



LP School District Newsletter

February 16, 2024

Dear Lester Prairie Staff and Families,



The Minnesota School Board Association set February as School Board Recognition Month to build awareness and understanding of the vital function elected school board members play in our society. Lester Prairie Schools joins other public school districts from across the state to celebrate and honor our local School Board Members. Lester Prairie School Board members include **Corbey Hentges** (Chair), **Brian Heimerl** (Vice Chair), **Meganne Stifter-Knoll** (Clerk), **Rebecca Heimerl** (Treasurer), **Keith Christen** (Director), and **Jeff Engen** (Director).

We know that strong schools help build strong communities. Our deepest appreciation is extended to our dedicated School Board members for the important work they do and the commitment they have to their civic roles. Their governance and advocacy continues to build the future of education both locally in Lester Prairie and statewide in Minnesota.

Please join me by saying thank you to Corbey, Brian, Meganne, Rebecca, Keith, and Jeff!

With gratitude,
Superintendent Melissa Radeke



Corbey Hentges

Corbey is married to Chip Hentges, and they have 2 daughters. Harley graduated from LP in 2016 and lives in Omaha. Myranda graduated from LP in 2020 and will be graduating from SDSU this spring. They built their house south of LP in 2004-2005. Corbey is celebrating her 10th year on our school board!

Thanks Corbey for all that you do!



Brian Heimerl

Brian is married to Molly Heimerl and he is a 1994 graduate of LP. Brian and Molly have 3 sons. Bryce is married to Erin. Cael is a sophomore at LP and Cade is an 8th grader at LP. Brian has lived in LP his whole life except for a few years. He has been on the school board for 4 years.

Thanks Brian for all that you do!



Meganne Stifter-Knoll

Meganne is married to Shaun Knoll. They have 2 children, Dylan is a 2021 graduate and Allison is class of 2024. They have lived in Lester Prairie for 20 years. Meganne has been on the school board for 7 years.

Thanks Meganne for all that you do!



Rebecca Heimerl

Rebecca is married to Craig Heimerl and they have 3 daughters. Jenna is a 2022 graduate, Ava is class of 2024, and Kira is class of 2026. They have lived in Lester Prairie since 1999. Rebecca has been very active in school and community activities. She has been on the school board for 6 years.

Thanks Rebecca for all that you do!



Keith Christen

Keith is married to Angela Christen and they have 3 children. Kalley is a Junior at LP, Brielle is a Freshman at LP, and Emmitt is a 6th grader at LP. They have lived in Lester Prairie for 10 years. Keith has been on the school board for 1 year.

Thanks Keith for all that you do!



Jeff Engen

Jeff has lived in Lester Prairie since 2003. He has 2 sons-Leighton-2018 Graduate, Harrison-class of 2026. Jeff has been very active with youth football, basketball, and baseball for many years. He is currently the director of the summer youth baseball and softball programs in Lester Prairie. Jeff has been on the school board for 1 year.

Thanks Jeff for all that you do!

NEWS FROM PRINCIPAL LEE:

On Friday, February 23rd, the Lester Prairie Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO) is excited to host the annual Read-a-Thon event for elementary students. Not only does this event serve as a fundraiser for the PTO, but it also provides an enjoyable day filled with the magic of reading for our young learners. We are extremely thankful for the PTO and the dedicated parents of Lester Prairie students for their continuous support of our school community and the academic growth of our students.

ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR UPDATES:

Tournament time is here!! What I love most about high school sports is the end of the season tournaments. This is what every team and individual works towards all season long....the hope to play (and win) a state championship. All the training and practice sessions come down to a win or go home situation. It doesn't matter what you did in the regular season now. You have a chip, chair and chance just like all the others. The terms "Cinderella story" and "underdogs" were coined for tournament time. Sure there are always odds on favorites to win, but every year there is a team or individual that forgets what the standings are and finds a little postseason magic. Our wrestlers start team sections this week with individuals starting next week. Our Girls and Boys Basketball teams will find out in the next week and half where they get seeded in their respective sections. I will update you on how all the teams and individuals do over the next few weeks. Who knows, maybe one of LP's own, will find a little postseason magic!!

COUNSELOR CORNER:

Our school hosted a Financial Aid Night for our Seniors and parents on Wednesday, January 31st. We had a record number of attendees. We discussed scholarships, the types of aid available through the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), the new FAFSA application process, some of the errors families are having with the new application, and the delays to colleges receiving a student's financial information. You can find information about some of the issues currently causing families delays [here](#). If you are experiencing difficulty with this process we encourage you to reach out to your college's financial aid office or to Mrs. Mattson or Mr. Bettcher for assistance.

SENIORS:



Jake Sullivan

What activities do (did) you participate in while at Lester Prairie School?
I participated in Football, Basketball, Baseball, one act play, assistant to the assistant reach coordinator, year book staff

What are your plans after high school?
Attend SMSU for teaching

What is your favorite memory of school?
When we walked to Big Don's while doing Math.

Who has influenced you most in life? Why?
My mom because she has always try to influence me to become a better person in life and helped me realize that the real world is not easy.

What are your hobbies and/or interests?
swimming, hanging out with friends, and lifeguarding

Favorite Movie
The Benchwarmers

Favorite Restaurant
Applebee's

Favorite Song/Artist
See you Again – Wiz Khalifa

Favorite Quote
"Learn as if you will live forever, live like you will die tomorrow" Mahatma Gandhi

What is your dream job?
Teaching

Would you rather:
Only be able to charge your cell phone once a week
Only have a cell phone without a camera

Would you rather eat:
Raising Cane's
Chick-fil-A

Would you rather:
only watch movies
only watch TV series

Favorite "dad" Joke
I wouldn't buy anything with velcro. It's a total rip-off



Victor Ruelas

What activities do (did) you participate in while at Lester Prairie School?
Basketball, Track, Dance Club(naha)

What are your plans after high school?
Move Bricks

What is your favorite memory of school?
Having lunch with my baby cousin.

Who has influenced you most in life? Why?
My Dad, He works hard.

What are your hobbies and/or interests?
Run around in the South Gym after basketball games.

Favorite Movie
The Joker

Favorite Restaurant
AGAVE

Favorite Song/Artist
Not The Same - JETT THE KIDD

Favorite Quote
"THAT'S ONE SMALL STEP FOR MAN, ONE GIANT LEAP FOR MANKIND."
- Jeffrey Olivares and Neil Armstrong

What is your dream job?
Cop

Would you rather:
Only be able to charge your cell phone once a week
Only have a cell phone without a camera

Would you rather eat:
Raising Cane's
Chick-fil-A

Would you rather:
only watch movies
only watch TV series

Favorite "dad" Joke
What do clouds wear beneath their hats?



Connor Meyer

What activities do (did) you participate in while at Lester Prairie School?
Cross Country, Wrestling, Track

What are your plans after high school?
Go to College

What is your favorite memory of school?
Playing football at recess in elementary

Who has influenced you most in life? Why?
DeAndre Hopkins because he goes to work everyday no matter who is there.

What are your hobbies and/or interests?
Hunting and Fishing

Favorite Movie
Fast and Furious

Favorite Restaurant
Agave

Favorite Song/Artist
Fuerza Regida

Favorite Quote
Life's simple, you make choices and you don't look back.

What is your dream job?
Food Critic

Would you rather:
Only be able to charge your cell phone once a week
Only have a cell phone without a camera

Would you rather eat:
Raising Cane's
Chick-fil-A

Would you rather:
only watch movies
only watch TV series

Favorite "dad" Joke
Smells like updog. (The Office)

Ruff Ruff Report with Mr. Machemehl's Class:

[Click here for the latest Ruff Ruff Report.](#)

Does the School District have your most current contact information?

The School District uses the School Messenger Alert System to inform parents of school closings, late starts, early outs, and emergencies. Please make sure we have your current contact information so you receive our communications!



SCHOOLMESSENGER®

Community members can sign up to receive our inclement weather and emergency messages using a form on our website under the Community tab or [click here](#).

Dates to Know:

February 19: President's Day - no school



February 22 and 26: Parent Teacher Conferences 3:30-7:30pm
March 1: Staff Development Day - No School
March 18: Regular School Board Mtg 5:45pm
March 22: End of 3rd Quarter - 11:30 dismissal

Next School Board Meeting: Monday, March 18 at 5:45pm in the Media Center

Please visit the School Board tab on our website to view upcoming Board Meeting agendas.

<https://www.lp.k12.mn.us/page/2452>



Do you have any comments or feedback to share?

We would love to hear from you because your voice is important to us. Please click on the Google Form below. Thank you!



Comments and Feedback

We would love to hear your thoughts and/or feedback about our school district. Please include your contact information so we can follow up with you.

[Sign in to Google](#) to save your progress. [Learn more](#)

 * Indicates required question

It is the mission of ISD 424 to develop every learner to the learner's maximum potential, to succeed and continue to learn in a changing world.



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Melissa Radeke

Melissa is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

