

Principal: Bridget Thomas

Lake Arthur High School Parent Newsletter

September/October 2011



Open House
Thursday,
Sept. 22 6:00
Main Gym

Monitor your teen's technology usage

Teens love technology—but often aren't experts on online safety. To make sure your teen is safe online:

Remind your teen that nothing is private in cyberspace. A photo sent to just a few friends can easily be forwarded to someone else or posted on a website.

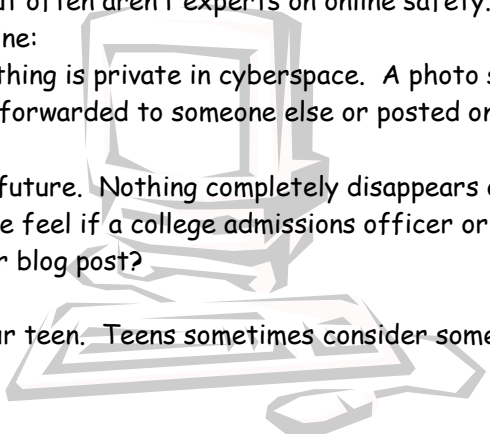
Help her think about the future. Nothing completely disappears once it's on the Internet. How will she feel if a college admissions officer or a potential employer sees a picture or blog post?

Know who's contacting your teen. Teens sometimes consider someone they have met online as a friend.

Use a search engine to search for your teen's name or any social networking profiles. You are not snooping. After all, if you're able to find her easily, so can anyone else—like a teacher or classmate.

New Statewide Grading Scale

100-93 A	4.00-3.45
92-85 B	3.44-2.45
84-75 C	2.44-1.45
74-67 D	1.44-0.80
66-0 F	0.79-0.00



Counselor's Corner

*Seniors should be applying for admission to their preferred college(s). Deadlines are approaching:

LSU - November 15th

ULL- November 30th

McNeese- December 1st

Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration (Fee Required)
September 10, 2011	August 12, 2011	August 13-26, 2011
October 22, 2011	September 16, 2011	Sept. 17-30, 2011
December 10, 2011	November 4, 2011	Nov. 5-18, 2011
February 11, 2012	January 13, 2012	January 14-20, 2012
April 14, 2012	March 9, 2012	March 10-23, 2012

The **Academic Endorsement** of the Louisiana High School Diploma is a program of study which offers students an opportunity for special recognition upon completion. In preparation for post-secondary studies, students seeking this endorsement will be expected to demonstrate a high level of academic performance. For information regarding the requirements for receiving an academic endorsement see LAHS Webpage (<http://jeffersondavis.org/LAHS/>) or Mrs. Bonin.

STRIVE FOR GOOD ATTENDANCE THIS YEAR

What's the one most important thing you can do to help your teen succeed in school this year? Make sure he's in class!

Researchers tracked the attendance of students who missed even a small amount of school—roughly five days a marking period. They found those students were more likely to drop out or not graduate from high school on time. Ninth grade is an especially important year. Only 63 percent of ninth graders who missed even one week of school each marking period graduated on time four years later.

When teens miss school, they miss out on important lessons, hands-on experiences, class discussions and more. So stress the importance of going to school everyday. You teen may ask, "Do I have to go?" Smile and say firmly, "Absolutely."

To promote regular attendance, have your teen:

- Use an alarm clock. If necessary, he can set two!
- Pack his lunch and organize his backpack before bed.
- Schedule medical appointments during non-school hours.
- Limit late-night work hours. School is his most important job.

Involved parents boost student achievement

Parent involvement often declines during the teen years. But research shows that parents play a key role in supporting student achievement. To stay involved:

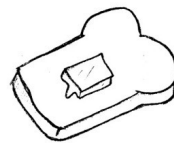
Ask your teen about school every day.

Attend school events.

Meet your teen's teachers.

Breakfast benefits brains

Eating forces your teen's body to wake up. And the food powers his brain, which will make it easier for him to learn and pay attention in class. Provide some type of breakfast- even just a banana or piece of toast your teen grabs as he heads out the door.



To get success, expect it!

When thinking about your expectations for your teen this year, consider that:

Teens try to reach parents' expectations of them. If you believe in your teen and expect her to succeed in school, she is likely to have higher academic achievement.



Teens' own expectations begin to match parents' expectations. If you make it clear to your teen what you expect of her, by saying things like "I believe you can do well in school," she will begin to have the same belief in herself.

Encourage responsibility When your child was younger, you could overlook the occasional forgotten lunch. But now your teen needs to learn to be responsible for his own things. Here's how:

Avoid "rescuing" him. If he calls to say he left something at home, don't drop what you're doing to take it to him.

Figure out why he's so forgetful. Is "forgetting his homework" easier than saying he didn't understand how to do it?

Work together to find a solution.

LAHS Mission Statement

To involve family, community, and school personnel in a team effort to maximize learning for all students.

JDPSE Mission Statement

Jefferson Davis Parish School System will provide all students with educational opportunities to achieve success in a multicultural, global society.