

Spartan Newsletter

180 Maple Street East Longmeadow, MA 01028 (413) 525-5460



August 2016

A Message from Dr. Flanagan, Principal

Welcome Back Everyone!

We hope that you all enjoyed a relaxing summer. We'd like to extend a special welcome to our new freshmen class. We hope your time at ELHS is one full of growth and fun. As the summer winds down, some of you may be anxious to dive into the new school year and re-acquaint yourselves with your friends. It's an exciting time for both students and staff and we look forward to seeing you all soon. In this newsletter, you will find important information regarding the start of the 2016-17 school year.

We have several new staff members joining the Spartan community this year that we would like to introduce you to:

- Ms. Heather Burakiewicz (Wells College, UMASS)** will be joining the Social Studies as Ms. Marilyn Burke has retired.
- Ms. Jennifer Goggin (UMASS, Westfield State, Elms College)** will be teaching 9th and 10th English.
- Ms. Nikki MacGillivray (Westfield State)** will be teaching Biology and Environmental Science.
- Ms. Stephanie Mailman (AIC, Baypath)** will be joining our Special Education department in our Autism program.
- Ms. Chelsea Orifice (Boston College)** and **Mr. Dexter Davis (AIC)** are our two new paraprofessionals.
- Mr. Steve Strepka (WNEU)** will be substituting for Math teacher, Ms. Regina Crane, while she is out on maternity leave.
- Ms. Shelby Smith (Westfield State)** guidance counselor job sharing with Ms. Lucrezia Illingsworth.
- Dr. Joanna Miles (AIC)** will be our new school psychologist as Dr. Elinor Covey has retired.

Below are some new initiatives and projects that we finalized over the summer that we feel supports our school mission statement of:

Engage in Critical Thinking Learn Collaboratively Honor Diversity and Strive for Success.

New Schedule Debuts

As you are aware, we have modified our schedule for this school year. While most classes will remain semester-based, 85 minute blocks, we felt that the core classes of English, Math, Science and Foreign Language should be taught every day to maximize learning and eliminate any learning gaps that can occur. In this newsletter, you will find a sample of our new schedule to give you an idea of what your student will be exposed to this year. Students will be oriented to the new schedule in homeroom/advisory on the first day of school as well.

Advisory Period to Begin at ELHS

This year, we will be introducing a monthly advisory period with our students. During this time, students will have the opportunity to discuss their thoughts on a wide variety of age appropriate topics that include healthy social media habits, teenage relationships, peer pressure, drug and alcohol use, dealing with stress, time management and more. ELHS has teamed up with an organization that will provide us short videos and discussion questions on these topics so that teachers can facilitate discussions with small groups of students. It is our hope that this experience will promote healthy decision making, empowerment and rich, diverse discussions.

Library Renovation Underway

Over the summer, we were excited to do some renovating of our 50+ year old library. While our aging building has its limitation in terms of modern flair and functionality, we felt it was important to give our students a comfortable space to collaborate and learn. We added two lounge areas to the library for this purpose. The project is being completed in stages. The new shelving will be in place during the month of September and we hope to add new furniture by the end of the year.

Enjoy the remaining days of summer everyone! We hope that the 2016-17 school year is one full of productivity, growth and positive experiences for all of our students. Remember you get what you give in life- make this year your best ever! And don't forget your summer reading!

First Day of School is Tuesday, August 30, 2016

For the first 3 days, students will report to homeroom/advisory.

Homeroom/advisory teachers will review key features of the handbook as well as assign lockers at that time. Please note that in an attempt to go green, the handbook is now available on our school website. If you would prefer a hard copy of the handbook, please call the main office.

Once all this has been covered, students will be dismissed to their "A" block class and visit their remaining classes as well.

Summer reading assessments will take place the first week of school in all English classes.

People to Know

Ms. DeNardo - Guidance Counselor
Ms. Illingsworth - Guidance Counselor
Mr. Martin - Guidance Counselor
Ms. Smith - Guidance Counselor
Ms. Sullivan - Guidance Counselor
Mr. Kelleher- Adjustment Counselor
Mr. Maccarini- Career Center/Community Service Coordinator

Main Office Staff:

Ms. Terry Hellyer-Principal's Secretary
Ms. Louise Disa-Secretary
Ms. Linda Bushey-Secretary
Mr. Frank Paige-Assistant Principal
Mr. RJ Marchewka-Assistant Principal
Mr. Dan Maurer-Athletic Director
Ms. Gina Flanagan-Principal

EMERGENCY FORMS

To ensure a direct line of communication between home and school, we require all families to complete a Student Emergency Data Sheet for each student enrolled at ELHS. You should have received this form in an earlier mailing. Please make sure that this form has been turned into our school office. We also ask that that you forward any updates to our school office as necessary- particularly email addresses.

Home & School Communication

To ensure that our families receive the most up to date information* on all ELHS events and student progress, please note that the following websites are available to you:

ELHS Website:

<http://elhs.eastlongmeadowma.gov/hi-gh-school/>

ELHS Twitter:

www.twitter.com/ELHSSpartans

Teachers update grades weekly. If you have any issues, please contact the main office.

**This will be the last printed newsletter. From this point forward our bi-monthly newsletter will be available on the web.*

Schedule Information

Enclosed in this mailing is a copy of your student's preliminary schedule for the 2016-17 school year. Please be advised that due to the large number of students and course offerings, we cannot take any requests to have certain teachers.

If you have any questions regarding your student's schedule, please call the high school guidance office at (413) 525-5462 beginning Monday, August 22nd.

COMMUNITY CRUSADE FOR CHILDREN, INC.

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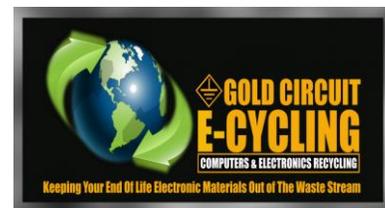

We turn used clothing into new kids through education.

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**CLOTHING, PAPER
SHREDDING AND E-CYCLING
DRIVE
LET'S GO GREEN**



Please also consider bringing a non-perishable food item for the East Longmeadow Food Pantry.

**SAT., SEPTEMBER 10, 2016
9AM TO 12 PM
EAST LONGMEADOW HIGH
SCHOOL
MAIN ENTRANCE ON MAPLE
STREET**

**100% OF ALL PROCEEDS TO
BENEFIT EAST LONGMEADOW
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

Freshmen Orientation

Freshmen orientation is scheduled at the high school for **Wednesday, August 24th at 10am until 11:30am** for all incoming ninth graders and any students new to the school. The high school administration, guidance counselors, student mentors and student council have prepared activities for our incoming students to help ease the transition to ELHS. Lunch will be provided. All newly enrolled and ninth grade students are strongly encouraged to attend.

Student Parking



In accordance with our Safe Schools Plan, all vehicles parked on ELHS property must be registered with the main office and display a valid parking permit.

Permits can be purchased in the main office for a charge of \$20 anytime throughout the school year. This permit should be hung on the rear view mirror of the vehicle.

Parking on ELHS property is a privilege that may be withdrawn for noncompliance with ELHS parking regulations. Vehicles must display appropriate parking permits in order to park on the property.

Students may not park in the faculty and staff parking area. A solid red line, running the entire width of the lot, divides the parking lot. Students may park in the area from this line heading to the end of the parking lot by St. Michael's Catholic Church.

ADVISORY PROGRAM

New for the 2016-2017 school year, ELHS homerooms will also function as an Advisor/Advisee (Advisory) program where smaller groups of students meet with the same teacher periodically throughout the school year (8-10 times this school year), each school year, in an "ungraded" environment that focuses on various topics that apply to students' lives. To start us off on our Advisory journey, ELHS has partnered with Jostens' Renaissance Education program to explore various social topics using "The Harbor," Jostens' "free educational resource for schools that provide students with real perspectives from real people that will help them achieve greater success in the outside world" (<https://www.jostensrenaissance.com/theharbortv/what-is-the-harbor/>). We expect the Advisory program to evolve from there as we move forward.



Course Syllabus

Please note that the classroom supply list that will be needed by your student in their individual courses will be distributed on the first day of school via the course syllabus. Please make sure to review the syllabus for each of your student's classes so that you also have an understanding of class expectations and grading procedures.

In many of our classes, we have begun to transition to online textbooks so that students can have access to their text from any place at any time. Teachers will be distributing access codes for all online resources in their syllabus.



ATHLETIC NEWS

Requirements to be completed prior to the first day of practice:

1. Must have a current physical (within the last 13 months to the date of participation)
2. Students must have a 2.0 GPA
3. Register online at www.familyid.com
4. Valid concussion baseline test
5. Sports Fee (\$149.00)

STARTING DATES FOR FALL SPORTS

Football will begin Friday, August 19, 2016. All other sports will begin on Thursday, August 25.



Aug. 24th - 10am-11:30am
Freshmen Orientation

August 30th - *First Day of School*

Sept. 2nd & Sept. 5th - **NO SCHOOL**

Sept. 7th – *Open House*
6:30pm

Sept. 10th – *ACT's @ ELHS*

Sept. 14th - *Yearbook pictures (retakes Oct. 20)*

Sept. 22nd – *College Night (seniors & parents) 6:30pm*

October 3rd - *Progress Reports*

Oct. 6th - *First School Council* Meeting @ 2:15pm in Conference Room across from main office.*

Oct. 6th – *Financial Aid Night @ 6pm*

*School Council

Please contact Ms. Hellyer 413-525-5460 if you are interested in participating. The School Council is open to all parents and students and serves as an advisory committee to the building administration. Feedback is sought regarding various instructional and policy issues.

1st THREE (3) DAYS OF SCHOOL SCHEDULE

| Time | Schedule (Special) |
|---|--------------------------|
| 30 mins (7:25AM-7:55AM) | HOMEROOM/ADVISORY |
| 30 mins (8:00AM-8:30AM) | A |
| 30 mins (8:35AM-9:05AM) | B |
| 30 mins (9:10AM-9:40AM) | C |
| 30 mins (9:45AM-10:15AM) | D |
| 40 mins (10:20AM-11:00AM) | E |
| <p>Follow Day 1 Lunch Assignments</p> <p>1st Lunch (including passing) 10:15AM-10:55AM (5 mins + 30 mins + 5 mins) EF Class: 10:55AM-12:20PM</p> <p>2nd Lunch (including passing) 11:00AM-11:40AM (5 mins + 30 mins + 5 mins)</p> <p>3rd Lunch (including passing) 11:45AM-12:25PM (5 mins + 30 mins + 5 mins) EF Class: 10:20AM-11:45AM</p> <p>*EF classes will split between 1st & 3rd lunch</p> | |
| 40 mins (11:40AM-12:20PM) | F |
| 40 mins (12:25PM-1:05PM) | G |
| 35 mins (1:10PM-1:45PM) | H |

2016-2017 ELHS Schedule

| Time | Day 1 | Day 2 | Day 3 | Day 4 | Options |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| 41 mins (7:25AM-8:06AM) | A | A (85 mins) | A | B (85 mins) | A, B Or AB |
| 41 mins (8:09AM-8:50AM) | B | | B | | |
| 41 mins (8:53AM-9:34AM) | C (85 mins) | C | D (85 mins) | C | C, D Or CD |
| 41 mins (9:38AM-10:19AM) | | D | | D | |
| ***LUNCH BLOCK*** 41 mins (10:23AM-11:04AM) | E | E (85 mins) | E | F (85 mins) | E, F Or EF |
| ***LUNCH BLOCK*** 41 mins (11:36AM-12:17PM) | F | | F | | |
| 41 mins (12:20PM-1:01PM) | G (85 mins) | G | H (85 mins) | G | G, H Or GH |
| 41 mins (1:04PM-1:45PM) | | H | | H | |



School Traffic Procedures

Vehicles arriving or departing during the normal school hours must do so by using the parking lot entrance by St. Michael's Church. **Vehicles cannot enter the front horseshoe between 6:55am-7:25am and 1:45pm-2:15pm due to busing.**