Dear Faculty and Staff,

As Superintendent of schools, I am the leader of over 975 teachers who lead and guide our students on a daily basis. I often refer to the teacher as the “stars” of the movie. I use the term “warriors.” Teachers work long hours and inspire students to do great things. Each of you can remember that one teacher who pushed you to be more. One of my favorite educational quotes is by Stephen Neill and I believe it speaks to the importance of teachers.

“The good teacher discovers the gifts of his pupils and liberates them by the stimulating influence of the inspiration that he can impart. The true leader makes his followers twice the men they were before.”

Teachers give students more than a test score, they inspire them for a lifetime. On the last day of school during my visit to Sunnyside Elementary, I witnessed a young student crying. She was sad because it was the last day of school and she would miss her teacher. As her teacher hugged her, I saw evidence again that teaching is a noble calling and that students need adults beyond their family to love and care for them.

Recently, there has been a great discussion about a teacher shortage. As Superintendent, it is my job to assure our community that we have the very best educators in front of our students. We have filled all of our openings through recruiting, but the profession is experiencing a shortage. Lawrence’s Excellence has allowed us to attract great new teachers. I want to make it clear that as a community, we must thank the great educators we have among us.

Teachers must be honored and appreciated. As we seek more accountability for schools, we must not forget teachers are very dedicated individuals who will hold our students accountable. Please! Parents and Community Patrons, join me in honoring the great educators in our school district. Our students will have great success with the greatest of our teachers. Each month I will spotlight great educators in my newsletter. Please thank your educators who need to know of our appreciation for their hard work and dedication to the MSD of Lawrence Township.

- Click here to meet our Teachers of the Year for the 2014-2015 school year.
Jessica Zaccardelli
School: Indiana University
Major: Nursing
Scholarship Offers & Awards
$484,960

Connor Ward
School: Indiana University
Major: Computer Science
Scholarship Offers & Awards
$404,712

Elaina Roach
School: Indiana University
Major: Biochemistry
Scholarship Offers & Awards
$396,372

Courtney Swanson
School: Indiana State University
Major: Education & Speech
Scholarship Offers & Awards
$278,961

Jacob Pluta
School: Rose Hulman Institute of Technology
Major: Engineering
Scholarship Offers & Awards

David Miller
School: University of Cincinnati
Major: Industrial Design
Scholarship Offers & Awards
$1,082,212

Anika Nishat
School: Princeton University
Major: Engineering
Scholarship Offers & Awards
$554,000

Nolan Cardenas
School: Butler University
Major: Music
Scholarship Offers & Awards
$362,224

Emily Flandermeyer
School: Butler University
Major: Psychology/Neuroscience
Scholarship Offers & Awards

Megan Ellsworth
School: Indiana University
Major: Music Education
Scholarship Offers & Awards
$286,200
2015-2016 Brings a new school year and continued Board Goals.

Click here to see the Board Goals for the 2015-2016 school year.

A District Strategic Plan will be a focus for the 2015-2016 school year. The Board of Education and Superintendent will be planning a district wide plan. The Strategic Plan will develop a comprehensive plan for the next three years. We will focus on how to improve our schools to better serve our students.

MSDLT Celebration Snapshot

Click here for the MSDLT Celebrations Snapshot for August 2015.

Sincerely,

Dr. Shawn A. Smith
Superintendent of Schools

Lawrence Live!

In the August 28th segment of Lawrence Live, Dr. Smith talks to Board of Education President, Mrs. Carol Helmus and MSDLT Teacher of the Year, Mr. Dave Shafer, STEM teacher at Skiles Test School of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. Click here to watch.

Watch for Lawrence Live! Coming Soon

SEPTEMBER – Interview with both the LC & LN Varsity Football Coaches, Mr. Pat Mallory and Mr. Jed Richman.

OCTOBER – Interview with Mr. Andy Harsha, Principal of Belzer Middle School and Ms. Kathy Luessow, Principal of Fall Creek Valley Middle School.

NOVEMBER – Interview with Dr. Kathleen Reike, Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Education and Dr. Steve Goeglein, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education.

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.” Click here to see those recognized at the August 24 meeting.

Fall Break - October 12 - 16
Parent-Teacher Conferences October 19
No School For Students
Lawrence Excellence

Randy Greenwell, Performing Arts Department Chair, Lawrence Central

Randy Greenwell embodies the district motto of Integrity, Achievement, Service in all that he does for our schools and our community. His expectations are high but so too is his commitment to ensure each and every student is in a position to succeed. Mr. Greenwell’s leadership has contributed significantly to the quality of the performing arts in the MSD of Lawrence Township.

Tracy Avery, Third Grade Teacher at Skiles Test Elementary

Students in Ms. Tracy Avery’s classroom know the moment they walk into her classroom that they will be a part of a classroom family. Tracy pushes her students to think and stretch their minds everyday. She makes a point to connect with all families on positive and personal level. Tracy keeps it real with her families. She has been known to tell parents when their child is, in her words, “off the hook” and in the next breath share how much she loves their child and what they can do together to be help the child be successful. She is passionate about sharing her love of learning with her class. Students leave her classroom knowing their teacher loves them, believes in them and cares for them.

Wonda Kimble, Instructional Coach at Winding Ridge Elementary

Wonda is an amazing Instructional Coach! She is patient with teachers and students. She is thorough in analyzing student performance data and sharing with teachers how to use it to inform their instruction. She is extremely knowledgeable in all assessments, learning systems, and always seeks to go above and beyond to maintain the highest expectations for student achievement! Alicia Harris, Winding Ridge Principal is grateful to have Wonda serving alongside the awesome, hard-working students and staff at Winding Ridge! “Our success will be a direct reflection of the love and care that she pours into our school each and everyday!”

Instructional Coach Mrs. Kimble facilitate Lexia Core 5 lessons at Winding Ridge Elementary to boost literacy skills!
LT Schools At Your Fingertips—We Have An App For That!

Our school district has developed a new mobile app, MSD of Lawrence Mobile, and it is live in the Apple and Google App Stores! Find everything you need to know about what’s going on at your child’s school and around the district at your fingertips! Besides a listing of Announcements and Calendar Events, you’ll have easy access to important contact information, links to Skyward Family Access, lunch menus, Board of Education information and much more.

To check it out, you can search for MSD of Lawrence Mobile in the App Store, or just click here on your device and when it opens, click on Get App under our logo on the left side of the screen. This will take you right to the App in the store without having to search for it.

Click here to access the app on Google Play.

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Retirement Benefit Workshop

for members approaching retirement

Wednesday, October 7th, 2015

1:00-3:30 pm PERF or TERF Members

5:00 pm-7:30 pm PERF or TERF Members

Lawrence Education and Community Center—Board Room
6501 Sunnyside Road
Enter Door #3

Click to register for the workshop on the INPRS website
or register through the
INPRS Call Center TRF (888) 286-3544
or PERF (888) 526-1687.
National Merit Semifinalists Announced

It is with great pleasure that we announce that Lawrence Central and Lawrence North both have two National Merit Semifinalists this year who have been selected to move on in the National Merit Scholarship Program.

The Lawrence Central representatives are Alexa Austin and Chad Sharp.

The Lawrence North representatives are Leo Miller and Caroline Townsend.

Click here for more information about the National Merit Scholarship Program.

Marching Pride of Lawrence Township Invited to March in the 2017 Tournament of Roses Rose Bowl Parade

The Marching Pride of Lawrence Township (MPLT) has been chosen by the Pasadena Tournament of Roses Parade Committee to represent the state of Indiana and the Cities of Indianapolis and Lawrence in the 2017 Tournament of Roses Parade. The band was selected after a lengthy audition and application process.

Students from the MPLT are comprised of high school musicians from both Lawrence Central and Lawrence North High Schools.

“The Rose Bowl festivities are the epitome of the bowl season,” shares MSD of Lawrence Township Superintendent, Dr. Shawn A. Smith. “For our children to be selected to participate in this once-in-a-lifetime experience is an honor for the entire community.”

Click here to read the press release in its entirety.

Check us out on Facebook and Instagram for more pictures!
**PREP Parent Engagement Series**

**September 22 - Andres Lara, AKA the Cuban Guy**

Our first Parent and Family Resource Engagement Program of the 2015—2016 school year will be held on September 22nd at Lawrence Central, 7300 East 56th Street, in the auditorium at 6:30 PM. Our guest speaker is Andres Lara, AKA the Cuban Guy, a nationally known motivational speaker. The presentation, “How To Keep Yourself and Your Kids Motivated During Difficult Times,” is geared toward our Hispanic families but has a universal appeal. All families are invited to attend. It will be presented in Spanish with English translation.

[Click here to learn more about Andres Lara.](#)

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**October 29th - Robert Jackson**

Our second Parent and Family Resource Engagement Program of the 2015—2016 school year will be held on October 29th at 6:30 in the Belzer LGI room. Our guest speaker is Robert Jackson, back by popular demand! "For every problem there is a solution."

[Click here to visit his website and learn more about Robert Jackson.](#)
LT School Foundation Unite and Ignite 5K Fun Run will take place on Saturday, October 31 at Lawrence Park. Visit the Foundation website for details.

Creative Impact Grants
The link for the 2015-2016 Creative Impact Grant applications is officially live! Click here to log in and start your application. Applications will be accepted until Tuesday, October 20, 2015, at 5:00 pm. Questions? Contact Nancy Liss at the LTSF Office. (nancyliss@msdlt.k12.in.us or 423-8300).

Bridge Fund "The Bob" Golf Outing
This 3rd annual golf outing in memory of Dr. McCune will be held on Thursday, September 24, 2015 at Pebble Brook Golf Course, 3110 Westfield Road, Noblesville.

Registration begins at 10:30 a.m. Special guest will be Adam Vinatieri with the Indianapolis Colts.

Proceeds from this outing benefit the Bridge Fund, designated to support Lawrence Township high school students giving them the opportunity to participate in all school aspects, including: academics, athletics, extracurricular, projects and events. Click here to learn more and to register. The registration deadline is September 14th, 2015.

Indy DO Day
The Lawrence Township School Foundation, in partnership with LT schools is joining in on the city wide effort of taking care of our community.

Indy DO Day consists of several days when the people of Indianapolis get to know their neighbors, take ownership of the neighborhoods, and take care of one another. On Friday, October 2, 2015, the Lawrence Township School Foundation is coordinating a service day at each Lawrence Township School. Volunteers will be working doing various grounds keeping projects to help maintain the curb appeal of our schools. Projects will include but are not limited to re-raking playgrounds, pulling weeds, sweeping curbs and sprucing up pathways.

Click here information or to sign up to volunteer at one of the schools.

Let’s DO this!
Brain Development and its Implications for Student Behavior and Learning

Dr. Lori Desautels will engage participants in sessions that provide information and strategies for immediate application in the classroom.

Weds, 10/7    4:30 to 6:00, LECC PD Room
Session One-Brain Development and its Impact on Engagement and Instruction in the Classroom and Schools
In this session, we will discuss how the brain develops and its intimate connection to our relationships with students, instruction, and enhancing the classroom ecology.

Sat, 10/24    9:00 to 11:00 LECC Board Room
Session Two- Keeping the Brain in Mind with Behavioral Engagement
All behavior is communication. When we tap into the brain for engagement, behavior management has a whole new meaning. In this session we will focus on brain-aligned strategies that promote positive emotion, therefore improving engagement and behavior.

Sat 11/7 8:30 - 3:30 Fifth Annual Marian University Educational Neuroscience Symposium
Attendance is free if you attended BOTH of the first two sessions on 10/7 and 10/24

Weds 12/2    4:30 to 6:00 LECC PD Room
Session Three- Educational Neuroscience Cognitive Strategies that Promote Transfer and Deepened Learning!
Instruction comes to life when we promote the seven brain states and implement the eight key principles of educational neuroscience! In this session, we will take the subject matter and create brain-aligned strategies that create associations with students’ expertise.

Register at the PD Place: https://itschools.pdplace.com

Harrison Hill Elementary Benefits from United Way

In 2014, Harrison Hill Elementary received the largest educational grant in the history of the United Way’s Student Success program. With the help of this grant, Harrison Hill created the Harmony Program designed to help to change the world one student, one family at a time.

Watch this inspiring video aired on RTV-6 to learn more.
The LT Schools Health & Wellness Center For MSDLT Employees Participating In Our Health Care/Insurance Plan

The Health and Wellness Center is for the exclusive use of MSDLT Employees and their dependents who are covered under the Lawrence Township-sponsored medical plan. The Center is staffed by a team of health care providers who can evaluate and treat your entire family for a wide variety of ailments and provide wellness and prevention information. The Center offers all the services provided in a typical physician office and there is NO office visit copay. On-site lab services are also offered.

- There is **No Cost** for visiting the Health and Wellness Center.
- Some prescription medications are provided at no charge for the initial thirty-day supply.
- An on-site health coach is available to provide encouragement and guidance in making healthy lifestyle changes, including smoking cessation, weight management, stress management, exercise, nutrition, and diabetes.

**MSDLT Health & Wellness Center**

8501 E. 56th Street, Suite 110  
(Corner of 56th and Herbert Lord Road)

**Note the new, expanded hours!**

**Monday:** 7:00 AM – 5:00 PM  
**Tuesday:** 8:00 AM – 6:00 PM  
**Wednesday:** 1:00 PM – 6:00 PM  
**Thursday:** 7:00 AM – 1:00 PM  
**Friday:** 7:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Phone: 621-1207

The link to online scheduling is also located in the staff portal of our website or [Click here to schedule online.](#)

**Health Coach**

Health Coach for Lawrence Township Schools, Jennifer Gill, is available by appointment to meet at the clinic, 8501 E. 56th Street.

Click to email [Jennifer](mailto:Jennifer), Health Coach, for an appointment, or call her at 621-1210.

- [Click here to read the September WellNews Newsletter](#)
- [October Wellness Challenge](#)

**Boot Camp Fitness Class**

**August 24th - December 18th**

**Mondays:** 4:15-5:00pm  
**Wednesdays:** 4:45-5:30pm

At **CRESTVIEW**: enter through the main entrance and make your way to the gym  
At **LECC**: enter door 8 to the basement small gym

**A 40 minute total body workout class!** It will combine bodyweight & circuit training, high intensity interval training, weights and toning. Every class will be slightly different and can be modified for ALL fitness levels.

**FREE to ALL** Lawrence Township employees and spouses. No need to sign up! Just join us whenever you can.

**Instructor:** Jennifer Gill, Lawrence Township Health Coach

*Please bring a mat and a set of dumbbell weights!*

*If Lawrence Township schools are canceled or on break, class will be canceled.*
CPR Certification Class For Employees

CPR certification training is offered several times throughout the year for those employees who need it for license renewal and anyone interested. Classes will be held in the PD Room at the LECC, 6501 Sunnyside Road from 4:40 to 7:30 pm.

Dates and details on how to sign up are below:

Wednesday, November 4, 2015
Wednesday, February 3, 2016
Wednesday, April 6, 2016

Click on this link to register.

Then click on red box on right side to select a date from the list for MSDLT employees.

Course Name: CPR/AED Training for MSDLT Employees
Class Name: Lawrence Township Schools-Closed to Public
Class Cost: $30.00 Payable online when you register

Members of the Lawrence North 1990 Track Team were recognized at the Lawrence North—Lawrence Central football game on September 4th.

Team captains shake hands just before the game.
Check out the Community Opportunities and Information page on our website for a list of local cultural and civic events, scouting opportunities, academic opportunities, youth sports teams and camps, and music and performing arts classes. The Lawrence Township Schools post this information as a community service. We do not necessarily endorse any of the programs, services, events listed. Bookmark this site and visit it often to get the latest news!

Visit our Community Opportunities and Information webpage to learn more.

This newsletter is a publication of the MSDLT Human Resources, Communication, and Technology Departments.

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