Hello Lesher Families and Community,

Spring is on the horizon and Lesher has a lot to celebrate! First, congratulations to Mr. Matt Moeller and the Lesher wrestling team for being crowned district champions! The team had several individual district champions as well and we could not be more proud of their work ethic, determination, and sheer grit. Also, our girls’ basketball team starts their playoff run this week against Lincoln and our Science Olympiad team takes their talents on the road representing Lesher. Good Luck Vikings!

Thank you to all our families who have participated in spring student led conferences and who volunteered at our recent winter Viking night out. It’s been incredible connecting with all of you, learning about your stories, and celebrating your children’s successes. Thank you for being part of our team.

Something we’re all looking forward to is bringing back the Lesher tradition of Nordic Fest. This year Nordic Fest will take place April 14th from 3:00-7:00 on the east side of the building. Students can sign up to compete in a four-person team obstacle course, take part in a gaming tournament, or spend time in the art room creating a take-home item. We will also have music, food trucks, and snacks for purchase. Other information including timeline and cost will be available soon, so please stay tuned!

Thank you all for your continued support and encouragement. We are so lucky to be part of this community. Do not hesitate to reach out if you are in need of support. Have a great spring break!

All the best,
Don Kotnik
Principal
2023 CMAS Assessment Window

Please mark your calendars! The 2023 CMAS Assessment window is March 27th – April 28th. All students will take 3 English Language Arts assessments and 3 Mathematics assessments. Additionally, 8th graders will take 3 Science assessments.

Please see the tentative calendar below for when each of these assessments will occur. As you plan ahead, we would greatly appreciate you doing your best to avoid morning appointments or other student absences on these days. With some limited individual student exceptions, we will generally be done testing by lunchtime each day.

The state assessment system, Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS), is designed to measure student mastery of Colorado’s academic content standards. Colorado’s academic content standards indicate skills and knowledge necessary to prepare students for success from early school readiness to postsecondary competencies, reflective of both workforce readiness and 21st century skills. Student progress toward these outcomes is measured through CMAS, which provides information to teachers as they incorporate the content standards in their daily instruction. CMAS results are also used for school and district accountability.

We will send a more detailed and specific calendar of testing days as we get closer to our testing dates. If you have questions about the CMAS assessments, please contact Deana Kochis, School Assessment Coordinator, at dkochis@psdschools.org or (970) 472-3854.
Sponsorship space in this newsletter is extremely affordable!

Reach parents in your local community & a significant portion of your investment goes back to the school!

Want to sponsor this school?

Please contact Joe Mivshek at SchoolNewsletterCompany@gmail.com or (970) 420-7163.

Morning Fresh Cash for Caps

If you are a Morning Fresh Dairy customer, please bring in your rinsed milk, juice, cream, or other caps to Mr. Mayer. Lesher Middle School earns money for every cap that is returned. If you are interested in Morning Fresh Dairy, every new household sign up raises $25 for Lesher. Click here or ask Mr. Mayer (bmayer@psdschools.org) for more information.

St. Patrick’s Day Luck

Lesher Middle School
LAST CALL FOR NORDIC FEST SPONSORS

APRIL 14, 2023

• Your logo on an event t-shirt!
• Social Media shout-out!
• Support a local school!

Interested in this opportunity?
Please contact Nicole ASAP!

nichirschfield@gmail.com
970-818-6407
Math Counts Club Competition

Lesher Middle School’s Math Counts Club had a successful competition. Let’s recognize the Vikings who answered the call to compete for glory and honor and congratulate them on a job well done:

- Julian Pallickara 8th Grade
- Lev Achter-Pries 8th Grade
- Ansel Ligon 8th Grade
- Henry Beavers 8th Grade
- North Tarry 7th Grade
- Siena Frisbie 7th Grade
- Reed Sloan 6th Grade
- Asher Sloan 6th Grade

Lesher Middle School was ranked 5th place in the team competition for regionals. On the individual rankings, Lev Achter-Pries was ranked 6th overall out of 112 competitors and will be going to State soon.

National Poetry Month Writing Contest

April is National Poetry Month! Launched by the Academy of American Poets in April 1996, National Poetry Month is a special occasion that celebrates poets’ integral role in our culture and that poetry matters. Over the years, it has become the largest literary celebration in the world, with tens of millions of readers, students, K–12 teachers, librarians, booksellers, literary events curators, publishers, families, and—of course—poets, marking poetry’s important place in our lives.

LESHER’S 2023 NATIONAL POETRY MONTH WRITING CONTEST

1. Poems should be typed and can be from 10 lines to a page.
2. Any subject will work as long as it is appropriate for middle school students.
3. Judges Mrs. Marsh and Mrs. Smith, retired Lesher teachers, will be looking for poems that show the writer’s honest feelings and thoughts about the subject chosen and use an excellent choice of words.
4. Teachers need to email poems in a PDF file of all their students to Mrs. Marsh (martymmarsh13@gmail.com) BY MONDAY, MAY 1.
5. Students should have first and last name, grade, and teacher’s name on the typed poem.
6. There will be several winners, no certain number from each grade.
7. Of course, there will be prizes. 😊
LAPTOP REMINDERS!

Hi! My name is Becky Knips and I am our Educational Technology Coordinator at Lesher. I was our computer science teacher for 14 years and am excited to help integrate technology throughout our classrooms this year! All students attended a laptop expectations session at the beginning of the school year; however students may need a few reminders mid-year of what they can and can’t do on their school-issued laptop while they are at home. Here are a few things you can look for at home on their laptop:

Yes - you can...
- Check your grades, PSD email, or work on homework
- Use Microsoft Teams to chat with a classmate about an assignment
- Play an educational game that a teacher has specifically assigned

No - you can’t...
- Use Microsoft Teams/Google Hangouts/email to have personal conversations or chats with friends
- Play games (Roblox, Minecraft, or other online games - unless specifically assigned by a teacher)
- Watch videos on YouTube or listen to music

We emphasize that school-issued laptops are to be used as a tool to learn. If you are wondering if what your child is doing is school-related, ask them to show you where it’s assigned or follow up with an email or phone call to that teacher. Google Classroom and StudentVUE/ParentVUE are great places to check what is assigned. Having your child use the laptop in a visible location can help minimize distractions and get work done.

Lastly, we have noticed many students coming in without charging their laptops. Laptops should be fully charged every morning. Having a nightly routine of plugging the laptop into the charger is helpful. We don’t have enough outlets in the classroom to support students charging their laptops at school.

If you have any questions about your child’s laptop usage, please reach out to me at 970-472-3840 or rknips@psdschools.org.
Sewing Machine

Do you have a sewing machine that is collecting dust in your attic or basement, or know someone who does? The Art Department is looking for donations of sewing machines in good working order that can be used by our students for a sewing class/club. If you have one and are happy to donate it to our sewing cause, please contact: Mrs. Champagne at achampagne@psdschools.org

8th Grade Video Collage

Hello Families of Lesher 8th Graders!

At the end of the school year, a video collage presentation is compiled to celebrate the out-of-school / extracurricular activities that our 8th graders participate in. This video montage will be shown during the end of the year celebration just for our departing 8th graders.

Do you have a short action video snip (10 seconds or less) of your 8th grader? Maybe you have a moment from a sporting event, engaged in favorite hobby at home, playing with a pet, doing something adventurous -- or a fun moment from a vacation? Anything goes, as long as we can see your child in the video! Horseback riding, theater, magic tricks, biking, hiking, skiing, volleyball, dance, football, surfing, cross country, wrestling, water sports, ziplining, basketball, softball, baseball, track, soccer, trampoline jumping, baking, gymnastics, rubik’s cube speed, unicycling, musical instruments, chess, gaming, disc golf, and weightlifting are several of the moments that have been received and used in years past!

If your child has an event- be sure to grab a few seconds of video and send it along! Ideally this video montage will have a 2-10 second ACTION video of EVERY 8th grade student! You can submit 2 snips if you can’t pick your favorite- I will try to get all of them in. This is a chance for students to shine in ways that aren’t seen during the school day.

Please email your short video snips to the 8th Grade Day Variety Show Coordinator, Ms. Thompson - juliat@psdschools.org – she will be collecting them throughout the year, up until May 1st.

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ROTARY STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Rotary Club of the Foothills is a proud supporter of PSD and public education. Lesher was honored to recognize Aiden McCarthy (8th grade), Quinlynn Hunt (7th grade), and Riley Crockard (6th grade) at the Rotary Club of the Foothills luncheon on 2/28/23.

Aiden, Quinlynn, and Riley were nominated by their teachers for demonstrating the Rotary International Principles: service, integrity, recognition of international understanding, and personal responsibility to society.

Congratulations on this achievement. Quinlynn and Riley are only getting started on their leadership at Lesher, while Aiden has built a great foundation and will continue to do amazing things in High School!
CSU Summer K-12 Programs

**Fashion Fundamentals:** This program is specifically for middle school students. It is open to all genders and is free for students on free and reduced lunch:

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Academic, Sport and Credit-Bearing Opportunities

Summer programs for kindergarten through pre-college students and P-12 teachers

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Categories for all ages:

- Animals and Environment
- Arts and Human Sciences
- Industry and Leadership
- Interdisciplinary Programs
- Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM)
- Sport Programs
- Programs for P-12 Teachers

Scan the QR code or visit:
K12Summer.colostate.edu

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
March Events

Storytime: I Can Save the Earth
3/7 10:30-11:30
What makes the Earth happy? Join us for a story + activity to follow

Trash Talk
3/13-14 11:30-1:30
Where does it all go? Learn about landfills and fate of your trash

Recycle Rally
3/15-16 10:30-1:30
Ever doubt which bin to throw it out? Join us and become a recycling expert

Sustainable DIY
3/21-3/25 10:30-1:30
Celebrate Sustainability Week with daily DIY projects to help you say no to single use plastics

Register at: www.larimer.gov/solidwaste/education/edcenter
April 17 – 20, 2023, 4:30 pm || FCHS Gym 2

**FCHS CHEER TRYOUTS**

Do you have school spirit?

Join a great athletic program, become a leader of FoCo traditions, and meet new friends!

**PARENT MEETING APRIL 6, 6:30PM:**

Join us in the FCHS commons with a parent or guardian to learn more about our team and the tryout process!

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR FURTHER INFO AND UPDATES!

fchscheer.wixsite.com/spirit
Summer of Discovery

Join Boys & Girls Clubs of Larimer County's Summer of Discovery! This program is exclusive to middle school students and will focus on exploring different career paths, academic enrichment programming and having a ton of fun!

WHEN:
June 5 - July 28
Monday - Friday | 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

WHERE:
Boys & Girls Clubs of Larimer County
Fort Collins Club
1608 Lancer Drive, Fort Collins, CO 80525

WHO:
Students entering 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th*, or 10th* grade
*9th grade students can receive high school credit!

HOW:
Click here to complete a registration form.* You will be contacted via email once your spot is confirmed.
Registration for current BGCLC families opens 2/28 and to the public on 3/21.

Youth must be able to attend an average of 6 weeks of the program.

www.BeGreatLarimer.org | 970-223-1709

continued...
Summer of Discovery, continued...

**SCHEDULE**

**Week 1: June 5-9**  
**Plan Your Future**  
This week you will explore what is possible after high school. Explore local colleges and trade schools as well as possible career options. Questions will be answered about how much money you can make and how to land your dream job. In addition, you will take a guided personal tour of Colorado State University.

**Week 3: June 12-16**  
**Trades & Construction**  
Hear and see what it takes to be an auto mechanic, plumber, electrician or construction worker. Learn how to use the basic tools in each trade with hands-on training by professionals. The week will culminate in a career fair, with multiple trade professionals offering an in-depth look at their career.

**Week 7: June 19-23**  
**Health and Wellness**  
Hear about careers in the fields of both physical and mental health, as well as nutrition. Participate in discussions that will challenge you to care for yourself and others.

**Week 4: June 26-30**  
**Arts Week**  
Step into a career in one of the many disciplines of fine arts! Learn more about performing arts, music, film, photography, culinary art, painting, sculpting, digital art, and more. Explore studios and fine arts spaces with us as we learn from a variety of artists about how to be realistic, pragmatic, and make your passion your career.

**Week 2: July 5-7**  
**Technology & Engineering**  
This week we focus on coding, website development and robotics. Careers in technology and engineering are not just individually rewarding, but bring the hardware and software the world uses to life. Learn the basics of careers in technology and experience the work firsthand via tours of a local Tech Company!

**Week 5: July 10-14**  
**Climate & Energy**  
This week we will consider climate and renewable energy and the career potential in both those important areas. Learn about the benefits of different types of renewable energy and see their operation first hand. Conduct your own research on renewable energy options and hear about how you can impact climate change!

**Week 6: July 17-21**  
**Entrepreneurship**  
Do you want to own and run your own business? This week, take on that very task - structured similar to the show “Shark Tank.” You will get to make a business plan, put together a real-life prototype, and pitch a presentation to investors.

**Week 8: July 24-28**  
**Community Impact & Celebration**  
In the final week of Summer of Discovery, give back to the community by participating in a variety of community service projects. Additionally, let’s celebrate all the ways you’ve grown - a graduation ceremony and presentation of awards to those who met the program requirements, as well as fun trips & parties, will have you energized for another year of school!
Summer of Discovery (en Español)

VERANO DE DESCUBRIMIENTO

¡Únase al Boys & Girls Clubs of Larimer County's Summer of Discovery! ¡Este programa es exclusivo para estudiantes de secundaria y se centrará en explorar diferentes trayectorias profesionales, programas de enriquecimiento académico y divertirse muchísimo!

CUÁNDO:
5 de junio - 28 de julio
Lunes - Viernes | 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

DONDE:
Boys & Girls Clubs of Larimer County
Fort Collins Club
1608 Lancer Drive, Fort Collins, CO 80525

QUIÉN:
Estudiantes que ingresan a 6, 7, 8, 9, 0 10 grado
*Los estudiantes de noveno y décimo grado pueden recibir crédito de escuela secundaria!

CÓMO:
Haga clic aquí para completar el formulario de registro.* Se le contactará por correo electrónico una vez que se confirme su lugar. Inscripciones abriré 2/28 para familias actuales, y 3/21 para familias nuevas.

Los jóvenes deben poder asistir un promedio de 6 semanas del programa.

www.BeGreatLarimer.org | 970-223-1709

continued...
CALENDARIO

Semana 1: 5 - 9 de junio
Planifica tu futuro
Esta semana explorará lo que es posible después de la escuela secundaria. Explore las universidades locales y las escuelas de oficios, así como las posibles opciones profesionales. Se responderán preguntas sobre cuánto dinero puede ganar y cómo conseguir el trabajo de sus sueños. Además, realizará una visita guiada personal a la Universidad Estatal de Colorado.

Semana 2: 12 - 16 de junio
Oficios y Construcción
Escuche y vea lo que se necesita para ser mecánico de automóviles, plomero, electricista o trabajador de la construcción. Aprenda a utilizar las herramientas básicas en cada oficio con formación práctica impartida por profesionales. La semana culminará con una feria de empleo, con múltiples profesionales del comercio que ofrecerán una mirada en profundidad a su carrera.

Semana 3: 19 - 23 de junio
Salud mental y física
Escuche sobre carreras en los campos de la salud física, salud mental, y nutrición. Participa en debates que lo desafiarán al cuidar de sí mismo y de los demás.

Semana 4: 26 - 30 de junio
Semana de Arte
Exploramos las carreras en muchos de los tipos de arte, incluyendo artes plásticas, bellas artes, música, fotografía, filmar, escultura, y más. Vamos a aprender con artistas de muchos campos y estudiaremos como puedas perseguir una carrera de arte en una manera realista.

Semana 5: 5 - 7 de julio
Tecnología e Ingeniería
Esta semana nos centramos en la codificación, el desarrollo de sitios web y la robótica. Las carreras en tecnología e ingeniería no solo son gratificantes individualmente, sino que dan vida al hardware y software que el mundo usa. Aprenda los conceptos básicos de las carreras en tecnología y experimente el trabajo de primera mano a través de recorridos por una empresa de tecnología local.

Semana 6: 10 - 14 de julio
Clima y Energía
Esta semana consideraremos el clima y la energía renovable y el potencial profesional en ambas importantes áreas. Conoce los beneficios de los diferentes tipos de energías renovables y conoce de primera mano su funcionamiento, ¡realice su propia investigación sobre opciones de energía renovable y escuche cómo puede impactar el cambio climático!

Semana 7: 17 - 21 de julio
Emprendimiento
¿Quieres tener y administrar tu propio negocio? Esta semana, asume esa misma tarea - estructurado de manera similar al programa "Shark Tank." Podrá hacer un plan de negocios, armar un prototipo de la vida real y presentar una presentación a los inversores.

Semana 8: 24 - 28 de julio
Impacto comunitario y celebración
En la última semana de Summer of Discovery, retribuya a la comunidad participando en una variedad de proyectos de servicio comunitario. Además, celebraremos todas las formas en que has crecido - una ceremonia de graduación y la entrega de premios a quienes cumplieron con los requisitos del programa, así como viajes y fiestas divertidos, ¡lo llenarán de energía para otro año escolar!
Traffic Safety at Lesher Middle School
1400 Stover St. | Fort Collins

To help streamline drop-off and pick-up, please adhere to Lesher’s Traffic Safety. The area directly in front of the main entrance is designated to busses only. The main entrance and cafeteria entrance are the only entry points to the building; however, during school hours, you must come through the front office.

Drivers
- Slow down
- PULL FORWARD in the drop-off/pick-up area
- Yield to pedestrians & crossing guards in crosswalks
- DO NOT BLOCK the roadway, bicycle lanes, handicap spaces, bus entrances, or driveways
- NO parking, stopping, or standing at RED CURBS

Bicyclists/Skateboarders
- Bicycles should use bicycle lanes & obey traffic laws
- Dismount your bicycle/ skateboard on the sidewalk in front of the school & walk
- Secure your bicycle/skateboard on the racks at the north side of the school

Pedestrians
- Use crosswalks
- Make eye contact with drivers prior to crossing

Want to volunteer as a crossing guard? Contact our Office Manager, 970-472-3803, jeanniem@psdschools.org