



THE

OCTOBER 2021

# LIBERTY LANTERN

## Administration:

*Dr. Lori Motsch*  
Superintendent

*Shane Street*  
Principal

*Charissa Swiech*  
Assistant Principal

## Inside This Issue:

<i>News You Can Use</i>	2
<i>News You Can Use</i>	3
<i>News You Can Use</i>	4
<i>News You Can Use</i>	5
<i>School Calendar/News</i>	6
<i>P.T.O. Corner</i>	7
<i>School Announcements</i>	8
<i>Happy Ad Flyer</i>	9
<i>Yearbook Flyer</i>	10
<i>Employment Flyer</i>	11
<i>Allergy Awareness</i>	12

## Office Hours:

7:00 AM - 3:55 PM

## School Phone Number:

815-462-7951

## Transportation:

815-717-3100

## Website:

<http://www2.nlsd122.org/c/index.php/schools/liberty-jr-high/>

## From the Main Office:

The first month and a half of the year has flown by and it has been a great start to the school year. Mid-term was Wednesday, September 29, and parents / guardians are encouraged to check PowerSchool if they have not yet done so as all grades have been updated. Please contact the office if you'd like a paper copy of midterm grades sent home. The boys' volleyball, girls' basketball, and the cross-country teams are all doing very well and students are working hard in the classrooms. This year is shaping up to be a great year.

Shane Street  
Principal

Charissa Swiech  
Assistant Principal

## Graduation Ceremony Date:

We are thrilled to announce that 8th grade graduation will be held on Monday, May 23, at Lincoln-Way West High School's football stadium starting at 5:30pm. In the event of inclement weather, graduation will be moved indoors. Details regarding graduation will be shared with families closer to the date.



## 8th Grade Standardized Test:

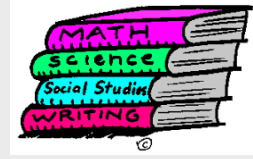
Eighth grade students at Liberty Junior High will take the PSAT 8/9 standardized test on Thursday, November 4. The test is used not only by our school to assess student progress, but also by both Lincoln-Way West High School and Joliet Central High School as their first set of data on the incoming freshman class. Test results will also be made available to other high schools upon request, as we know not all of our students will be attending Lincoln-Way West or Joliet Central.

# NEWS YOU CAN USE



## Homework Club:

Homework Club is a quiet place to study, work on homework, projects, study for tests, and it's also a great place to work on Sentence Diagramming or MyPerspectives work with the help of ELA teacher Mrs. Perillo. It is held every Tuesday, after school in room 116, until 3:30pm.



## NLPD Coat Drive:

Please join us in our annual Cops Care Coat Drive! Donations start on October 1 and end on October 28. Gray bins will be provided by New Lenox Police Department at each school's vestibule area! Morning Star Treasure Chest will provide a coat for anyone presenting them with a voucher. Vouchers will be available at the schools in District 122 and at the following locations: New Lenox Police Department: 200 Veterans Pkwy. (M-F 8:00am-5:00pm) New Lenox Village Hall: 1 Veterans Pkwy. (M-F 8:30am-5:00pm) and New Lenox Township: 1100 S. Cedar Rd. (M-F 8:00am-3:30pm).



## PreSchool Screening Information:

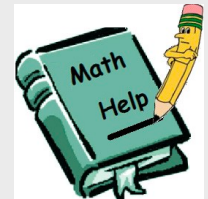
New Lenox School District will be screening children from ages three to five in the areas of motor, cognitive, and speech/language development. Early childhood educators will present "game like" activities to your child which assess various development skills. All preschoolers who reside in our district are eligible to attend free of charge. This is a preschool screening, not a kindergarten readiness screening. This year the screenings will be held at Cherry Hill Elementary and Early Childhood Center. Call Cherry Hill School at 815-462-7831 to schedule an appointment.



2021-2022 Screening Dates: November 19, March 11, and May 6

## Morning Math Starting Soon:

Morning Math is an additional resource specifically for math help. It runs from 7:30am to 8:15am every week from Tuesday through Friday. Students will be able to drop-in during that time to request assistance from the math teacher running the help room that day. The teacher schedule for Morning Math will be: Tuesday = Mrs. Zettergren (Room 210), Wednesday = Mrs. Bethman (Room 102), Thursday = Mr. Bahret (Room 118), Friday = Mrs. Byrnes (Room 202). Students are able to visit any Morning Math session regardless of who their actual math teacher is. Prior notification to the teacher is also not necessary as it is a drop-in format.



## Boys' Basketball Tryouts Coming Soon:

Attention All 7th and 8th Grade Boys: Tryouts for this season's upcoming boys basketball teams are just around the corner. The tryout will begin on Monday, October 18, and continue into Tuesday, October 19. Both tryouts will be held from 3:00-4:30pm. Interested athletes must have a physical on file or bring their physical to the tryout to be considered. No exceptions will be made. Sign-up information will be posted and announced on Monday, October 4 with a link to Google Classroom for all interested athletes, so students, stay tuned for that information at school. If you have any questions, please contact one of the coaches:



7th Grade - Mr. Zumpano ([azumpano@nlsd122.org](mailto:azumpano@nlsd122.org))

8th Grade - Mr. Bahret ([jbahret@nlsd122.org](mailto:jbahret@nlsd122.org))



## Don't Forget:

- There is no school on Monday, October 11, as it is a holiday.
- There is early dismissal at 11:25am on Friday, October 29.

# NEWS YOU CAN USE



## Cheer Squad Ready To Go:

The Liberty Patriot Cheerleading Season is upon us! Beginning in October, the girls will be enthusiastically showing their school pride by performing at various seventh and eighth-grade girls' and boys' basketball games. Throughout the season, the team will be leading sideline cheers and performing a routine during halftime at each game. Please come out and join the cheerleaders as they cheer on the Patriots!



The members of the Liberty Patriot Cheerleading Squad:

Moya Boyle, Allyson Dean, Adriana DeFrank, Hailey Dowling, Avery Flores, Emilia Frederiksen, Mariah Gonzalez, Adelena Hepburn, Paizley Hermosillo, Amairanny Lopez, Jenna Roberts, Sophia Schulte, Sydney Smaga, Gianna Verdeyen, and Jaden Williams.

## Poms Team Selected:

Congratulations to the 2021 Liberty Poms Team:

Audrey Batson, Madailein Brosius, Gabriella Dambrauskas, Riley Flanagan, Sophia Gerges, Alexa Gilbert, Madeline Hanley, Krista Lussion, Mia McLynn, Kendall Michalak, Mia Nash, Olivia Otto, Gabrielle Pieczynski, Sophia Rozga, Gianna Saso, Sophia Schaefer, Madison Stanislawski, Hannah Tigchelaar, Mackenna Woltman, and Ava Yario.



The girls will be working with the Lincoln-Way West Poms junior coaches for the next few weeks preparing for their first performances at the basketball games in October. Thank you to all who tried out! We are looking forward to a great season!

## School Picture Day Is Approaching Soon:

Liberty's Picture Days are scheduled for Thursday, October 7 (Blue Day) and Friday, October 8 (Red Day). Pictures will be taken during your child's PE class so their exact picture day depends on if they have PE on a blue day or red day.

VIP is completely paperless and all ordering will take place online. Parents will receive an email after our picture days when student portraits are ready to view online.

If you have any questions, please contact VIP by phone at 262-375-9633 or by emailing [support@vipis.com](mailto:support@vipis.com).



## Student Council:

If you like to help improve our school and community, then Student Council might be the perfect club for you! The Liberty Student Council is a group of students that work together to plan activities, such as pep assemblies and spirit weeks at school. We also participate in service activities in our community and at Liberty. Liberty's Student Council is a volunteer-based club which anyone can join. We typically meet twice a month on Tuesdays, but sometimes more frequently when planning for an activity. Since there are no elections, all you need to do is come to the first Student Council meeting on **Tuesday, October 5, after school until 3:45pm**, in Miss O'Brien's room, B-212. Please see Miss O'Brien to get a permission slip if you'd like to participate in Student Council. All students must have a signed permission slip turned in to be a part of Student Council. If you can't make the meeting or have questions, please feel free to stop by and see Miss O'Brien at your convenience. We are looking forward to another great year with the Student Council here at Liberty! Join our Student Council Google Classroom to get more information and updates! The class code is: 5hm5dvm



# NEWS YOU CAN USE



## Boys' Volleyball:

Congratulations to the 7th grade boys volleyball team for ending their season with an impressive five game win streak! After a competitive, but winless start to the season against the team's first two opponents, the 7th grade Patriots went on a run of winning their five remaining matches against conference foes Troy, Manhattan, Hickory Creek, Martino and Homer. The team hopes to springboard their momentum into the final week of the season as they enter into the Des Plaines Valley Conference volleyball tournament the last week of September. Best of luck to our 7th grade boys as they enter into their final battles of the year. Coach Zumpano is quite proud of the progress the team has made throughout the season.

The 8th grade boys volleyball team ended their season on Tuesday when they were knocked out of the Des Plaines Valley Conference Tournament. The team played their best volleyball of the season that night and Coach Hence couldn't be any prouder of the success the boys experienced this season and of the tremendous amount of improvements made by seasons-end. Good luck in high school, boys!



## Cross Country:

The Cross Country team has been working very hard at practice and that hard work is paying off. The girls team took 1st place at the Westview Hills Invitational while the boys team took 4th place. Good luck to the runners at conference and sectionals.



## Girls' Basketball Season Gets Underway:

The 2021 IESA Girls basketball season started as the calendar turned over to September. After two rigorous days of tryouts, the seventh and eighth grade teams were formed and practices were underway that got the girls prepared for the season. As gameplay began, both teams jumped out to fast starts with two overwhelming wins over Joliet Hufford at home and Bourbonnais UGC on the road. The Patriots are continuing to hone their abilities as October begins Des Plaines Valley Conference play and both squads have eyes on post-season success!

Congratulations to following girls who made the seventh and eighth grade teams:

### 2021 7th Grade Lady Patriots Basketball Team:

Sophia Creech, Kaitlyn Gajdorus, Bella Gelonese, Tessa Hale, Molly Hogan, Reagan McCracken, Julianna Nicastro, McKenna Redican, MacKenzie Roesner, Raegan Seddon, Joie Sheriff, Kaitlyn Weaver

### 2021 8th Grade Lady Patriots Basketball Team:

Sophia Arizzi, Kaitlyn Bereza, Emma Dempsey, Abigail Evans, Bella Fiore, Samantha Green, Sophia Murphy, Jessica Noga, Reese Rourke, Paige Seivert, Kara Stigter, Ava Tisch





# NEWS YOU CAN USE



## Chorus Sounding Great:

The Choir is back and the students sound terrific. We are preparing for a couple of performances this month. Our first concert is on Thursday, October 21, at 6:45pm in the main gym. We will present a selection of songs from around the world, including *El Capotin*, a Puerto Rican folk Song (sung in Spanish), "*Duetto buffo di due Gatto*" by Gioacchino Rossini (sung in Italian), and *The Water is Wide*, a traditional American song (sung in English). Due to health protocols, the audience for each ensemble is reserved for the families of those students only. Thanks for your cooperation to keep everyone safe. We plan to record the performances so they'll be available for extended family and friends.



We will also be performing with the Liberty Band at the New Lenox Commons on Saturday, October 30, for the Halloween Spooktacular. Performance time is 10:00am and will be outside at the band shell.

## Orchestra Preparing For First Concert:

Liberty Orchestra has been working hard preparing for our first performance! We have been working on an assortment of pieces and have been making great progress since the beginning of the school year! Our first performance will take place on Thursday, October 21. We will have more details to come as we get closer to the concert.

Allegro Ensemble has also been hard at work as well as practicing a fun assortment of pop tunes. We have a great group of students this year and have been having a blast. If your child is in orchestra and interested in joining, have them fill out a permission slip and join us for our next morning rehearsal on Mondays and Wednesdays!



## Band Is Working Hard For Upcoming Performances:

The Liberty Band members have been hard at work preparing for their first concert of the year! We are excited to perform for family and friends on October 21 at 7:30pm in the Liberty Gym. We will be playing *Renegade Dances* by David Shaffer, *Let Evening Come* by Robert Sheldon and *Stormy Seas* by James Swearingen. The Liberty Band will also perform at the New Lenox Chamber of Commerce Halloween Fest on Saturday, October 30, at 10:00am in the New Lenox Commons. The band members will be wearing costumes while performing fun and spooky Halloween music! Come out to this free family fun event!



The Liberty Jazz Band has also been hard at work for their first performance of the year which will be in December. We are learning different jazz styles such as swing, rock and latin and will be performing a variety of jazz standards along with some fun holiday tunes with a jazzy twist!

## National Junior Honor Society:

Our next meeting for current NJHS members is Friday, October 8, at 7:30am in the band room. We will begin to work on our first service project. At our last meeting, we brainstormed service project ideas and discussed ways to help out the New Lenox Food Pantry. To help members of our community who are in need of food, we are going to collect uneaten food at lunch and donate to the local food pantry. NJHS members have also been hard at work earning service hours by volunteering at home sporting events. Thanks to all the NJHS members who are volunteering their time to make Liberty a great place to be!



# CALENDAR / NEWS



## Asset of the Month:

New Lenox School District supports the T.E.A.M. Asset Committee in promoting the "Asset of the Month." This month's asset is "Decision Making and Social Awareness," which is defined as "young person knows how to plan ahead and make good choices." To reinforce this asset at home, parents can:

- Give your teenager full responsibility for planning and preparing a family meal once a month.
- Model planning and decision making out loud.
- Discuss issues like drinking/texting while driving, how to say "no" and or how to have a safe "out" plan if they're in an uncomfortable situation.
- Give your teenager increasing responsibility for planning his or her own future.
- Talk children through choices.
- Allow for mistakes. Don't blow-up or rescue a child from a poor choice.
- Explain how "not making a choice" or letting others choose for you are also choices.

## What Do I Do When My Child Is Absent From School:

It is very important that your child be in attendance each and every day, but at the same time, we do realize that there will be times when they are sick and need to stay home. If your child is going to be absent, please be sure to call the main office at 815-462-7951 by 8:30am on the day of the absence. **Please be sure to call even if you send a note or email your child's teacher.** School personnel will call parents/guardians and emergency contact numbers if we do not receive a call by 8:30am.

## Ultimate Frisbee:

If you enjoy running around outside with your friends playing a game that's similar to soccer and football, then Ultimate Frisbee is the club for you! Ultimate Frisbee is a club open to all students and there will not be any "cuts." Come play or learn how to play Ultimate Frisbee every **WEDNESDAY** after school until 3:45pm, weather permitting. All students must have a signed permission slip turned in to be a part of Ultimate Frisbee. Meet in Miss O'Brien's room, B-212, after school and have your ride here to pick you up at 3:45pm. Please wear gym shoes and bring a water bottle if you wish. **Come play with us on Wednesdays in October – 6, 13, 20, & 27.**

## Calendar of Events:

### October:

- 5 Home Girls' Basketball Game (4:00pm)
- 7 School Pictures Day in PE Classes  
Home Girls' Basketball Game (4:00pm)
- 8 School Pictures Day in PE Classes
- 11 No School ~ Holiday
- 14 Home Girls' Basketball Game (4:00pm)
- 19 Home Girls' Basketball Game (4:00pm)  
Board of Education Meeting  
- At The Manville Admin. Center (6:00pm)
- 21 Band, Orchestra, & Chorus Concert (7:00pm)
- 23 Band Performance at the New Lenox Commons
- 25 Home Girls' Basketball Game (4:00pm)
- 26 Home Girls' Basketball Game (4:00pm)
- 28 Home Girls' Basketball Game (4:00pm)
- 29 Early Dismissal @ 11:25 am
- 30 Band Performance @ N.L. Commons

### November:

- 4 PSAT 8/9 Test for 8th Graders  
Home Boys' Basketball Game (4:15pm)
- 6 ILMEA Festival @ L-Way Central H.S.
- 9 Last Day of Trimester 1  
Picture Retake Day  
Home Girls' Basketball Game (4:00pm)
- 10 First Day of Trimester 2  
Start New Cycle/Explore Classes
- 13 ILMEA Jazz Festival @ Oak Lawn H.S.
- 15 Home Boys' Basketball Game (4:00pm)
- 18 Report Cards Sent Home  
Home Boys' Basketball Game (4:00pm)
- 19 Early Dismissal at 11:25am
- 22 Parent/Teacher Conferences (12:00pm - 8:00pm)
- 23 Parent/Teacher Conferences (8:00am - 12:00pm)
- 24-26 No School
- 30 Home Boys' Basketball Game (4:00pm)

## Trimester Information:

There will be three twelve-week trimesters this year. Here are the important dates to be aware of:

### Mid-Terms:

- 2nd Trimester = January 12
- 3rd Trimester = April 19

### End of Term:

- 1st Trimester = November 9
- 2nd Trimester = February 24
- 3rd Trimester = May 27



# P.T.O. CORNER



## NLSD 122 PTO CORNER

LOT'S OF FUN THINGS HAPPENING FOR THE MONTH OF  
OCTOBER...

**\*SEPTEMBER 30<sup>TH</sup> TOM KELLY'S DINE AND DONATE\*\*  
MENTION NLSD 122 PTO\***

\*Mother/Son event October 3<sup>rd</sup>

Family Fun Zone 12-3pm

2333 Theodore St. Crest Hill

\*Charleston Wrap is wrapping up on October 6<sup>th</sup>

(use code 19927 when ordering)

\*Tis the season for wreaths, they will be going Live on  
October 1<sup>st</sup>. There will also be a flyer being sent home with  
kiddos.

\*Be on the lookout for a fun event for each campus-Project  
Balance Health and Fitness LLC Annoited Hands-get  
pampered or get in shape.

\*DIY wood scarecrow craft kit order  
online:diysignparty.square.site deadline is October 21<sup>st</sup>  
and pickup is October 29<sup>th</sup> 1230-230 Spencer Trail

\*Dine and Donate October 18<sup>th</sup> at Gatto's

Please us for our monthly meetings, which are held every third Thursday of the month. The meetings will rotate from  
9:30am to 7:30pm every month. Our next meeting is October 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 at the District. Check out our website for  
any additional information <http://www.newlenoxpto.org>

If you would like to get involved with the PTO, please visit our website.

[nlsd122pto@gmail.com](mailto:nlsd122pto@gmail.com)

\*Next PTO meeting October 21<sup>st</sup> @730 District

**Did You Miss An  
Important Announcement?**

**No Worries, Just Join Liberty's  
New Daily Announcements**

**Google Classroom**

**Use The Following  
Code To Join:**

**upct3sl**





## Liberty Junior High School For Eighth Grade Parents Only

### Dear Eighth Grade Parents:

The Yearbook staff would like to continue a Happy-Ad section in the 2021-2022 yearbook. This is your chance to send your eighth-grader a personal message. A baby picture should be included as a special remembrance. This year, Happy-Ads will be done online. The instructions for creating your Happy-Ad are included below.

We would like to make this a complete surprise if possible. The ads cost \$10.00 each. Please have a baby picture, a complete message, and pay online.

You have until **NOVEMBER 20, 2021** to complete your HAPPY-Ad. Late orders may not be able to be put in the yearbook.

### Here are the instructions for creating your personal HAPPY-Ad:

1. Visit Balfour.com, and search for Liberty Jr. High
2. Shop Yearbook products and purchase the ad (we only offer 1 size)
3. Create an account on Balfour.com
4. Look for an email within 1 business day confirming your HAPPY-Ad Workspace is available
5. Log into your Balfour.com account and look under **My Orders** to design your ad
6. When you're ready, choose **Submit Your Ad** to send it to your yearbook staff

Have Questions? Call Balfour **at 1-800-944-5930**

Thank you, Mrs. Hartwig & Mrs. Alvarez

# Liberty Junior High 2021-2022 Yearbook Online Ordering Information

Now is your chance to get your very own  
Liberty Yearbook!

**Yearbooks are hard covered and in COLOR!**

Order Before March 1<sup>st</sup> For only \$26.00

**Yearbook Sales will be online this year!**

Here is the direct link to the store:

<https://www.balfour.com/illinois/new-lenox/liberty-junior-high-school>

## Follow These Steps:

1. Scroll down to yearbook products and ads
2. Click order
3. Fill in your student's grade and name
4. Click shop for this student
5. Click get started
6. Click add to cart
7. Enter your payment information

**NOW HIRING**

**NLSD 122 is looking for  
custodians, substitute teachers,  
substitute teacher assistants,  
substitute crossing guards,  
and playground supervisors.**

**In addition, LW210 is  
looking for bus drivers.**

# FOOD ALLERGY AWARENESS



Foods that most often cause an allergic reaction:

PEANUTS  
TREE NUTS  
WHEAT  
SOY

MILK  
EGGS  
FISH  
SHELLFISH



However, other, less common foods can also cause allergic reactions. Reactions can range from mild to deadly.

**Anaphylaxis** is a serious allergic reaction that is rapid in onset and may cause death. The most common causes of anaphylaxis are food, medication, insect stings, and latex.



Common warning signs and symptoms of an anaphylactic reaction:



- Complaint of a tingling, itchiness, or metallic taste in the mouth
- Hives
- Difficulty breathing
- Swelling and/or itching of the mouth and throat area
- Diarrhea
- Vomiting
- Cramps and stomach pain
- Paleness (due to a drop in blood pressure)
- Loss of consciousness

If you see someone showing any of these symptoms, **ACT FAST! Call 911**, mention anaphylaxis, and say you need someone who can administer epinephrine.



The Food Allergy & Anaphylaxis Network  
11781 Lee Jackson Hwy., Suite 160  
Fairfax, VA 22033-3309  
(800) 929-4040  
Fax: (703) 691-2713  
faan@foodallergy.org  
www.foodallergy.org