Top 10 Stories of 2017

2017 was an exciting year in Lawrence Township! Here’s a quick look back at the top stories of the year.

1. The Marching Pride of Lawrence participated in the Rose Parade

2. Completion of McKenzie Center for Innovation & Technology

3. Completion of Mary Castle Elementary Renovations

4. Dedication of two outdoor stadiums and athletic facilities

5. Announcement of the Expansion of Spanish Immersion to Skiles Test

6. Franklyn Bush named principal of Lawrence Central High School

7. LT receives $1.5M in funding from the Lilly Endowment

8. Inaugural Excellence Design Challenge winner named

9. Teacher of the Year, Classified Employee of the Year, Administrator of the Year Celebration

10. LT Named Best Community for Music Education
Indianapolis mayor, Joe Hogsett and Lawrence North graduate, Reverend Dr. David Hampton, Deputy Mayor of Neighborhood Engagement, showed their Wildcat pride while cheering on the Lawrence North basketball team!
2018 Lilly Teacher Creativity Grant Recipients Announced

Congratulations to the four MSD of Lawrence Township educators who are recipients of 2018 Lilly Endowment Teacher Creativity Fellowships! They represent four of 100 statewide. Each fellow will receive a $12,000 grant to support a project of personally and professionally fulfilling activities.

Kristina LaMarca, Lawrence Central

“Whale Songs for Wind Band: Capturing the Music of Norwegian Orcas” – Kristina will study underwater videography; scuba dive and record hale songs in Norway; trek and kayak through fjords; commission and have wind band perform a new work inspired by whale songs.

Jeff Mann, Belzer

“Preserving Modern Ruins” – Photograph disappearing structures, including one-room schoolhouses in Canada and the Plains, lighthouses on the Great Lakes, and antique wooden bars in Hancock County, Indiana; create photography book and calendar.

Mr. Mann was also a winner in 2009.

Ben Morgan, Lawrence North

“Hook, Line, and Sinker – Getting Urban Youth into the Great Outdoors and Diving Into Nature across the Americas” – Ben will enroll in fly fishing classes; experience fishing and renewal in Whistler, British Columbia, Costa Rica’s Central Pacific Coast and Belize; and launch a “Go Fishin’” club at school.

Elizabeth Wiley, Fall Creek Valley

“Sacred Landscapes” – Photograph and write about the spiritual places of Arizona’s Hopi Native American Indian Tribe.
The Superintendent and the Board of Education hope that school can be open every day; however, to ensure student safety, schools may be closed some days during the school year due to dangerous weather and road conditions. The safety of our students is always a top priority.

As a result of the snow days on January 12th and 24th, the MSD of Lawrence Township will hold classes on Friday, February 16th and Thursday, March 22nd. There is NO school on President’s Day, Monday, February 19th.

Click here to visit our website for more weather related closing information.

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Making The Most of MIDDLE SCHOOL

MSD of Lawrence Township
Parent Resource & Engagement Program (PREP) Presents

Making the most of Middle SCHOOL

Wednesday, February 21 at 6:30 pm
Fall Creek Valley Middle School, 9701 East 63rd Street

Transitioning to middle school is an exciting change for students and PARENTS! It’s two comprehensive educational years with unbelievable opportunities to explore!

Please join us for a conversation about how to help your child navigate and thrive in middle school.

Childcare & Spanish Translation will be available. ASL translation available upon request. Call 423-8375.

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Weather Related School Closings

Click here to view the 2017-2018 school year calendar.
MSDLT Celebration Snapshot

Celebration Snapshot for January 2018

Board of Education Recognitions—Celebrating Excellence

Each month the Board of Education recognizes individuals and groups for outstanding achievement and for going “Above and Beyond.”

January 22, 2018 Board of Education meeting recognitions

Lawrence Live!

In this edition of Lawrence Live, Dr. Smith introduces the 2017 Design Challenge winner, Belzer Middle School teacher, Mr. Jeff Mann. We also meet cheerleaders and dance team leaders from both high schools and learn about what goes in to their impressive performances. We invite you to listen in.

Video Recording by Communication Studies Students at Crestview Elementary. Editing by Mr. Randy Tomes, Communication Studies Teacher, Crestview Elementary.

Dick Wolfsie of WISH-TV paid a visit recently to McKenzie Center for Innovation and Technology.

Click here to follow along with him to learn more about the innovative programs and opportunities available to students.
Secondary Resident Transfer Request For Students Entering Grades 7 & 9

Students entering 7th or 9th grade in the fall of 2018 may submit a request to attend a middle or high school other than the school currently serving their attendance boundary.

If you wish for your student to attend the middle or high school currently serving your attendance boundary, then there is nothing to do on your part. If you wish to submit a request for your 6th grade student to attend the “other” middle school, or your 9th grade student to attend the “other” high school, please complete the 2018-19 In-District Resident Transfer Application below no later than February 11th. Notification will occur via email on/about March 1st. Please note that students who transfer to the “other” school will not be transported to that school by either Lawrence Township buses or the inter-school shuttle system.

Secondary Resident Transfer Request 2018-2019 (Grades 7-12)

Preschool Enrollment

Preschool enrollment for the 2018-2019 school year is now underway. Please call the Office of Early Childhood Education at 317-423-8363 for information.

ELC Video Tour

Katy Mann, reporter for Indy with Kids, recently visited the Early Learning Center at Amy Beverland. Click here to follow along with her and ELC-AB principal, Erin Sughrue, on a tour of the building.

Mr. Brett Crousore, Lawrence North principal, did a great job representing our school district in this important segment on Fox 59 about the graduation rate. Click to watch.
Excellence Design Challenge Finalists

The MSD of Lawrence Township is pleased to announce the finalists for the 2018 Excellence Design Challenge, sponsored by the Lawrence Township School Foundation. The Design Challenge seeks to financially reward a teacher (or teachers) for an innovative idea that, if implemented, meaningfully impacts the organization through efficiency, effectiveness, and/or measurable improvements. These individuals have been selected to proceed to the Research and Development phase. These finalists will now complete a comprehensive Research and Development phase outside of the contract day, providing a progress report to the administrative team mid-way through this phase.

A Research and Development Award of $750 will be presented to all finalists who successfully complete and submit the research and development portion of the challenge. This award will be shared if there are multiple applicants for one proposal. From those finalists, the Design Challenge Award Winner will be selected and the idea implemented in the MSD of Lawrence Township.

The winner receives a personal award of $20,000.

MSD of Lawrence Township staff members identified for the next phase of the Challenge are:
Mr. Doug Price & Mr. Robert Cline (Oaklandon Elementary School): After the Bell Homework Support
Ms. Laura Getz (Oaklandon Elementary School) & Ms. Tally Shanley (Indian Creek Elementary School): The Final Straw: The Elimination of Straws & Plastic Ware in LT Cafeterias
Ms. Deena Fogle (Lawrence Central High School): Lawrence Language Leaders (L3)
Mr. Jeffrey Smith & Ms. Tamara Markey (McKenzie Center for Innovation & Technology): LT Mobile iLAB (Innovation Lab)
Elementary Academic Bowl

LT Schools held its first elementary academic bowl this year. Students from four schools, Amy Beverland, Crestview, Forest Glen, and Skiles Test competed in the final competition on Saturday, December 15th.

Students from Forest Glen took home the first place trophy. Crestview took second place.

Fall Creek Valley 7th and 8th Grade Boys Basketball Teams MIIC Champs!

A special shout out to the Fall Creek Valley 7th and 8th grade boys’ basketball teams. Both teams took the MIIC Conference Championship last week! The 7th graders finished the season undefeated at 23-0 and the 8th graders went 21-2. Great job, Cats!
Congratulations to Dr. Dana Altemeyer and Dr. Brian Davis. Both earned their Doctorate of Education from Indiana University in December! Dr. Altemeyer is the LT Schools Coordinator of Communications, Public Relations and Marketing. Dr. Davis is an Assistant Principal at Lawrence Central High School.
Save the Date! “Light Their Future” Celebration
Friday, March 9, 2018
Crane Bay Event Center

Don’t miss the biggest event of the year on Friday, March 9, 2018! REGISTER, SPONSOR, or RESERVE your seats today!

Start getting in shape now by registering for the 11th Annual Geist Half Marathon, May 19, 2018! A portion of the proceeds is donated to LTSF for the MSD of Lawrence Township Kids Up & Running Club. Register here goo.gl/NU6bYv.

Save the Date—Fore the Kids” Golf Outing—Monday, June 4, 2018, 9:00 am shotgun start
Honored Educators

The Honor An Educator program, sponsored by the LT School Foundation, thanks the teachers, administrators, coaches, bus drivers, and staff members who encourage, influence, and inspire students to be the best they can be.

Congratulations to our Fall 2017 Honored Educators! Click here to see the list of recipients.

Lawrence Township School Foundation Scholarship Application

Applications for 2018 Lawrence Township School Foundation Scholarships are now being accepted. Last year, the Foundation awarded 30 scholarships, totaling $40,698. This year, we’ve added a new scholarship, the Richard Phillipy Scholarship for Study Abroad. The deadline to submit applications is February 16, 2018, at 5:00 pm.

Visit the Foundation website for more information.

Distinguished Alumni

The MSD of Lawrence Township is accepting nominations for Distinguished Alumni from Lawrence Central and Lawrence North High Schools. With this award, we recognize those outstanding alumni who have displayed extraordinary gifts of leadership, achieved recognition for their professional expertise, attained success in their field of endeavor, and provided service to their community and/or LT Schools.

Each fall, a committee representing the MSDLT and LT School Foundation submits to the superintendent recommendations for selection. Those selected are then confirmed by the Board of Education. In early April, the newly selected honorees are invited to address the top seniors of the current graduating class at the annual Top 30 Banquet. Once an applicant is submitted he/she remains on the list, so there is no need to submit again.

Click here to nominate a Lawrence Central graduate.

Click here to nominate a Lawrence North graduate.

Click here to check out the LTSF’s 2016-2017 Impact Report and see the many ways your gifts to the Foundation support MSD of Lawrence Township Students.
Board of Education News

Go to BoardDocs to access board meeting agendas and minutes.

The Board of Education will meet on **February 12 at 5:30 pm** at the Lawrence Education and Community Center, 6501 Sunnyside Road.

Click here for a complete listing of Board of Education Meetings and Work Sessions.

Information from current and past School Board meetings can be found at our MSDLT public BoardDocs site below.

Audio Recordings from regular Board of Education meetings are available in BoardDocs, however, for easy access, they can also be found on their own webpage. From the School Board section of the website, just click on the link to Board Meeting Audio on the left side of the page.

Click here to access the Board Meeting Audio Recording webpage.

Food Service

Food and nutrition has a new interactive, online menu. Click here for menus and nutrition information. Click on your child’s school and click the any menu item for nutrition facts and basic allergy information.

The mealviewer app is also available for your mobile device.

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Students with disabilities got cheers from the crowd when they faced off in a friendly basketball game between the junior varsity and varsity games between LC and LN!
LT Inside Out is our electronic newsletter designed to share information about our school district with parents, community members, and stakeholders.

Parents who have registered their email in Skyward will be included in our electronic mailing. We are working to build an email list of community members and friends of MSDLT. Interested parties can sign up by going to our homepage, https://www.LTschools.org. Click on List Serves on the right side of the screen and select LT Inside Out. Or click here to go directly to the listserv webpage.

Before printing this newsletter, please think green and conserve paper.