN JOB SHADOW EXPERIENCE

Anikah Dunn, an LCCPA freshman, recently created her own job shadow experience to advance her academic and career goals. She shadowed Dr. Jennifer Wellens at Countryside Veterinary Services and got to learn about the job of a veterinarian and what it takes to get there. Below are some questions that Anikah answered about her experience:

What is the day-to-day work or responsibilities like on this job?

Veterinarians are busy for the majority of, if not all of the day and rarely have time for breaks. A veterinarian talks to clients in person for appointments or over the phone and assesses and documents patients' needs & conditions through photos, labwork, and observation. In these conversations, veterinarians advise clients on the best course of action to take for their animal. Veterinarians often see multiple clients at a time, so it is important that they keep track of which patients are in for which problems. Only a small portion of a veterinarian's day is spent actually treating an animal.

Why were you interested in setting up this opportunity?

I have been interested in veterinary medicine as a future career for a long time and wanted to see the work veterinarians do on a daily basis, so I took the opportunity as soon as I could.

What are some interesting observations or experiences you had?

I got the opportunity to see lab work being performed on animals in-person. For example, one patient had an ear infection and I got to see the inside of the dog's ear and learn about the parts of the ear. I also got to see blood work being done on a dog and learned how to analyze the blood using a microscope to see the blood cells and bacteria. I also learned how to analyze XRay and ultrasound images of dogs and cats and about the anatomy of animals.



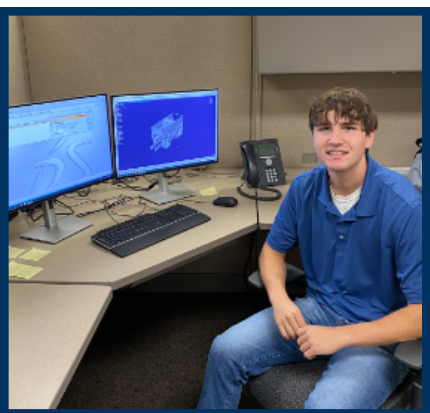
On Friday, October 13th, the Computer Science Essentials students got the chance to visit Heartland Business Systems, a company that helps other companies with websites or other technical issues. Some of the services that they provide are securing backups of other companies data, developing software solutions, and meeting with their customers about their IT infrastructure. While there, students toured the facility and the data center and spoke with employees. In doing so, students got to learn all about the company, including the services they provide, its history, where they're located and areas they service, and information about employees, such as the kinds of people that work there and what they do.

Students also got to learn about the job and apprenticeship opportunities they offer to students, how to get employed, and the benefits that HBS and the information technology field at large can offer. In learning about the careers they can have if they worked for HBS, students explored various skills needed such as time management, working and communicating with others, keeping your cool in uncomfortable situations, keeping your ego in check, and most importantly problem solving. As far as job requirements are concerned, while a four-year college degree is important to have, you can get a career in computer science with a two-year degree, experience, or even on the job training.

At the end of the day, the experience was a good way to understand the practices that happen in a computer science related field and students walked away knowing more about what it's like to work there and how to get employed at a company like Heartland Business Systems.



YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP SPOTLIGHT: ROWEN SCHMIDT



This season's Youth Apprenticeship Spotlight highlights current LCCPA Junior Rowen Schmidt. Rowen currently works as an Engineering Design Youth Apprentice in the rear body pumper products group for Pierce Manufacturing, a company that sells fire apparatuses used all over the world. Every day, he solves problems from engineers using CAD software to help troubleshoot how products can work better when being assembled into the truck. The job provides valuable learning experiences. On the job, he gets to learn not only about the roles and duties of mechanical engineers and design associates, but also how a workplace operates and employees work together towards a common goal.

Rowen finds this experience very valuable in developing his understanding of the job and building important skills that will help him in his further career path. After high school, he aims to pursue a standard 4 year degree at either UW Madison or UW Platteville to study engineering in some capacity. Though, right now, he is leaning towards Chemical Engineering because he enjoys both subjects and due to its broad uses in the job market.

Rowen shapes his personal philosophy off the idea that "everything in life is a choice," a saying by Mr. VanEperen whom he cites as one of his influential teachers. This mindset motivates Rowen and helps him understand that making correct and timely decisions leads to a positive life and that he's at his best when he makes decisions with his future in mind. Rowen also appreciates Mr. VanEperen's influence in learning to think critically about things in different and better ways, which Rowen cites as opening doors he never knew existed.

For Rowen, the biggest aspect of how LCCPA has helped him is the college- & career-centered experience through ALL of high school. Whereas students in other schools don't even think about that until halfway through senior year, Rowen has been figuring out what he does and doesn't want to do since freshman year.

When asked to share advice to current and prospective LCCPA students, Rowen encourages them to take advantage of every opportunity that is presented to them. "You are doing yourself a disservice," he says, "by refusing to participate in what the school has to offer. Whether it is a career event or a club, use these things to find what you love doing and find friends." He also strongly encourages involvement in athletics or a club like DECA, HOSA, SkillsUSA, or NHS because the bond you form with your teammates is like a family and they offer great opportunities for school, career, and life.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: GISELLE DELGADO

Giselle Delgado, this season's current student spotlight, is currently a senior in the LCCPA. While she's still deciding what her path forward looks like, she has worked extremely hard to forge her own pathway and has pursued interesting opportunities and rigorous coursework to set herself up for success. Her post-secondary goal is to earn an undergraduate degree in genetics & genomics or medical laboratory science. She hopes that a rigorous institute would enable her to participate in research experiences which will then qualify her to apply to medical school.

Ultimately, Giselle wants this to prepare her for a career as a medical examiner or geneticist. As a potential medical examiner, she wants to contribute to the justice system by investigating the cause, manner, and time of death of a deceased victim so that she can help bring closure to the families. As a geneticist, she is intrigued by the work to compile information for patients so that they can make biologically informed decisions regarding starting families or dealing with disorders. Throughout her time in the LCCPA, Giselle has learned how it is important to carve your own path and create your own opportunities. She has set up multiple career experiences and shadowing sessions in different professions that are somewhat related to her career objective of the forensic sciences. Once she identified her passion, she then pursued and organized her academic projects (even in English) towards rigorous genetic research to learn as much as she could. Additionally, she emphasized how important it is to not only take your responsibilities (including family) seriously, but also involve yourself in the community inside and out of school. This helps create networking opportunities and shows how deeply you care on the humanitarian level. Giselle has done this through her current and past contributions to this newsletter, her secretary duties in LC Earth Club for the past three years, and her involvement in other extracurricular activities such as soccer and forensics.

Lastly, Giselle also discussed how important it is to build professional connections with at least one adult in our school who can help you through the rough times. In the LCCPA, this is highly possible due to the more close-knit culture of students and teachers who care deeply for one another and support each other. Giselle has relied on a mentorship connection in which she can get practical advice for any troubling situation she encounters.

If there is one thing Giselle could instill into incoming LCCPA students, it would be that everyone is capable of taking control of their life trajectory. "We just need to apply relentless hard work into everything we do," she says. "Once you believe in yourself, you become empowered to accomplish your objectives."



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT WHERE ARE THEY NOW?: TRISHA LENZ



Trisha Lenz, a 2022 grad, is currently a sophomore at the UW Eau Claire getting ready to begin Nursing School. During her time in the LCCPA, Trisha worked hard to prepare herself for her academic and career goals. For these reasons, Trisha always stood out as an exemplary LCCPA student and we couldn't wait to feature her as our first Alumni Spotlight for this year.

Trisha is engaged in several nursing prerequisites and STEM-based courses. Due to the abundance of extra credits she earned in the LCCPA, Trisha is already well on her way to earning a minor in Family Studies on top of a Bachelor of Science in Nursing; she is interested in using these to enhance her ability to work with women and families as Labor and Delivery Nurse. Her hard work in the LCCPA also helped her earn her CNA license so she could start working at an assisted living facility for several years before she even graduated high school where she learned critical foundational skills such as teamwork, empathy, responsibility, and active listening.

Since her time with the LCCPA, Trisha has worked as a CNA in a hospital and as a Pharmacy Technician at Walgreens to engage in more well-rounded experiences. At the hospital, Trisha got to work with and learned from professionals in various scenes, such as Medical/Surgical, Cardiac, Neurological, and Oncology where she was impressed by just how much work goes into caring for a single patient to produce the best possible outcome. At

Walgreens, Trisha enjoys learning about the logistics of filling prescriptions and interfacing with customers. Trisha also recently worked with her supervisors to set up a Labor & Delivery job shadow experience where she learned more about how babies are born. This was one of her favorite experiences so far that inspires her to provide the best care she can and get her through the hard days.

When asked about how the LCCPA helped her get to where she is today, Trisha cites her teachers' guidance and the flexibility to pursue valuable experiences to stand out amongst her peers. Particularly, Trish gave a shout out to Mr. Volk, who encouraged her to take challenging courses that freed up time for college classes towards her minor, and Mr. Choudoir, who encouraged her through her PLTW classes that gave her a leg up in her nursing coursework. Because of this, Trisha encourages current LCCPA students to "take every opportunity that you can to grow and go out to create opportunities that weren't there before." She also recommends students take advantage of the connections teachers have to help connect with professionals in a career they're interested in. Lastly, she recommends taking time to get to know yourself better, build lasting relationships, and practice balancing your time. "Colleges and workplaces are not only looking for candidates with the right qualifications, but genuine humans who can work well with other humans."

When Trisha is not working or learning, she likes to participate in on-campus exercise classes, hang out with friends, and spend time with her fiancé.



LCCPA TRIVIA & HELPFUL TIPS

LCCPA Trivia

Which of the following events are not core components of the LCCPA?

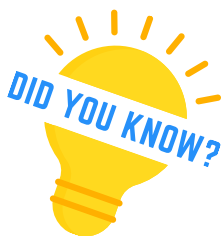
- a) Career Experiences
- b) Partner Breakfast
- c) Exit Interviews
- d) Blood Drive
- e) Youth Apprenticeship

What year did the newest LCCPA staff member start working at Little Chute?

- a) 2020
- b) 2021
- c) 2019
- d) 2015
- e) 2017

Which of the following LCCPA staff does not have a tattoo?

- a) Mr. VanEperen
- b) Mr. Larson
- c) Mr. Taylor
- d) Mr. Boland
- e) Mr. Choudoir



Resume/Application Tips:

When writing application letters to colleges & scholarships, follow Simon Sinek's Start With Why model to guide your overall approach to writing. Sinek argues that the most effective sales pitch (which, let's face it, isn't that what you're doing when you're sending in these applications?) start with some sort of belief statement. Tell your audience at the top of your essay what you value to create a human connection and ground your goals in something you believe in. From there, talk about how you live those values and then lastly discuss specific examples of what you do. Not only has this model helped companies like Apple publish top-notch marketing campaigns, but the Start With Why approach establishes a framework that can be applied to most, if not all college/scholarship application prompts. It's a great way to show the people deciding your worth that you live for your values, can back it up, and that you want more out of the application than to simply get accepted or to get money: you want to use these experiences to give back in a meaningful way. Start With Why also happens to be a neat psychological trick that makes you seem more likable. Give it a try on your next application essay and you'll be pleasantly surprised with how well it works.

Thought of the Day:

What is your Hierarchy of Goals that guides what you do day-to-day and how you plan your future? At the beginning of each school year, LCCPA students develop their own hierarchies where they consider their 5-year academic and career goal first. To support this vision, students then set smaller goals pertaining to their Academics, Career Exploration, and Life & Career Skills; the thinking is that in order to consider myself successful in the next 5 years, I need to achieve these things in my time here in the LCCPA. From there, students consider where their strengths and areas-of-growth lie, both in terms of self reflection and feedback provided by their teachers. In doing so, they lastly plan what they're going to do in the short term to accomplish these goals.

Are you ever at a loss for what you can be doing this weekend? Feeling like you're forgetting to do something or that you should be doing more? Worrying about what courses to take next year? Make your own hierarchy to help you decide.

Question 1 : d Question 2 : c Question 3 : e
Answer Key:

GOVERNANCE COUNCIL

TONY BIRD- LCCPA PRINCIPAL

Little Chute Area School District hosts two charter schools, Flex Academy and Little Chute Careers Pathways Academy and collaboratively they are supported by the Governing Council. This Council meets monthly and agendas and minutes can be found on the LCASD website.

This year our format includes a specific focus that both charter schools will present each meeting. September's focus was supporting students and families for a new school year and October's was marketing. In November we will focus on student achievement data, reporting statewide and district assessments. The LCCPA is very proud of its students and staff and look forward to reporting our academic progress to the governance council.

We are currently open to adding interested community members to our Council. If you have any interest in being part of our Governance Council, contact our GC president, Carl Rambo, crambo@littlechute.k12.wi.us

These meetings are open to the public. Here are the remaining meeting dates:

- December 4, 2022
- January 3, 2023
- February 5, 2023
- March 4, 2023
- April 1, 2023
- May 6, 2023
- June 3, 2023

