

LP School District Newsletter

September 26, 2025

Dear Lester Prairie School District Community,

September is **Minnesota School Board Recognition Month**, a time to honor the dedicated leaders who guide public schools across our state.

This month, Lester Prairie Schools joins districts throughout Minnesota in recognizing our school board members—community members who volunteer countless hours to ensure every student has access to a high-quality education.

Our board members set the direction for our schools, ask the tough questions, and keep the focus on what matters most: **student success**. School Board leadership strengthens not only our schools, but our entire community. These leaders may not seek recognition, but they deserve it. Their service reflects the values of our community and helps shape a brighter future for every student.

We are proud to recognize the members of the **Lester Prairie School Board**:

Chair Keith Christen

Vice Chair Brian Heimerl

Clerk Jeff Engen

Treasurer Rebecca Heimerl

Director Dan LaMott

Director Candice Anderson

Thank you for serving our learning community!

With gratitude,
Supt. Melissa Radeke





Thank your local school board members!

ANNUAL DATA PRIVACY COMMUNICATION

Lester Prairie Schools uses a variety of digital resources and tools to support student learning. We refer to these resources and tools as “Technology Providers,” as they are defined in statute. As a school district, we want to ensure that technology providers protect student information and academic data. We have contracted with Learn Platform to create a listing of the Technology Providers used by Lester Prairie Schools for your review. Included in this listing you will find the product names, authorized grade levels, approval status, and compliance status.

The unique Lear Platform link to Lester Prairie Schools is located on the Data Privacy tab under the Technology page on our district website or you can click [here](#).

Please reach out to Mr. Wawrzyniak by email at wawrzyniak@lp.k12.mn.us or phone 320-395-2521 ext. 1133 for additional questions regarding specific digital tools used in our Technology Provider contracts.

STAFF SPOTLIGHT: Mr. Devyn Triebenbach - Secondary Social Studies Teacher

A little bit about myself: I'm just excited to be here! I'm from Sauk Centre, MN.

A favorite thing that I like to do is: be with people and forge meaningful and lasting connections with everyone I meet.

My hobbies are: debating, reading, watching movies, walking, swimming, biking, and listening to music.

Something you may not know about me is: I'm an existentialist.

My favorite movie is: *Gone with the Wind* because the imagery/story was absolutely mind blowing for 1939 and today.

My favorite sport is: walk because it gives me time to think and ponder both what is happening in front of me and inside my mind.

If I could meet any historical person, it would be Cleisthenes because: he is known as the "father of Athenian Democracy." I'd like for he and I to have a long and extensive conversation as to why and who influenced him so.



PRINCIPAL LEE:

The other night, while watching the movie, *The Truman Show* (1998) with my family, I was struck by how closely Truman's life in the movie could resemble the lives of kids today growing up with smartphones and social media. In the movie, Truman lived his whole life on display without realizing how much control others had over what he saw and did. In many ways, social media is doing the same thing to our kids. It shapes how they see themselves, their friendships, and even the world around them. Many times, kids are doing this to themselves. Kids may feel like they're in charge, but so much of what they experience online is being influenced by likes, comments, and algorithms designed to keep them watching and they don't realize it.

As parents and educators, this is something we can't ignore. Social media can be fun and a way to connect, but it also brings pressures our kids aren't always ready to handle like comparing themselves to unrealistic posts, dealing with online drama, or feeling the need to be "on" all the time. We need to guide them, set healthy limits, and remind them that their value isn't defined by a screen. Having honest conversations, keeping an eye on their use, and modeling balance ourselves can make all the difference.

Thank you for your continued partnership with Lester Prairie Schools.

It has been a great start to the school year and I am looking forward to another wonderful year.

AD/DEAN - MR. SCHEEVEL:

As I look outside and see the sun shining, it's hard to believe that we are already at the end of September and just about a month into school. All of our fall activities are in mid season. Not all of our contests end up with the desired results we hope and prepare for, a win. However, win or lose, all of our student athletes get back to practice the next day and continue to work hard to get better for the next competition. I've always struggled to understand when people say that high school activities do not represent or prepare students for "the real world". In my opinion, that statement is completely inaccurate. As adults in the "real world", we all try to prepare for and expect the best outcomes whether it be in our daily lives or our careers. But as adults we also understand that we don't always get the outcomes we expect either. So back to "practice" we go, continuing to grind, even when no one is watching, to prepare to be better than we were last time. That's life and that's high school activities. A mirror reflection of each other. So continue to encourage your students to be active participants in our school's activities. It's truly preparing them for what lies ahead.

Ross Scheevel
AD/DoS/CE
LP Schools

TEACHING AND LEARNING:

Greetings everyone,

Our school year is in full swing and I am hearing of great highlights from our new science curriculum and the labs that are being done. Students are actively working with science materials and are loving their new experiences! We begin our 2nd volume of LETRs training next week and cannot wait to learn more about the science of reading and how to best implement the science of reading into the classroom! We have also begun our PLCs (Professional Learning Communities) where teachers are working with their grade level teams to answer complex questions about how students best learn. We look forward to our continued learning and cannot wait to update you all again.

Sincerely,

Mr. Ryan Sinda
Student Success Coach

COUNSELOR CORNER:

We are now a few weeks into the school year, and it's been wonderful to see students settling into their classrooms and building positive connections. By this point, many children have adjusted to being back in school, but routines at home and school are still so important in helping them feel secure and ready to learn.

Why Routines Matter

Children thrive on predictability. Having regular routines:

- Helps students know what to expect each day.
- Reduces stress and morning "rush" moments.
- Builds responsibility and independence.

Helpful Home Routines to Support School Success

- **Bedtime Routine:** Aim for consistent sleep and screen-free time before bed.
- **Morning Routine:** Encourage students to pack backpacks and pick out clothes the night before.
- **Homework Routine:** Set aside the same time and quiet space each day for schoolwork.
- **Family Check-In:** Even a quick conversation at dinner or bedtime about their day makes a big difference.

When routines feel overwhelming, start small! Choose one part of the day to work on first (bedtime, homework, or mornings) and build from there. Consistency is more important than perfection.

We're also focusing on routines here—learning classroom expectations, practicing respectful behaviors, and building a strong foundation for the rest of the year. Students are doing a great job adjusting, and we appreciate the support you give at home.

Strong routines at home and school help students feel confident, organized, and ready to do their best each day. Thank you for working together with us to support your child's success!

Please consider filling out an Application for Educational Benefits form:

[Click here to access the form.](#)

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!

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](#).



SCHOOLMESSENGER®

Dates to Know:

Oct. 2 & 6: Parent Teacher Conferences 3:30-7:30pm

Oct. 3: K-6 Early Dismissal 11:30

Oct. 16 & 17: MEA Break - no school

Oct. 31: End of 1st Quarter 11:30 Dismissal



Next Regular School Board Meeting: Monday, October 20th 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.



Lester Prairie Schools

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Melissa Radeke

Melissa is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

