

LIFE AT LINCOLN

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

April 2025 | **High School**

LHS Administration:

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

What are High Expectations?

This is important.

You can do it.

I'm not going to give up on you.

These are the messages students deserve to hear every day from the adults in their lives. Together, these three statements instill an ethos of high expectations which we feel will best prepare our students for the challenges they will face in their lives.

What we do in school is important. The classes students take, the lessons they learn, the effort they give, and even the rules they follow are all important. Knowing this, even when students can't see it in the moment, helps them to give their best and have faith that what we do here matters.

Belief in oneself is critical, and it often starts with others' beliefs in us when we're young. This belief is demonstrated when adults give challenging work, support when needed, offer critical feedback, and hold young people accountable. When students find this faith rewarded with growth and achievement, self-confidence results.

We all remember that adult who believed in us and didn't give up on us. LHS students deserve to have adults in their lives who both say this and follow

through on it. Every student deserves an ally whose unwavering faith holds them steady, even when their own confidence is shaky. Sometimes this looks like an adult holding a young person accountable for a mistake, but it is always done out of an ethic of care.

LHS students deserve to hear and benefit from the high expectations of the adults put in charge of their development. This will help them to get the most out of their education and help them on their path towards excellence. Please let us know how we're doing in holding your daughter or son to high expectations!

Rod Watson, LHS Principal

Upcoming Events

- 4/2: Teen Job Fair, 2:00 to 4:00pm
- 4/8: PreACT Testing: Grades 9 and 10 Test, no school for Grades 11 and 12
- 4/18: No School (in-service)
- 4/22: Honors Breakfast for Grades 9 and 10 from 6:30 to 7:15
- 4/23: Honors Breakfast for Grades 11 and 12 from 6:30 to 7:15
- 4/28: LHS Parent-Teacher Visitation from 4:00 to 6:00pm.
- 5/1-5/4: Spring Musical: *The Lightning Thief*

LIFE AT LINCOLN

Changes at LHS

The coming school year will bring a few changes, of course. We'll share more details as we get closer, but here's a preview:

- Facebook: We are going to sunset our individual WR Lincoln High School Facebook page and instead share our content on the district Facebook page. This will better consolidate the celebrations of all of our WRPS students and not force community members to search for each school's individual page. Look for less content to be posted on our school's page this spring. It will go dormant before the school year starts in the fall. This will not affect club, athletic, and activity accounts at this time.
- Coaches: Due to retirements and other moves, we will have several new coaches for LHS sports. Here are the openings which we are working hard to fill now:
 - Head Football Coach
 - Boys' Wrestling Coach
 - Boys' Hockey Coach
 - Boy's Basketball Coach

Change is part of the process, but the high standards of excellence at WRPS remain in place! We'll keep you informed of developments as we can.

Reminder

Please do not drop students off in front of the building before school or attempt to pick them up there after school. That is the bus loading zone and it is not safe. Please use the south lot for drop off and pick up. Thank you!

Homework Time for Upperclassmen

Tuesday, April 8th is a non-attendance day for Grades 11 and 12. However, if any upperclassmen are struggling in a class or want some help with their school work, they are welcome to attend. We will reserve space in our Flex Room near the library for any students who want to attend. Two retired teachers and a math teacher will be available to help students. Students may attend the morning session and leave when the underclassmen are done with their testing if they have parent permission and transportation, or they can stay until 2:53 when the buses run as normal. Any student who wishes to attend this session should fill out this [form](#) and communicate with their parents.

Note- this will likely be **required** for any upperclassmen earning one or more failing grades on this day in 2026.

LIFE AT LINCOLN



Remaining Grading Periods

Term 3 Progress:

April 25, 2025

End of Term 3:

June 5, 2025



UNITED WAY
South Wood &
Adams Counties

BOOK DRIVE

Donate your new or gently used children's books to United Way! Donated books will be distributed to local children at Great Book Giveaway reading events June 9th-13th in Adams-Friendship, Nekoosa, Port Edwards, Rome, Rudolph, Vesper, and Wisconsin Rapids.

**APRIL 1-25,
2025**

DROP OFF BOOKS OR MONETARY
DONATIONS AT UNITED WAY OFFICE
OPEN FROM 8:30 AM-4 PM
351 OAK STREET, WISCONSIN RAPIDS

BIGGEST NEEDS:

- BABY BOARD BOOKS
- EASY READERS



@UWSWAC

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFO: UWSWAC.ORG

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

Completed!

THE LIGHTNING THIEF

THE PERCY JACKSON MUSICAL

May 1st-4th!

ACP Center News

ACP- Why does it matter?

Academic & Career Planning (ACP) is meant to serve as a student-driven, adult-supported process providing opportunities for students to engage in activities and explore resources to help cultivate unique information-based visions for post-secondary success. Our students have access to many opportunities. Talk with your student to see if they are interested in youth apprenticeship, job shadowing, job search assistance, volunteering, and/or the teen leadership program. Interested? Contact Ms. King to get more information. The ACP Center is open every day during regular school hours. Interested in something not on the list? Stop by, email, or call the ACP Center. Remember, ACP is taking the time now to help save time and money later. Take advantage of the resources here at Lincoln!

JOB



The Job Fair is happening April 2nd from 2:00–5:00 with special access for teens only from 2:00–3:00! It is open to ANY area teen 14–18 years old looking for part-time, full-time, or seasonal employment. Teens should pre-register [here](#) in order to be entered into the prize drawing. The general public is welcome to join from 3:00–5:00 and they do not need to pre-register.

College Visit: We are heading to Western Technical College and UW La Crosse on Thursday, April 11th. We will be leaving at 7:15 and returning at approximately 4:15. Any interested sophomore or junior can stop by the ACP Center to pick up a permission slip. Permission slips are due Thursday, April 10th.

Volunteer Hours: Volunteering allows students to develop, enhance, and refine skills, network, and gain access to diverse opportunities to help them learn more about our community. Volunteering helps youth explore skills and identify interests that can help them as they navigate through their academic and career planning. Any student who completes 100 volunteer hours, or more, by the spring of their senior year will receive special recognition at graduation. No academic credit is given. Volunteering is a wonderful way to gain experience to include on a job application or resume and can also help with scholarship applications. For more details, please visit [Lincoln's Volunteer Program webpage](#). All volunteer hours for the 2024–2025 school year must be submitted by Friday, April 25, 2025, at 3:15 PM. No exceptions! [Click here](#) for directions on how to submit volunteer hours.



ASVAB at LHS: The Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) is a heavily researched and well-respected aptitude test developed by the Department of Defense. The ASVAB measures aptitude and acquired skills, which can be used to help predict future academic and occupational success. ASVAB scores thus give students insight into their options and aid them in planning their next step after high school. For any student interested in the military, it is used to determine qualification for enlistment in the United States Armed Forces. Taking the test does not mean students have to enlist in the military. Lincoln High School is hosting the ASVAB exam on Friday, April 11, 2025, from 11:00–2:00. Any interested student can take the exam. See Ms. King in the ACP Center to sign up. For questions, call 715-424-6750 ext. 4030 or email elizabeth.king@wrps.net.

ACP Scholarship: The Academic & Career Planning (ACP) Scholarship is open to any Lincoln High School senior who actively participates and completes ACP curriculum throughout their high school career. This scholarship is unique in that it is offered to any senior regardless of their path after high school (college, military, apprenticeship, workforce). The student application opened on Friday, March 14, 2025. Applications must be completed and submitted no later than Monday, April 28, 2025. [Click here](#) for the information.

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WISCONSIN RAPIDS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

EARLY LEARNING

4-YEAR-OLD KINDERGARTEN

Registration Now Open

If your child is 4 years old on or before September 1, 2025, they are age eligible for 4-Year-Old Kindergarten for the 2025-2026 school year!

CLICK HERE



- ✓ Experiential learning through play
- ✓ Certified professionals
- ✓ Empowering a bright future

Play, Connect, Thrive!



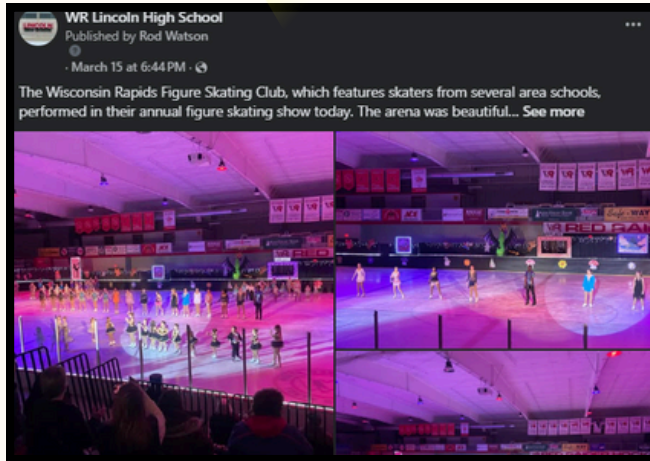
Increasing Student Participation at LHS Events

LHS students have noticed a drop-off in their peers attending student events. Staff members have shared that this began about a decade ago and accelerated through the COVID-19 pandemic. Now it is not uncommon to see half-empty student sections at sporting events and only families at theatrical productions. We want to change that. Here are a few of the ideas you should be hearing about this Spring:

- A punch card for Spring Sports with rewards for attending one of each event.
- A free student admissions night for April 11th (Baseball) and April 25th (Softball).
- A promo video and perhaps a scene preview during lunch for the Lightning Thief.
- Student announcements to get students excited about events.
- And, hopefully, more!

Attending events with friends is a great way to make memories, support LHS peers, and tie into the community while in high school. You can help by encouraging your student to go to events this Spring. We'd love to fill the stands!

Social Media Spotlight



Life at Lincoln

Lincoln HS Honors Breakfast

LHS will be carrying on the Honors Breakfast tradition this year. It will be the 7th annual breakfast for Honors students at LHS. Students who have earned a 3.5 GPA or higher for the first two trimesters of the 2024-25 School Year will be recognized. This recognition will take place in the west side of the fieldhouse. The doors will open at 6:30 AM, the program will begin at 6:45 AM, and it will conclude at 7:15 AM. Students who qualify will receive a letter in the mail letting families know which date to attend. The dates for Honors Breakfast this year are:

- April 22- Freshmen and Sophomores
- April 23- Juniors and Seniors

Prom 2025

Our Prom is open to all students in grades 9-12. It will be on Saturday, May 10th, from 8:00 PM to midnight. The ticket price will be \$20 per person. Here are the expectations:

- Semi-formal attire is a minimum dress requirement. Examples are a tuxedo, suit, or dinner jacket. Dresses need to reach the knee at a minimum. Slits in dresses may not extend above mid-thigh. No excessive midriff exposure is allowed.
- Guests are allowed if they are at least in high school or under 21 years old. Guests must be registered through the form sent out by Officer Olivares by April 18th.
- LHS students must show their student IDs to get in. Guests must have an official photo ID.

Students will know our expectations before the event. Please reinforce these at home so everyone is on the same page and the students can have a positive, fun experience. The Grand March will be at 9:30 PM with doors opening at 9:00 PM. Doors lock when March begins. The Grand March will include the Junior Prom Court and Royalty, junior couples, and anyone accompanying a junior. The entrance fee for this is \$5 per spectator.

Direct Admit Wisconsin

The universities of Wisconsin are some of the best in the country, and now students can gain admittance to them in a simpler, less expensive manner!

The Direct Admit Wisconsin program, which began in 2024, allows high school seniors in Wisconsin to be automatically admitted to participating WI universities. Students who meet the GPA and academic course rank criteria and are graduating from a participating WI high school are admitted to the schools below without having to submit or pay for any application. LHS was part of the pilot for this and is again participating in the program!

Participating universities:

UW-Green Bay
UW-Milwaukee
UW-Oshkosh
UW-Parkside
UW-Whitewater

UW-Platteville
UW-River Falls
UW-Stout
UW-Superior

All students who are on track for graduation and have, or are about to have, 4 credits of English, 3 credits of approved math, 3 credits of social studies, 3 credits of science, and 4 additional academic credits will receive an admission offer through Direct Admit.

We will be making this a component of the registration process for incoming juniors. For now, parents should opt in for Direct Admit through the Family Access portal in Skyward. This should be done by June 3, 2025.

Please visit the Direct Admit [website](#) for more information!



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 AM. 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.

Mandatory Senior Meeting

All seniors who plan to participate in this year's graduation ceremony will attend a mandatory meeting on **April 16th** in the PAC during RPT. It is mandatory that seniors allowed to walk in graduation attend this meeting. Watch announcements for details. Jostens orders will be delivered following the meeting. If you still need to order a cap, gown, or tassel, please visit www.jostens.com.

Class Reunion Zero

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.

Last Day Seniors

Thursday, May 29th

Fines and Fees

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.

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.



April 29th and 30th at LHS!

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



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.