

LOUISA-MUSCATINE CSD

APRIL/MAY 2023

NEWSLETTER

WE ARE L-M
WHERE FALCONS SOAR, STUDENTS LEARN,
SCHOOL ROCKS AND CHARACTER RULES!



Louisa-Muscatine CSD
14478 170th St
Letts, IA 52754

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 3
Letts, IA 52754

Boxholder

website: www.lmcsd.org

Kindergarten Information

Louisa-Muscatine Elementary School is collecting names for our 2023-2024 kindergarten class. (Class of 2036!) We plan to send registration packets home with our current preschool families soon and are happy to email or mail them to new families joining our district. We are not planning on doing a kindergarten round up this year, but would be happy to meet with anyone that would like a tour of the building and/or to meet the staff. For more information please check our website or call the elementary office @ 319-726-3634.

Preschool Registration for 23-24 school year

Are you interested in the Louisa-Muscatine/Busy Hands Preschool program? We are now gathering information for the 2023-2024 school year. Filling out the form on our website will help us adequately plan for next year & will not commit you to enrolling, but you will be put on our mailing list when registration begins.

There is no tuition charge for our 4 year old program, and in-district transportation is provided! Children need to be 4 years of age on or before September 15 to be in the 4 year old program. (This is a state mandate.)

If you have any questions please call the Elementary Principal, Aimee Wedeking or Preschool Director, Betsy Buckman, at 319-726-3634. Thank you again! We look forward to having you a part of our Louisa-Muscatine Falcon Family!



Statement Regarding The Homeless

The Board of Directors of the Louisa-Muscatine Community School District is responsible for locating and identifying homeless children and youth who are "identified" within the district. A "homeless child or youth of school age" is defined as one between the ages of 5 and 21 who lacks a fixed, regular and adequate night time residence and includes a child or youth living on the street, in a car, tent or abandoned building or some other form of shelter not designated as a permanent home; living in a community shelter facility; or living with non-nuclear family members or friends who may not have legal guardianship over the child or youth of school age. The district shall make available to the homeless child or youth all services and assistance including, but not limited to, compensatory education, special education, English as a second language, vocational courses or programs, programs for the gifted and talented, health services, and food and nutrition programs, on the same basis of those services and assistance provided to resident pupils.

If you need further assistance/information, please contact the building principal, counselor or the Superintendent of Schools, 14478 170th Street, Letts, Iowa 52754

ASBESTOS HAZARD EMERGENCY RESPONSE ACT

Pursuant to the requirements of the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act, a copy of the Asbestos Management Plan for each school building is available for review in each respective facility. A complete set of Management Plan is available for review in the District Administrative Office.

NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY STATEMENT - Section 504

It is the policy of the Louisa-Muscatine Community School District to provide equal educational and employment opportunities and not to illegally discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender (sex), sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, socioeconomic status (program only), age (employment only), disability, religion, or creed, in its educational programs, activities, or its employment and personnel policies. Affirmative steps are taken to integrate students in attendance centers, programs and classes on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender (sex), sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, socioeconomic status, disability, religion, or creed.

This agency shall provide program activities, a curriculum, and instructional resources that will reflect the racial and cultural diversity present in the United States and the variety of careers, roles, and lifestyles open to both men and women in our society. One of the objectives of the agency's programs, curriculum, services, and teaching strategies is to reduce stereotyping and to eliminate bias on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender (sex), sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, socioeconomic status, disability, religion, or creed. The curriculum, programs, and services shall foster respect and appreciation for the cultural diversity found in our country and an awareness of the rights, duties, and responsibilities of each individual as a member of a pluralistic society. It is the policy of this agency to affirmatively recruit women and men, members of diverse racial/ethnic groups, and persons with disabilities for job categories where they are under-represented. A fair and supportive environment will be provided for all students and employees.

Regardless of their race, color, national origin, gender (sex), sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, socioeconomic status, disability, religion, or creed, inappropriate statement or actions made from one employee to another, from an employee to a student or vice versa, and from one student to another is a violation of this policy.

Inquiries or grievances related to this policy may be directed to Amy Lantigua - Equity Coordinator, L-M School District, 14478 170th St., Letts, IA 52754, or to the Director of the Iowa Civil Rights Commission in Des Moines, the Director of the Region VII Office of the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, or the Director of the Regional VII Office of Civil Rights, United States Department of Education in Kansas City, Missouri. Inquiries may also be directed to the Director, Iowa Department of Education, Grimes State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319.

Open Enrollment

Open enrollment is the process by which parents/guardians residing in an Iowa district may enroll their children into another Iowa school district under the terms and conditions of Iowa Code-Section 282.18 and 281-Administrative Code 17.

If you live outside of the L-M school district and wish to attend an open enrollment form will need to be completed. Open enrollment paperwork can be found on our website or you can stop by the central office to get a copy.



Louisa-Muscatine Food Pantry

Did you know we have 2 food pantries here at L-M? We have a variety of cereal, canned goods, shelf stable foods, refrigerator/ frozen foods, baby care and personal care items. Call the elementary or high school office for more information.



ISLAND LIGHTHOUSE FOOD PANTRY
ISLAND METHODIST CHURCH, 2598 STEWART RD.,
MUSCATINE, IA
OPEN 3RD TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH.
2:00-5:30PM
SERVING THE LOUISA-MUSCATINE SCHOOL DISTRICT
AND FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP.
WE ARE AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER.

ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

**The Louisa-Muscatine Community School District maintains records on each student in order to facilitate the instruction, guidance and educational progress of the student. The records contain information about the student and his or her education and may include, but not limited to, the following types of records: identification data, attendance data, record of achievement, family background data, aptitude tests, educational and vocational plan, honors and activities, discipline data, objective counselor or teacher ratings and observations and external agency reports.

**The Records of each student are generally located in the school, which he or she is attending. Any exception will be noted in the students other records or by the person in charge of record maintenance of student records for each school building listed below:

- Louisa-Muscatine Jr./Sr. High School: Chris Parkhurst, Principal
- Louisa-Muscatine Elementary: Aimee Wedeking, Principal

**The following persons, agencies and organizations may have restricted access to student records without prior written consent of the parent or student over the age of 18 years. Any other access to student records shall be only upon written consent or upon court order or legally issued subpoena.

- School officials, teachers and Mississippi Bend Area Education Agency personnel with legitimate educational interests.
- Officials of other schools in which the student proposes to enroll.
- Representatives of state and local government when auditing and evaluating Federal educational programs.
- Officials connected with a students educational financial aid application.
- Government officials to whom information is to be reported under state law adopted prior to November 19, 1974.
- Organizations that process and evaluate standardized tests.
- Accrediting organizations for accrediting purposes.
- Parents of dependent children, regardless of child's age.
- Appropriate parties in a health or safety emergency.



Student Directory Information:

**The Principal or person in charge of each attendance center may release the following types of information to the public, where appropriate, keeping in mind the privacy of the student and the student's family and the totality of the surrounding circumstances: name, address, telephone number, date and place of birth, e-mail address, grade level, enrollment status, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, degrees and awards received, the most recent previous educational agency or institution attended by the student, photograph and other likeness, and other similar information. Examples of releases are: military recruitment, articles published in the newspaper, etc. To prevent the public release of such information, a parent must file a written objection with the aforementioned person responsible for maintaining student records by August 31st. The objections need to be renewed annually. Students and parents may file with the Department of Education, complaints concerning alleged failures of the school district to comply with federal legislation dealing with student records. Correspondence should be addressed to: The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act Office, Department of Education, Switzer Building, 330 C Street S.W., Washington, D.C. 20201

**If you are the parent or legal guardian of a student you have the right to (1) inspect and review your child's educational records; (2) ask for an explanation of any item in the records; (3) have copies made at a reasonable cost; (4) be informed of types and locations of records being collected or used by the agency; (5) ask for the amendment of any record if you feel it is inaccurate, misleading or violates privacy rights; (6) a records hearing if the agency does not make the requested amendment; (7) give or withhold consent to disclose your child's records; (8) be told to whom information has been disclosed.

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

Elementary
Only: Tuesday,
March 14th
Elementary & Sec-
ondary: Thursday,
March 16th



PROM 2023 RED CARPET AFFAIR

When: April 22nd
8:00-11:00pm
Where: Cedar River Ranch
Tickets will be on sale March 15th-
31st in the high school office.
Tickets will be \$25.00 each.



The Louisa-Muscatine Community School District will provide equal opportunity to employees and applicants for employment in accordance with applicable equal employment opportunity and affirmative action laws, directives and regulations of federal, state and local governing bodies. The school district will take affirmative action in major job categories where women, men, minorities and persons with disabilities are underrepresented. Employees will support and comply with the district's established equal employment opportunity and affirmative action policies. Employees will be given notice of this policy annually.

Individuals who file an application with the school district will be given consideration for employment if they meet or exceed the qualifications set by the board, administration, and Iowa Department of Education for the position for which they apply. In employing individuals, the board will consider the qualifications, credentials, and records of the applicants without regard to race, color, creed, sex, national origin, religion, age, socioeconomic status, or disability. In keeping with the law, the board will consider the veteran status of applicants.

Inquiries by employees or applicants for employment regarding compliance with equal employment opportunity and affirmative action laws and policies, including but not limited to complaints of discrimination, will be directed to the Affirmative Action Coordinator by writing to the Affirmative Action Coordinator, Superintendent, Louisa-Muscatine Community School District, Letts, Iowa 52754; or by telephoning (319) 726-3541.

Further information and copies of the procedures for filing a complaint are available in the districts central administrative office and the administrative office in each districts school buildings.

It is a goal of ours to keep L-M parents and community members informed of on going information as quickly as possible. We want to make the information as easily accesible as possible. We hope that you will follow and like our facebook page. As well as visit our website as much as possible. Please visit our website at

WWW.LMCSD.ORG

STATE MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS FOR THE 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR.

Kindergarten:

- Up to date Vaccine Certificate-due by the first day of school-NO GRACE PERIOD
- Certificate of Vision Screening
- Certificate of Dental Screening
- Reported Blood Lead Level

3rd Grade:

- Certificate of Vision Screening

7th Grade:

- Up to date Vaccine Certificate w/ proof of current Tdap
- MCVO4(Meningitis vaccine) due by the first day of school- NO GRACE PERIOD

9th Grade-

- Certificate of Dental Screening

12th Grade:

- Up to date Vaccine Certificate w/ proof of MCVO4 . For the MCVO4(Meningitis vaccine) there must be one dose given after age 16. NO GRACE PERIOD

⇒It is the policy of the Louisa-Muscatine Community School District that school employees and volunteers not commit acts of physical or sexual abuse, including inappropriate and intentional sexual behavior, towards students.

⇒It is the policy of the district to respond to allegations of abuse by school employees or volunteers by investigating or arranging for the full investigations of any allegations, and to do so in a reasonable prudent manner.

⇒Anyone believing that a district employee or volunteer has abused a student may report the abuse to the level one investigators: Aimee Wedeking, Principal-Elementary, 319-726-3634 or Chris Parkhurst, Principal-HS, 319-726-3421. Dawn Rios, District Nurse, will serve as alternate.

⇒For additional questions regarding student abuse by district personnel, please contact the District Administrative Office, 319-726-3541.

IF YOU LIVE IN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING SITUATIONS:

- In a shelter
- In a motel or campground due to the lack of an alternative adequate accommodation
- In a car, park, abandoned building, or bus or train station
- Doubled up with other people due to loss of housing or economic hardship

You may qualify for certain rights and protections under the federal McKinney-Vento Act.

Eligible students have the right to:

- Receive a free, appropriate public education.
- Enroll in school immediately, even if lacking documents normally required for enrollment.
- Enroll in school and attend classes while the school gathers needed documents.
- Enroll in the local school; or continue attending their school of origin (the school they attended when permanently housed or the school in which they were last enrolled), if that is their preference.
- * If the school district believes that the school selected is not in his/her best interest, then the district must provide the student with a written explanation of its position and inform the student of his/her right to appeal its decision.
- Receive transportation to and from the school of origin, if requested.
- Receive educational services comparable to those provided to other students, according to the students' needs.

Parents'/Guardians' Rights Notification

Parents/Guardians in the Louisa-Muscatine Community School District have the right to learn about the following qualifications of their child's teacher: state licensure requirements for the grade level and content areas taught, the current licensing status of your child's teacher, and baccalaureate/graduate certification/degree. You may also request the qualifications of an instructional paraprofessional who serves your student in a Title I program or if your school operates a school-wide Title I program. Parents/Guardians may request this information from the Office of the Superintendent by calling 319-726-3541, or sending a letter of request to Office of the Superintendent, Louisa-Muscatine CSD, 14478 170th St., Letts, Iowa, 52754. The Louisa-Muscatine Community School District ensures that parents will be notified in writing if their child has been assigned, or has been taught by a teacher for four or more consecutive weeks by a teacher who is not considered highly qualified.

Free or reduced-cost lunches are available to students. Application forms are available from building offices upon request.

No free or reduced-cost meals will be served until an approved application for the family is on file in the district.

Until approval, the student will purchase full priced lunches. Parents are encouraged to obtain application at the time of registration.



A LETTER FROM OUR SUPERINTENDENT:



Patrons,

The Louisa-Muscatine (L-M) School District has surveyed you to determine your approval of bonding for a varsity gym and a new HVAC (heating/cooling) system at the elementary. The estimated cost of this project was around 12 million dollars, with an option to increase the bond to 17 million to include wrestling, AG, weight room, performing arts, and playground additions/upgrades. It is apparent from the survey that the district needs to revisit what we put before the voters. Thank you to those who completed and returned the survey.

We will not put a bond vote before the voters this spring. L-M will continue to phase in improvements to our buildings and grounds with currently available funds. Our next phase will include a transportation/maintenance building and repairing the elementary HVAC system using Physical Plant and Equipment Levy (PEPL) funds. In recent years, the PEPL funds have allowed the district to install new roofs on all buildings, parking lot lights, renovate locker rooms, replace classroom flooring, resurface the track, buy buses, and much more. To continue maintenance and renovation at L-M, the Board will ask voters to approve the continuation of the \$1.00 PEPL this fall. The approval of this levy will not increase your property tax but will keep it the same.

The L-M Board of Directors may consider a bond resolution of a lesser amount for an additional secondary school gym in the coming year/s. Below you will find how our gym availability and seating capacity compares to other schools we compete with.

Mike Van Sickle
L-M Superintendent

	Gyms in School	Varsity Gym Seating	Gyms in District	Auditorium in District
Central Lee	2	1,400	3	No
Columbus	2	1,000	3	Yes
Durant	2	900	2	Yes
Highland	2	1,200	3	No
Lone Tree	2	1,000	3	No
Mediapolis	3	1,200	3	Yes
New London	2	950	2	Yes
Van Buren	2	700	4	No
WACO	2	750	3	No
Wapello	2	700	3	Yes
West Burlington	2	1,130	3	Yes
West Liberty	1JH/1SH	1,200	3	Yes
Wilton	3	1,300	3	No
WMU	2	950	2	No
Louisa-Muscatine	1	530	2	No

A LETTER FROM OUR SCHOOL BOARD PRESIDENT:



Hello,

As board president, I wanted to give district residents an update on our bond plans. For those residents that are hearing about this for the first time, information can be obtained from our district office.

The board had a professional survey company perform a survey regarding the support of a new gym, cooling system at the elementary, retrofitting the current gym to auditorium, new Ag education room, new wrestling and weight rooms. The survey also asked about the educational value delivered by the district.

The results were mixed. On the bond issue, the survey indicated that if it went to a vote, it only had a support percentage of about 45%. In Iowa, a bond needs 60% to pass. The survey company recommends we do not go to vote without some changes to the plan. The board recognizes we have more work to do to either justify the increased taxes or find a way to lower the cost.

On the educational value of the district and financial stewardship, we had on average a percentile score of 70+ that indicates that LM is trusted and recommended for education. Also, residents believe the board is financially responsible with the resources that we have. The board, administration and staff appreciate that feedback and will continue to strive to keep LM at a high level of trust when it comes to our students and parents.

If you would like to know more about the survey results, you can find them on our school website. They are on the home screen under Latest Info.

Sincerely,
Scott Wilson
Louisa-Muscatine CSD



How many of you know about Power-School? The parent portal is an online portal accessible anywhere on the web that parents can log in to and see all of their children in one place, their grades, assignments, scores, attendance, schedules, and school bulletins for each school your children attend. If you have one student in middle school and one in high school, parents will see bulletins for both the middle school and high school. Want to know more? Give us a call and we are happy to help! (319) 726-3541

We are beginning to post teaching positions for the 2023-24 school year. Please watch our Teachlowa page in the next couple of months as positions become available. Current job opportunities can be found on our district website.

We have all of our calendars on our website. Whether you are looking for our meal calendar, building usage or you want to know more about an upcoming event...they are all there for you to view.
Check it out!

We are thrilled to announce that LMCS D has partnered with Paper to provide free, 24/7 access to 1-on-1 tutoring and writing support for all 7th-12th grade students. There's a lot to be excited about with Paper's Educational Support System, including:

- 1:1 live-chat tutoring sessions with subject-matter experts in over 200 subjects and four different languages.
- Expert review on any written work (essays, creative writing, poetry, lab reports, etc.).
- Hundreds of resources and activities to help you best support your student(s) at home.
- Interactive shows and activities to expand learning beyond the classroom.
- And so much more!

Your student(s) can access this incredible resource today! Have them go to app.paper.co, search for their school, and login to start a tutoring session. You and your student can also download the Paper mobile app for additional access anytime, anywhere.

Not sure where to start? Learn more about Paper and sign up for a free live webinar tutorial here <https://pages.paper.co/the-parent-guardian-guide-to-implementing-paper>

We can't wait to see all of the student growth that occurs with Paper!



APRIL Lunch Menu

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3 Donut	4 Biscuit & *Gravy	5 Pancakes	6 Muffin	7 GOOD FRIDAY NO SCHOOL
Elementary Alternate: PBJ, Meat Stick, Fruit & Juice				
Walking Taco,Rice, Refried Beans(HS Only) & Pineapple	Cook's Choice	Chicken Tetra-zinni,Mashed Potatoes,Corn, Roll&Oranges	Sloppy Joes,- Chips,Baked Beans & Apple Slices	
10 NO SCHOOL	11 TEACHER IN-SERVICE NO SCHOOL	12 *Combo w/Hash-brown	13 Egg, *Sausage & Toast	14 Waffles
Elementary Alternate: Cereal, Crackers, Yogurt, Fruit & Juice				
		Crispitos, Nachos,Corn & Mixed Fruit	*BLT Wrap,Baked Beans,Chips&- Fresh Fruit	*Chicken Cordon Bleu,Baked Potato,Broccoli&Cheese and Peaches
17 *Breakfast on a Stick	18 Cinnamon Roll	19 Oatmeal w/Toast	20 Coffee Cake	21 Cook's Choice
Elementary Alternate: Frudel, Crackers, Cheese Stick,Fruit & Juice				
Orange Chicken,Oriental Veggies,Rice,Pineapple&Cookie	Hamburgers,- French Fries,Green Beans & Pears	Burrito, Rice,Salad & Grapes	Shrimp,Hush-puppies, Cheesy Potatoes &Mixed Fruit	Garlic Bread w/Marina, Meatballs(HS Only),Mixed Veggies&Fruit
24 French Toast Sticks	25 Mini Donuts	26 Cereal Bar	27 Egg *Bacon Cheese-Biscuit	28 Cook's Choice
Elementary Alternate: PBJ, Yogurt, Cheese Stick, Fruit&Juice				
Falcon Bowl,Corn, Mashed Potatoes& Banana,Ice Cream(HS Only)	Chicken Patty,- French Fries,Baked Beans &Oranges, Ice Cream(Elem Only)	*Cheddarwurst, Mac&Cheese & Fresh Fruit	Pizza, Salad, Grapes & Cookie	Boneless Wings,Potato Wedges,Cottage Cheese&Watermelon
<p>Alternate breakfast entree: Assorted cold cereals, toast, fruit & juice High school ala carte available for breakfast.</p> <p>Available daily for JH/HS: turkey or ham deli, chef salad, pizza, fresh fruit & vegetable trays. ~All meals are served with a choice of milk. ~Carrots are served daily. ~Food items marked with (*) contain pork.</p>				

May Lunch Menu

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 Scrambled Eggs&Toast	2 Pancakes	3 Muffins	4 Donut	5 Cook's Choice
Elementary Alternate: Cereal, Crackers, Meat Stick, Fruit & Juice				
Chicken Fajitas w/top-pings,Chips&Salsa(HS Only),Peaches & Cookie	Maid-Rites,French Fries,Salad, Potato Salad(HS Only) & Pears	Chicken Nuggets, Mac&Corn Bake, Bread and Butter & Banana	*BBQ Rib Sandwich,Baked Beans, Mixed Fruit & Ice Cream	Chicken Wrap, Chips, Fresh Carrots, Cottage Cheese(HS Only) & Applesauce
8 French Toast Sticks	9 *Breakfast Bites	10 Cinnamon Roll	11 Biscuit&*Gravy	12 Cook's Choice
Elementary Alternate: PBJ, Yogurt, Cheese Stick, Fruit & Juice				
HS:*Pizza Burger ELEM:*Pizza Both: Salad,Applesauce & Cake	Chicken Sandwich, French Fries, Cooked Carrots & Kiwi/Strawberry/Blueberry Mix	Crispitos, Nachos, Corn & Grapes	Spaghetti, Salad, Garlic Bread, Green Beans(HS Only) & Fresh Fruit Mix	Turkey *Bacon or *Hot Ham&Bacon Deli, Celery Sticks, Hot Veggies(HS Only)&Apple Slices
15 Cook's Choice	16 Cook's Choice	17 Cook's Choice	18 Cook's Choice	19 Cook's Choice
Elementary Alternate: Cereal Bar, Cheese Stick, Meat Stick, Fruit & Juice				
Cook's Choice	Cook's Choice	Cook's Choice	Cook's Choice	Cook's Choice
22 Cook's Choice	23 PBJ	24	25	26
Elementary Alternate: Cereal Bar, Cheese Stick, Meat Stick, Fruit & Juice				
Cook's Choice	To Go Lunches: Have a great summer!!			
29	30	31		
	What is a shark's favorite sandwich? Peanut butter and jellyfish!			

Alternate lunch entree is offered for grades K-12.

JH/HS may purchase 2nd entree for \$1.40

All meals are served with a choice of milk.

Fresh Carrots are served daily.

Items marked with * contain pork.

Available for lunch daily for grades 7-12: Turkey or *Ham deli, chef salad, pizza, fresh fruit

Alternate breakfast entree: cold cereal, toast, fruit or juice. A la Carte breakfast available for grades 9-12

THIS INSTITUTION IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER.