

Middle School Virtual Parent Night

Liberty Pines Academy
March 3, 2021
7:00 PM



The LPA Support Team



Principal
Assistant Principal
Assistant Principal
Assistant Principal
Counselor 6th Grade
Counselor 7th & 8th Grade
Dean

Mrs. Traci Hemingway
Mrs. Elizabeth Haas
Mrs. Jessica McCool
Ms. Erin Glennon
Mrs. Katie Heller
Mrs. Kelley Cox
Mr. Keith Cromwell

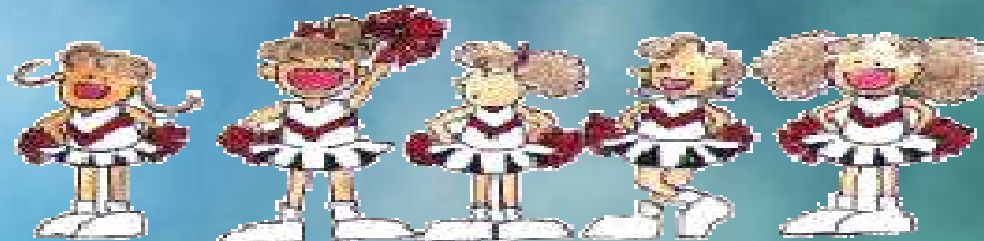


We are your cheerleaders!



Middle school is an exciting time, but it can also be filled with jitters and nervous energy for students and parents.

Be confident in LPA's team! The administrators, dean, teachers, counselors, and staff are all committed to supporting your student, so they experience a strong work ethic, positive attitude, independence, and social, emotional and academic success!



LPA School Wide Expectations

Be Respectful

- Treat others with respect; follow the Golden Rule
- Use good manners, not bad language
- Be tolerant and accepting of differences
- Respect school property and other's belonging
- Words do hurt – be considerate of other's feelings



Be Responsible

- Do what you are supposed to do
- Persevere, keep on trying and always do your best
- Take ownership of your learning success
- Don't make excuses – accept the consequences for your actions

Be Ready to Learn

- Come to class prepared with supplies, books, all completed homework and assignments and a positive attitude

We are a Character Counts School

Demerits

Middle grade teachers will utilize the discipline demerit system when a student hasn't responded to classroom interventions that have been put in place due to behaviors that do not follow our school-wide behavior expectations. Once a demerit is deemed to be warranted, the staff member will email the parents to inform them that the demerit was issued and why it was issued.

- 1 = parent communication/warning (issuing staff member will email the parents)
- 2 = parent communication/warning (issuing staff member will email the parents)
- 3 = parent communication/warning (issuing staff member will email the parents)
- 4 = parent communication/referral – 1 day of lunch detention – loss of reward for the quarter (issuing staff member will email Dean Cromwell the reason for the demerit and he will contact the parents regarding the consequences)
- 5 = parent communication/referral – 2 days of lunch detention (issuing staff member will email Dean Cromwell the reason for the demerit and he will contact the parents regarding the consequences)
- 6 = parent communication/referral – 3 days of lunch detention (issuing staff member will email Dean Cromwell the reason for the demerit and he will contact the parents regarding the consequences)

Demerits

7 = parent communication/referral – 4 days of lunch detention and referral to MTSS for behavior (issuing staff member will email Dean Cromwell the reason for the demerit and he will contact the parents regarding the consequences)

8 = parent communication/referral – 1 day of ISD (issuing staff member will email Dean Cromwell the reason for the demerit and he will contact the parents regarding the consequences)

Please note that the demerits will reset at the end of each academic quarter

Rewards Earned:

- October = Ice Cream Social in the Cafeteria
- December = Pep Rally – Faculty vs 8th grade Volleyball Team
- March = Ice Cream Social in the Cafeteria
- May = Pep Rally – Faculty vs 8th grade Basketball Team

Communication With Teachers

- We welcome your communication. Email communication is the preferred method. Due to the busy nature of the school day our teachers will need time to respond. Please allow up to 48 hours.
- To request a meeting with an individual teacher via email for an appointment. Many middle school teachers generally like to meet as a team when there is a parent conference. This helps with getting a better understanding of what is going on with the student in all his/her classes.
- Being an informed parent will allow you the opportunity to support your child throughout their middle school experience.
- Teacher email is the best way for parents to communicate with a teacher and Schoology Messages is a way for students to communicate with their teacher

Planners, Schoology, and HAC

- Organization is key to success! A planner is provided to each student at the start of school and is an excellent tool to remind your child of due dates.
- Students should record all homework, assignments and assessments in their planner each day.
- Schoology is where teachers post the learning activities and power point presentations students get in the classroom. This is an excellent resource to use when studying for a test and keep organized.
- Home Access Center (HAC) is where parents can see the grades your child earns for each assignment or assessment for all 7 of their classes. This should be checked on a weekly basis.

Backpacks

- Backpacks may be carried between classes – please stress the importance of load capacity with your child and utilizing their lockers
- No rolling backpacks are allowed without a doctor's note – these cause a trip hazard during hall change



Cell Phones



- Must be OFF and kept in locker.
- Students may not use the cell phone during the day.
- A phone will be taken if it is out during the day.
 - First Violation: Phone confiscated; corrective consultation & phone returned at end of day by the Dean
 - 2nd Violation: Parent must meet with Dean for a conference
 - Subsequent Violations: Progressive Discipline Followed

Dress Code

- Shorts & Skirts can't be shorter than fingertip length
- Leggings may be worn with a shirt that is fingertip length or 3 inches above the knee
- No tank tops or sleeveless shirts smaller than 3" wide
- No shirts that reveal midriffs or open backs
- No lace or sheer shirts with tanks underneath
- No shirts off the shoulder that show straps
- No holes, rips, or tears in jeans showing skin with holes, rips, or tears shorter than fingertip length or 3 inches above the knee
- No backless shoes



Clubs Offered

- **Math Counts** – for students enrolled in grades 6-8 – open club – only 11 students in the club offered the opportunity to participate in a Chapter Competition
- **STEM Club** – for students enrolled in grades 6-8 – open club – participated in the Science Olympiad Competition in February at Embry Riddle Aeronautical University– Club begins in September.
- **Robotics Club** – Students use LEGO MINDStorm robots and a computer program that allows visual programming of the robots. Students can learn how to program the robots to accomplish tasks of varying complexity. Students can also design and build challenges for robots to solve.
- **Odyssey of the Mind** – for students enrolled in grades 6-8 – 7 students form one team - Odyssey of the Mind is an international creative problem-solving program that engages students in their learning by allowing their knowledge and ideas to come to life in an exciting, productive environment. Students participate in a regional competition in March.
- **Cross Country Club** – for students enrolled in grades 6-8 – Participates in district level Cross Country Meets throughout the county on Wednesdays after school
- **Drama Productions** – for students enrolled in grades 6-8 – students audition for the production – meets afterschool for practice and dress rehearsal

Sports Offered at LPA

- LPA Volleyball – (Fall Sport) offered to students enrolled in grades 6-8 - this is a school and district ran sport - student's tryout for the team – practices are after school with games on Tuesday's and Thursday's
- LPA Basketball – (Winter Sport) offered to students enrolled in grades 6-8 - this is a school and district ran sport - student's tryout for the team – practices are after school with games on Tuesday's and Thursday's

Sports Offered through SJMSAA

- Sports ran through the Parks and Recreation Department (SJMSAA) – not LPA
 - Football
 - Baseball
 - Softball
 - Soccer
 - Tennis
 - Cheer
 - Golf

For more information, please visit <https://www.sjmsaa.com/>

Schedule

5th Period Only

Middle School A =
All elective classes

Middle School B =
All ELA, Math,
Science, Social
Studies Classes

Period		Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday	Wednesday
HR/1 st Period		8:25-9:20	8:25-9:10
2 nd Period		9:23-10:08	9:13-9:50
3 rd Period		10:11-10:56	9:53-10:30
4 th Period		11:00-11:45	10:34-11:11
5 th Period	A Class	12:21-1:06	11:47-12:24
	A Lunch	11:48-12:18	11:14-11:44
	B Class	11:48-12:33	11:14-11:51
	B Lunch	12:36-1:06	11:54-12:24
6 th Period		1:11 – 1:56	12:28-1:05
7 th Period		2:00 – 2:45	1:08 – 1:45

6th Grade Electives

- PE (required)
- Literacy through Film and Literature (*required)

Options of 1 of the following:

- Beginning Band
- Chorus
- Two-Dimensional Studio Art 1
- Intensive Reading (Required if Level 1 on FSA)
- Peer Counseling 1 (Teacher Recommendation Only)

* Depending on Intensive Reading or Peer Counseling

7th Grade Electives

- PE (required)

Options of 2 of the following:

- Beginning Band
- Concert Band (Previous band experience required)
- Jazz Band (Must also be enrolled in Concert Band – teacher recommendation)
- Chorus
- Two-Dimensional Studio Art 2
- ICT 2
- Theatre 1
- Middle School Beginning Spanish
- Intensive Reading (Required if Level 1 on FSA)

8th Grade Elective

- PE (required)

Options of 2 of the following:

- Concert Band (Previous band experience required)
- Jazz Band (Must also be enrolled in Concert Band – teacher recommendation)
- Chorus
- Art 3
- ICT 2
- Computer Science Discoveries
- Theatre 1
- Theatre 2 (Prerequisite – Theatre 1 and teacher recommendation)
- Theatre: Design and Production
- Middle School Intermediate Spanish (Prerequisite – Middle School Beginning Spanish)
- Journalism (Application Only)
- TV Production (Application Only)
- Intern (Application Only)
- Intensive Reading (Required if Level 1 on FSA)

Physical Education — 6th, 7th & 8th Grade

- All 6th, 7th, and 8th students take a full semester of P.E.
- Students must have a PE uniform
- Uniforms can be purchased at a discount rate if ordered by the end of the school year (shorts and a t shirt). The online form will be available on the LPA website before the end of the school year.
- Students must wear sneakers
- Students are given 7 minutes to change at the beginning and end of class.



Band and Jazz Band — 6th, 7th, and 8th Grade

- Band is a year-long commitment that meets every day
- Parent permission is required to participate in Band
- Band 1 – for 1st year band students
- Concert Band – band for students with experience playing an instrument
- Jazz Band – Teacher Recommendation – Additional \$25 Fair Share Fee
- Students perform for sports events, Night of the Arts, and other opportunities throughout the school year
- Instruments may be rented or purchased at a cost to parents
- Students are expected to practice at least 20 minutes a day on their instrument
- Band Boosters supports Band students through a “Fair Share” - \$90 fee
- Solo & Ensemble, Contest, and other performance/learning opportunities will be available

Chorus — 6th, 7th, & 8th Grade

- Students expand vocal, technical and musical skills through the study of high-quality choral literature
- Music Theory
- Public performance serves as a culmination of specific instructional goals - Students may be required to attend and/or participate in performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom. There is a \$20 fair share fee.

Studio Art-1 — 6th Grade Only

- Students explore media and techniques used to create a variety of 2-D artworks through developing skills in drawing, painting, printmaking, and collage. Student's practice, sketch, and manipulate the structural elements of art. Investigation of artworks from Western and non-Western cultures provide a means for students to expand their understanding and appreciation of the role of art in global culture.
- Student artists use an art criticism process to evaluate, explain, and measure artistic growth in personal or group works. This course incorporates hands-on activities and consumption of art materials.

Studio Art – 2 – 7th Grade Only

- Students explore media and techniques used to create a variety of 2-D artworks through developing skills in drawing, painting, printmaking, and collage. Student's practice, sketch, and manipulate the structural elements of art. Investigation of artworks from Western and non-Western cultures provide a means for students to expand their understanding and appreciation of the role of art in global culture.
- Student artists use an art criticism process to evaluate, explain, and measure artistic growth in personal or group works. This course incorporates hands-on activities and consumption of art materials.
- This is for the student who wants to delve deeper into art design. There are a limited number of seats available in this course (40 seats).

Studio Art -3 — 8th Grade Only

- Students extend to an advanced level techniques used to create a variety of 2-D artworks.
- Investigation of artworks from Western and Non-Western cultures provide a means for students to expand their understanding and appreciation of the role of art in global culture.
- Student artists use an art criticism process to evaluate, explain, and measure artistic growth. There are a limited number of seats available in this course (40 seats).

Peer Counseling — 6th Grade Only

- Students develop critical, life-changing skills including taking personal responsibility, expressing themselves well, and making good decisions when problems arise.
- Students learn leadership development and character education skills.
- The course includes topics very relevant to the needs of current students, such as public-speaking and goal setting. Students will develop a healthy self-concept, healthy relationships, and a sense of personal responsibility.
- Teacher recommendation. There are a limited number of seats available in this course (20 Seats).

ICT 2 — 7th and 8th Grade Students Only

- This course will focus on the fundamentals of using relational databases, creating and using spreadsheets and using effective communication in a technological society.
- Topics include but are not limited to; Safety and Privacy Practices of Online Communication; Designing, Creating and using Excel Spreadsheets, Formatting text, Creating charts, Calculating Formulas; and learning the Fundamentals of using Relational Databases.
- Students will earn industry certification by successfully taking and passing the ICT-Database Essentials v1.0 exam with a score of 60% or higher, Spreadsheet Essential and Communications Essentials with a score of 73% or higher. Students will use the Digital Tools Curriculum and Assessment from Certification Partners.

CSD (Computer Science Discoveries) – 8th Grade Only

- This course is an introductory Computer Science course that enables students to understand the basic computer programming concepts and logic. Students will be introduced to programming through a variety of projects, activities and applications. Students will be using the code.org curriculum on the internet.
- Students will earn industry certification by successfully taking and passing the ICT-Programming and Logic Essentials exam with a score of 63.33% or higher and be given the opportunity to take 2 additional certifications in either Web Design, Computing, Gaming, Cybersecurity, and Communications. Students will use the Digital Tools Curriculum and Assessment from Certification Partners.

M/J Theatre 1

- Creative Drama
- Narrative Pantomime
- Developing the voice
- Improvisation
- Play Production
- Theatre appreciation
- Comparing Theatre and other media
- Story Telling
- Readers Theatre
- Puppetry



M/J Theatre 2

- Audience Etiquette
- Theatre Vocabulary
- Theatre History
- Script Writing
- Pantomime
- Performance (monologues/scenes)
- Improvisation
- Vocal and Physical acting techniques
- Musical Theatre

(By application only)



Theatre: Design and Production

- Elements of technical theater
 - Costumes
 - Lighting
 - Makeup
 - Props
 - Publicity
 - Scenery
 - Sound



Spanish – 7th and 8th Grade Only

- Course content for Beginning Spanish and Intermediate Spanish could be equivalent to high school Spanish 1 credit. (This would not be an honors high school credit).
- Students who earn an A or B in these two courses and have shown mastery of the skills from Beginning Spanish and Intermediate Spanish could earn high school standard credit for Spanish 1. These students will be eligible to enroll in Spanish 2 in the 9th grade.
- The Spanish 1 grade will be determined by the numerical average of the final grades for Beginning and Intermediate Spanish and will remain on the student's permanent high school transcript.

Journalism — 8th Grade (Application Only)

- Students will develop fundamental skills in the production of journalism across print to become aware of journalism history, careers, ethics use, and management techniques related to the production of journalistic media.
- Students in this class create our LPA yearbook and our monthly school-wide newsletter.

TV Production - 8th Grade (Application Only)

- Students will gain experience in many aspects of television production including camera operation, video recording, audio recording, script writing, as well as on-air presentations.
- Students will become prepared for further education in the Arts, A/V Technology and communication career skills.
- Students produce and direct a live morning news show that is viewed school-wide each day.

Internship — 8th Grade (Application Only)

- Career development is a continuous process with a series of choices. This course will enable students to explore careers/career clusters and make informed career choices.
- Students will identify the possible outcomes of career and educational decisions.
- Students will also examine how different choices impact their future.
- Activities enable students to increase self-awareness and develop the skills needed to successfully plan for postsecondary education and the workplace.
- A valuable and integral part of this course is the experiential learning that will occur through service as a student intern.

Intensive Reading

- This course provides remediation and intensive instruction in the area of reading. Placement in this courses is based on FSA scores.

Students who earn a 1 in FSA Reading will be placed in this course for additional support.

Is my child ready for advanced courses?

An advanced student ...

- Always completes homework
- Does not require a tutor or extra help
- Has excellent attendance
- Seeks solutions to problems which are not readily apparent
- Understands new material quickly and is not easily overwhelmed
- Recalls previously taught skills and can review independently
- Takes academic responsibility and can see a task through
- Understands the demands of the advanced course and accepts rigorous assignments without complaint
- Is aware of the classes that are for high school credit and how that impacts their High School GPA

Things to consider when enrolling in a high school course:

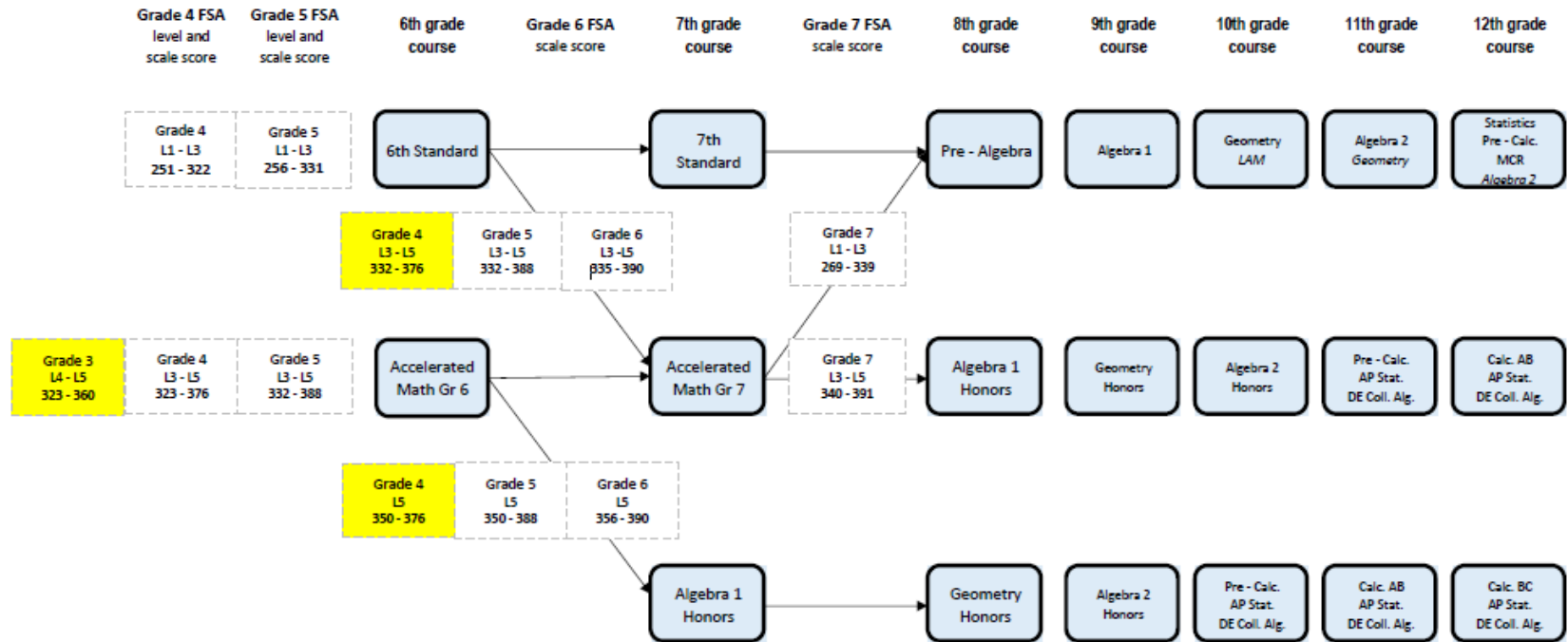
- Honor's high school courses are very rigorous
- High school courses taken in middle school become part of the student's cumulative high school GPA - The high school GPA has an impact which is not limited to: college acceptance, Bright Futures eligibility and fulfillment of graduation requirements
- Courses taken in 7th and 8th grade set the course for a student's progression throughout high school

Math Options

- LPA offers a variety of options for middle grades students depending on their individualized learning path for math:
 - 6th Standard/Advanced
 - 7th grade Standard/Advanced/Algebra 1 Honors
 - 8th grade Pre-Algebra/Algebra 1 Honors/Geometry Honors
- Algebra I (Honors)- has EOC which is 30% of their final grade
(Is a high school level course with an extra 0.5 weight on the GPA.)
- Geometry (Honors)-has EOC which is 30% of their final grade
(Is a high school level course with an extra 0.5 weight on the GPA.)
- Some of the above math courses will require summer course work to prepare for the next rigorous math class in the fall. Students and parents will be contacted by the end of the school year.

Criteria for Placement in Math

SJCSD Middle School Math Progression



FSA ELA Level and Scale Score Requirements				
Enrolled In:	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6
Accelerated Math Grade 6	L3 - L5 311 - 360	L3 - L5 321 - 372	L3 - L5 332 - 385	
Accelerated Math Grade 7		L3 - L5 321 - 372	L3 - L5 332 - 385	L3 - L5 321 - 372
Algebra 1 Honors*		L4 - L5 325 - 372	L4 - L5 352 - 385	L4 - L5 339 - 391

* students have not taken Pre-Algebra

All highlighted information is in place for the '21-'22 school year due to no '19-'20 FSA scores.

Physical Science Honors

- A grade of an A or a high B in 7th grade advanced science is required
- *Concurrent enrollment in Algebra 1 Honors or Geometry*
- A Level 5 on both the Math and Reading FSA is recommended
- Is a high school level course with an extra 0.5 weight on the High School GPA

Biology Honors

- A grade of an A or high B in 7th grade advanced science is required
- *Concurrent enrollment Geometry*
- A Level 5 on both the Math and Reading FSA is recommended
- Is a high school level course with an extra 0.5 weight on the High School GPA

Course Verification Forms

Your child will bring home their course verification form on Wednesday, March 3, 2021. On this form you will see:

- Core class recommendations – ELA, Math, Science, Social Studies – write any class questions you may have on the form, sign the bottom, and return it to your child's homeroom teacher.
- Elective registration form – please number your choices 1 to 3 with 1 being the class you want the most.
- Please remember that we cannot always guarantee your first choice. Be mindful of what you select as your choices. No class changes will be made after July 9, 2021.

Choose Wisely and Plan for Success!

- We strongly encourage students to take advanced courses. Course selections remain in effect for a full year and course change requests will not be made after July 9, 2021.
- Our team of instructional professionals are ready to challenge your child to become a critical thinker and an independent learner in whatever course he or she is enrolled.



Question and Answer Time

