

LHS Administration:

- Rod Watson- Principal
- Jack Smalley, Ashley Tessmer, Kelly Zywicki- Associate Principals

Life at Lincoln

Monthly Newsletter - February 1, 2025

Note from the Principal

Phone Use Among Teens

Our teenagers are growing up in a very different world than the one with which the older generations are familiar. Only 15 years after the introduction of the smartphone, screen time has taken over the lives of many young people. Their use of social media and gaming apps has skyrocketed, causing many negative side effects. Studies show that teens read less, are exposed to legitimate news less, and are less active than they were before cell phones. They are also getting far less sleep than they should (a recent survey suggested that 45% of LHS teens use their phones after midnight most nights), are more depressed (largely due to social media), and are less connected to their peers.

Jonathan Haidt in his recent book *The Anxious Generation*, explains the terrible effects of cell phone use on young people. He makes a clear case that cell phones have exacerbated problems with loneliness, anxiety, attention, depression, and more. He then calls us to action, stating that it is the responsibility of adults to respond.



We need to put reasonable limits on phone use, such as demanding that phones do not belong at the table (time to connect) or in the bedroom (time to sleep). He also suggests that phones do not belong in school (time to learn) and applauds the school leaders who have acted on this.

We are making progress with phone use at LHS, but it is a daily fight, as I imagine it is at home. Please help us in this quest to wrestle the attention of our young people back from their screens. They are worth the struggle!

Upcoming Events

Feb
1

LHS Fire on Ice Dance
(7:00-10:30pm)

Feb
21

ACT Test Fill In Day

FEB
26

Youth Unity Summit- Select
Students

Feb
28

LHS Band & Orchestra Solo and
Ensemble Festival

March
6

End of Tri 2

March
11

ACT (No School
Grades 9 and 10)

ACT Information

All juniors will be taking the ACT test during the school day on Tuesday, March 11th. All junior students **MUST** be in their assigned testing room by 7:30 a.m. Bussing will run at normal times on testing day. Students can be dismissed from school after testing is complete if the parent/guardian completes [this form](#).

Juniors will have a presentation about this test during RPT on Wednesday, Feb. 19th. On Friday, Feb. 21st at 7:30 a.m. they will complete the pre-fill information in their RPT classroom. This will take approximately one hour. All students will have an extended RPT on this day.

More information on the ACT Assessment is available on our website at

https://www.wrps.org/schools/lincoln/academics/LHS_ACT.cfm

Testing Schedule for March 11th:

7:30 a.m. - 12:51 p.m. - ACT Testing

11:21 - 11:51 a.m. - Lunch (between multiple-choice and writing sections)

1:00 p.m. - Juniors dismissed or go to Study Hall



Reality Check Information

On March 11, 2025, Seniors will be participating in the “Reality Check” financial simulation requirement for graduation along with community engagement and round table discussions with business and industry professionals from 7:30 a.m. to 11:55 a.m. Students can be dismissed from school at 12:00 p.m. if the parent/guardian completes [this form](#). Refer to the end of this newsletter for more information.



Super Care Heroes!

Celebrating Our Super Care Heroes! We're excited to share some wonderful news!

Our outstanding staff members, Jordan Brummond and Lisa Banks, have been recognized as Super Care Heroes by Care Solace, our partner in mental health care coordination, to give our community access to care at no cost. The Super Care Hero Award celebrates mental health advocates, school counselors, and school mental health staff who go above and beyond to connect students to the care they need.

This recognition highlights Mrs. Banks' and Mr. Brummonds' dedication to changing lives, supporting student well-being, and creating a positive impact in our community.

Jordan shared that he really appreciates witnessing as young people grow, overcome challenges, and start on their paths in life. Lisa said, "I truly enjoy working with my students and helping them with their personal, academic, and career goals. Every day is a new challenge, and I learn as much from them as they do from me."

Please join us in congratulating two of our counselors and our entire caring student services staff on this well-deserved honor. Their hard work and compassion make a difference every single day!

(Note that Caly, our support dog, is happy to be pictured as well!)



Life at Lincoln

CTE Month

Career and Technical Education (CTE) - Adds Value to Our Students' Educational Success (Wisconsin Governor Tony Evers)

February is Career and Technical Education Month, and the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI), Department of Workforce Development (DWD), and the Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) are encouraging students, schools, parents, and educators to discover the high standards, innovation, and excellence offered through the state's CTE programs.

CTE at Wisconsin Rapids Public Schools (WRPS) and Lincoln High School (LHS) is a collection of educational programs, content areas, and a system designed to prepare students to be career and college-ready. Our comprehensive CTE programs are delivered through six specific content areas:

- Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources
- Business and Information Technology
- Family and Consumer Sciences
- Health Science
- Marketing, Management, and Entrepreneurship
- Technology and Engineering



The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction states, "To achieve rigorous academic and technical skill attainment, a CTE program must have the following: dual enrollment options, equivalent options, work-based learning opportunities, and a career and technical student organization."

We are proud to meet all the above-mentioned requirements and constantly strive to improve our CTE programming to serve our students better and prepare them for their futures.

Eric Siler
WRPS Career and Technical Education Coordinator



Life at Lincoln

Sportainment Night

On Friday, January 24th, LHS Sports, Event, and Social Media Marketing students hosted the Econ Electric Sportainment Night. The night was filled with fun, entertainment, and activities for all ages! Children enjoyed carnival games, a bounce house, and the LHS Fiddle Squad. Raffle baskets, a second-half pizza call, and relay races were enjoyed throughout the night! Through our partnerships with local businesses and the generosity of those in attendance, DECA members and LHS Sports, Event, and Social Media Marketing students were able to raise \$14,335.71 for the Muscular Dystrophy Association. Thank you to everyone who supported the Econ Electric Sportainment Night!



Grading Dates



End of Term 2:
March 6, 2025

Term 3 Progress:
April 25, 2025

End of Term 3:
June 5, 2025

ACP CENTER

Season of Sharing Fundraiser Update

The fundraiser was a tremendous success! A huge thank you to the LHS clubs/organizations, WRPS staff, students, and community for raising \$2,425.67, which helped 27 high school students receive a gift this holiday season.



Class of 2025

Graduation Ceremony

The 2025 graduation ceremony will be held at the WoodTrust Bank Field in SWC Stadium on Sunday, June 1st. We take the health and safety of our staff and students very seriously and are happy to be hosting the graduation ceremony in the safest manner possible to celebrate this milestone with our students. In the event of bad weather, the ceremony will be held in the field house. All seniors participating in graduation **MUST** attend the mandatory graduation practice on Friday, May 30th at 10:00 a.m. at the WoodTrust Bank Field. Students must arrive on time or they will not be allowed to practice or be in the graduation ceremony. If your student is not participating in the graduation ceremony, they must have a form signed by a parent/guardian and filed with Dr. Watson by Tuesday, May 27th. The form can be found on our website. Please refer to the Parent's Guide to Graduation on our website for more specific information. If you have any questions about graduation or ordering a cap, gown, and tassel, contact the main office at 715-424-6751.

Caps/Gowns/Tassels

Caps/gowns/tassel and graduation orders will be delivered in April immediately following the meeting in the PAC. If you have not yet ordered your cap/gown/tassel, please do so as soon as possible at [Jostens.com](https://www.jostens.com). To avoid paying a late fee, place your order as soon as possible.

Fees & Fines

In order for your child to receive their diploma, all fees, fines, and other money obligations must be paid in full. Please contact the office at 715-424-6751 if you have any questions.

Senior Mandatory Meeting

All seniors who plan to participate in this year's graduation ceremony will attend a mandatory meeting on April 16th in the PAC. It is mandatory that seniors allowed to walk in graduation attend this meeting. Watch announcements for details.

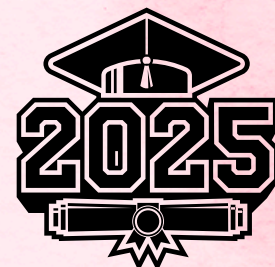
Class Reunion Zero

Next Parent Planning Meeting: Feb 12th at 5:15 p.m. in the LHS main office conference room. Parents of current and future seniors are welcome! Watch the [LHS Class Reunion Zero Facebook](#) page for updates.

Interested in Donating: Do you want to help the Class of 2025 celebrate their graduation? But NOT interested in... Buying anything? Delivering anything? Then you can opt out. Donations can be made payable to Lincoln High School CRZ and sent to Lincoln High School.

Adjusting to Change

This can be a very "interesting" time of the school year as a parent or guardian of a graduating senior. Keeping your teen on the right track in school and making good decisions can be a challenge, especially the second and third trimester of their senior year. As a parent or guardian, please keep your standards and expectations high. We realize this may be difficult because seniors start spreading their wings in preparation for their future. Despite their tendency to want to slow down at the end, please help us emphasize the need to finish strong. Colleges continue to monitor academics to make sure students are not "slacking off" so please communicate with your student the need for them to continue to strive for excellence.



WR Lincoln High School
Published by Chris Wefel
January 29 at 8:03 PM · 🌐

Welcome to RapidsTV!
Your home to watch events in the Wisconsin Rapids School District.




Wisconsin Rapids Public Schools
January 29 at 6:00 PM · 🌐

Many in our community may not be aware of a WRPS Rapids TV Show 📺 called "Rapids on Record," which is recorded by WR Lincoln High School students led by Digital ... See more



WR Lincoln High School
Published by Chris Wefel
January 22 at 4:25 AM · 🌐



WRPS Family & Consumer Sciences
January 15 at 2:59 PM · 🌐

Pro Cooking 1 students making salsa to practice knife cuts and experiment with different flavors



LHS Interact
January 30 at 7:00 PM · 🌐

Thank you to everyone who purchased the 2024-2025 edition of our Interact Club t-shirt!

WR Lincoln High School
Published by Rod Watson
January 28 at 8:15 PM · 🌐

Before the Boys' Basketball team took on Rhinelander, players recognized staff members at LHS who have made a difference for them. In the pictures below you'll see Mr. Radtke, Mrs. Moyer, Mr. Bertagnoli, Mr. Thompson, Mrs. Schmitt, Mr. Schmitt, Mr. Toelle, Mrs. Barnes, Mrs. Jarosinski, Mr. Kostuchowski, Mr. Wendland, and Mrs. Torres. Nice job, teachers!

After this opening, Mrs. Marten's Fiddle Squad played several songs, including the National Anthem. They sounded great!

Go Red and White!



WR Lincoln High School
Published by Chris Wefel
January 22 at 4:25 AM · 🌐



WRPS Family & Consumer Sciences
January 13 at 7:00 AM · 🌐

Baking and Pastry students learned about yeast breads where they made rolls, cinnamon rolls and ended unit with rainbow bagels.

WR Lincoln High School
Published by Ashley Tessmer
January 12 at 4:05 PM · 🌐



Rapids DECA
January 12 at 4:04 PM · 🌐

Districts 2 DECA in action! Thank you to all of our alumni, business partners, and friends of DECA for helping to run events and judge at this year's event! W... See more

WR Lincoln High School
Published by Chris Wefel
January 25 at 6:20 AM · 🌐



LHS Interact
January 24 at 12:15 PM · 🌐

Members of friends of LHS Interact Club joined members of their sponsor Noon Rotary organization in sharing food and conversation with community members attend... See more

WR Lincoln High School
Published by Instagram
January 24 at 6:10 PM · 🌐

Econ Electric Sportainment Night is underway! We hope you can join us for carnival games, raffle baskets, half-time entertainment, and two great games of basketball. All proceeds from tonight's event are being donated to MDA! #RapidsPride



WR Lincoln High School
Published by Chris Wefel
January 22 at 4:25 AM · 🌐



WRPS Family & Consumer Sciences
January 16 at 11:08 AM · 🌐

Pro Cooking 1 students took the role as culinary specialists by doing a Chopped Challenge involving TOTM meals from the military. From the two meals, their chat... See more



WRPS Family & Consumer Sciences
January 16 at 11:08 AM · 🌐

Baking & Pastry students are now in the great until So far, they have made cinnamon rolls and soft rolls. Rainbow bagels are next to end the week.

Inclement Weather Plan

Given that we only had two free snow days built in and have already used both, I want to make sure everyone knows the plan for what will happen if we need to use more. We will move to an “E-Learning” model if school is canceled more than one more time. This will allow us to not extend our school year further into June.

Students are expected to join their classroom Zoom session at the beginning of the times listed below. In each student’s Canvas page, each teacher has created a Zoom link for each class period. The staff member will provide instruction for the learning content for the day. All staff and students are to be online at that time period. Depending on the teacher’s plan for the lesson, students may be on the Zoom call the entire time period or just for the time needed to explain some content or give instructions. Attendance will be taken and recorded. Each class is only 35 minutes in length.

Here are some expectations for E-Learning:

- Students should work to resolve any Chromebook issues with our Chromebook Care Center before in-person learning is canceled.
- Students can use the Canvas Student App on their phones if they forget their Chromebook at school or have other issues. This app will give students access to all course materials.
- Attendance is required for all regular classes. There is no RPT and students do not need to check in for study hall if they have one. If a student needs to miss class for any reason, please contact the attendance line as usual.
- Students are not allowed to work at a job during class time. If they do, this would not constitute an excused absence.
- Students are expected to actively engage in their lesson. When needed, they should unmute their computers and contribute.

In the afternoon, students will have time to work on their homework. Their teachers will be available via an office hours Zoom link if needed. All work is to be completed in Canvas. The main office will be open on any inclement weather days and available for assistance at extension 4000. Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions.

E-Learning Day Schedule:

- 1st Period- 8:10 am to 8:45 am
- 2nd Period- 8:55 am to 9:30 am
- 3rd Period- 9:40 am to 10:15 am
- 4th Period- 10:25 am to 11:00 am
- 5th Period- 11:10 am to 11:45 am
- Teacher Office Hours 12:15 pm to 2:55 pm

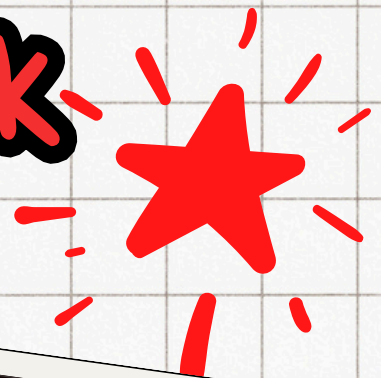
Stay safe and stay warm!



Lincoln High School

Reality Check

MARCH 11, 2025



The Details....

- Interact with local business professionals in "Reality Check" Financial Simulation.
- The final event for your Financial Literacy graduation requirement.
- Learn and get motivated by a national speaker and singer from Colorado.
- Communicate with young professionals regarding your 1st rental & loans.



2025

Expectations

EXPECTATIONS

- All students report directly to the PAC at 7:30 a.m. No backpacks, food, or beverages will be permitted.
- You must have your student ID to scan in
- Bring your cell phone or calculator
- There will be NO LHS classes in the afternoon. Bussing will run at regular times. Students will be dismissed at noon if the parent/guardian completes the [Google Form](#). Students who are not excused will report to the commons at 1:00 p.m.
- Lunch options are eating off-campus or eating hot or cold lunch on campus.
- If you have a cold lunch, please bring it at 7:30 a.m. to the PAC entrance; we'll have a secure place to hold it.
- You will not be allowed to your locker at noon/lunch.
- If you plan on leaving campus after the Reality Check event, you must bring your keys and coat to the PAC entrance at 7:30 a.m.

Dress for Success

- Dress for the career pathway (business, health, trades, etc.) you are pursuing & you will be eligible to go into the money machine and win **\$25** Kwik-Trip Cards.

COMING SOON!

BRIDGING BRIGHTER SMILES at your school

Get your teeth cleaned at school, during the school day!

Preventative dental services offered are:

Teeth Cleaning

Oral Screening

Oral Health Education

Dental Sealants

Silver Diamine Fluoride

Fluoride Varnish

Referral Assistance

Sealant Retention Check



Low cost for students
without BadgerCare

No cost for students
with BadgerCare

TO ENROLL VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT

Receive Preventative
Dental Hygiene
Services

BRIDGINGBRIGHTERSMILES.ORG/FORMS

Or Scan Here



For questions call 262-896-9891





2025-2026

**4 AND 5-YEAR OLD
KINDERGARTEN
REGISTRATION**

**ONLINE
REGISTRATION
OPENS:**

FEBRUARY 1, 2025

INITIAL REGISTRATION WILL
CLOSE FEBRUARY 28, 2025

**WHAT YOU NEED
TO REGISTER**

- Child's certified birth certificate
- Proof of residency
- Immunization record

**QUESTIONS ABOUT
4-YEAR-OLD KINDERGARTEN?**

Visit our Early Learning webpage at:

wrps.org

or

Call Tracy Weiss

Early Learning Administrative Assistant
715.424.6779

**SCAN
ME! >>>**
TO REGISTER NOW!



**4-YEAR-OLD
KINDERGARTEN**

- Child must be 4 years old by September 1, 2025.
- At the time of registration you will be able to indicate your site preference.

**5-YEAR-OLD
KINDERGARTEN**

- Child must be 5 years old by September 1, 2025. If you have a question about early admission, call our Pupil Services Office at 715.424.6724.
- If your child is currently enrolled in a WRPS 4K program you DO NOT need to register for 5K.

4K

**Community
Partners**



Building Blocks Learning Center, Inc.





**WISCONSIN RAPIDS
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

FREE DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENING

For ALL children 0-5 years of age
living in the Wisconsin Rapids Public
Schools district attendance area.
Screenings provided by WRPS, Wood
County Head Start, and Wood
County Birth to Three program.

**Friday,
February 28, 2025**

**Pitsch Early Learning Center
501 17th St. So.**

**Must register by
Wednesday, February 26**

TO REGISTER:

**Call Paula Tesch at 715-424-6700
or email paula.tesch@wrps.net**



Pupil Non-Discrimination Statement

The School District of Wisconsin Rapids is committed to equal educational opportunity for all District students. The District will not deny any person admission to, participation in, or the benefits of any curricular, extra-curricular, pupil services, recreational or other program or activity because of a person's gender, race, national origin, ancestry, creed, religion, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, transgender status, gender identity, or physical, mental, emotional or learning disability, or any other characteristic protected under State or Federal civil rights laws. Incidents of discrimination or harassment should be reported to a teacher, administrator, supervisor, or other District employee to be addressed or forwarded on to District Compliance Officer Brian Oswall.

Special Statement Regarding Sex Discrimination Under Title IX

The Board of the School District of Wisconsin Rapids does not discriminate on the basis of sex and prohibits sex discrimination in any education program or activity that it operates, as required by Title IX and its regulations, including in admission and employment. Inquiries about Title IX may be referred to the District's Title IX Coordinator, the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights ("OCR"), or both. The District's Title IX Coordinators are:

Brian Oswall, Director of Human Resources
Wisconsin Rapids Public Schools
510 Peach Street
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494
Phone: 715-424-6710
Email: titleixcoordinator@wrps.net

Steven Hepp, Director of Pupil Services
Wisconsin Rapids Public Schools
510 Peach Street
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494
Phone: 715-424-6724
Email: titleixasstcoordinator@wrps.net

The Board's nondiscrimination policy and grievance procedures can be located under the Board policies area of the District website located at www.wrps.org.

Statement Concerning Special Accommodations to Include in Handbooks, Newsletters, and All School or District Related Communication

English

WRPS is committed to ensuring that all students and parents have access to school district information, policies, procedures, and programs. If you need assistance with interpreter or translation services, or other special accommodations that would be helpful to you, please contact either your child's school office or call the Pupil Services Department at 715-424-6724 so that we can assist you.

Spanish

WRPS está comprometido/a a garantizar que todos los estudiantes y padres tengan acceso a la información del distrito escolar, pólizas, procedimientos y programas. Si necesita ayuda con servicios de intérpretes o traducción, o cualquier otra adaptación especial que le sea útil, por favor, póngase en contacto con la oficina de la escuela de su hijo/a o llame al Departamento de Servicios para Alumnos al 715-424-6724 para que podamos ayudarle.

Hmong

WRPS xav kom txhua tus menyuam thiab niam txiv sawsdaws tau kev pab ntawd lawv lus tsev kawm ntawv txog peb cov ntaub ntawv, kev cai, thiab lub hom phiaj. Yog koj xav tau kev pab txhais lus lossis lwm yam, thov hu rau koj tu menyuam lub tsev kawm ntawv lossis hu rau Pupil Services Department ntawd tu xov tooj 715-424-6724. Peb zoo siab pab koj.

UPCOMING ACP EVENTS

MARCH

11

SENIOR REALITY CHECK-REQUIRED

APRIL

2

CAREERS UNLIMITED JOB FAIR

EXCLUSIVE STUDENT ACCESS 2:00-3:00

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC 3:00-5:00

11

ASVAB TESTING

FOR STUDENTS INTERESTED IN MILITARY OR
LEARNING MORE ABOUT FUTURE CAREER OPTIONS

17

SPRING COLLEGE VISIT

LA CROSSE AND WESTERN TECH
FOR SOPHOMORES AND JUNIORS