

# Lamoni Community School Newsletter

## January 2019

### CONTACT INFORMATION

#### WEBSITE:

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### ADMINISTRATION

Chris Coffelt,  
Superintendent

Alan Dykens,  
Pre K-12 Principal

### BOARD OF EDUCATION

Chip Millslagle- President

Michele Dickey-Kotz-  
Vice Pres

Larry Heltenberg

Nate Pierschbacher

Kris Stevenson

**School Board Meeting**

**Wed Jan 9th 6:00 pm**

### IMPORTANT DATES

Jan 2- Prof Development- No School

Jan 3- School Resumes

Jan 23- Donuts with Dad

See the full calendar of events at:

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar>

### School Food Pantry

Another new announcement is the implementation of a school food pantry for our students and families.

The food pantry is located within the Middle School in room 125. This opportunity is open to any student or their family in need of extra support. Hours of operation range from during the school day and on Wednesday nights from 4-6 pm. Please use the Middle School door off of Elm Street to access the Food Pantry on Wednesday evenings. Please stop by and take advantage of this new opportunity for our students. We are here to support and serve and we do not want any child or family to go hungry.

### From the Desk of Mr. Coffelt

Lamoni Community,

Right before Christmas, the Iowa Department of Education released results of the Iowa School Performance Profile, which can be accessed at the following link: [Iowa School Performance Profile](#)

The Every Student Succeeds Act, ESSA, replaces the No Child Left Behind Act and provides a new set of federal requirements that maintains a focus on school accountability and equity for all students.

ESSA requires all states to publish report cards reflecting the performance of the state, schools and school districts. Iowa's new report card is called the Iowa School Performance Profile.

The Iowa School Performance Profiles reflect the core measures that contribute to a school's accountability determination, which include the following:

- Student participation on state assessments
- Academic achievement (proficiency and average scale score)
- Student growth
- Graduation rate
- Progress in achieving English language proficiency
- Conditions for Learning Report, a student survey of safety and engagement

Each school receives an overall score based on performance on these measures. Schools also receive a score for each subgroup of students, such as students with a disability or students who qualify for free and reduced lunch.

The Iowa School Performance Profile are not the same as the Iowa School Report Card, which was launched in 2015, in response to a state legislative requirement. Because the School Report Card is still an Iowa legislative requirement, there will be another school report card release in the Spring of 2019.

However, some overlap between the two exists, and the Iowa Department of Education will merge the Iowa School Performance Profile and the Iowa School Report Card in fall 2019 so that Districts and school communities have one report card that meets both state and federal requirements.

ESSA requires to states to identify schools that need the most support, for purposes of ensuring students have the same opportunities for success that exist for students in other schools.

A school will be identified for Comprehensive Support and

Improvement if its overall score fall within the lowest 5% of Title I schools in the state or its graduation rate fall below 67.1%. A school will be identified for Targeted Support and Improvement if a student subgroup score is as low as the lowest 5% of schools in the state.

In the Iowa School Performance Profile, **Lamoni CSD met student achievement requirements** and has *not* been labeled as a Comprehensive or Targeted Support School. In fact, there is much to celebrate in our student data, especially as we compare to state average student proficiency scores and student growth, an indicator that Iowa's new accountability system places the greatest emphasis on.

A new measure on this profile is the Conditions for Learning, which Iowa introduced last year as an annual student survey of engagement, safety and overall learning environment. Students in grades 5-12 took the survey in spring 2018. Survey results represent one of the measures used this year to determine accountability scores for Iowa Schools.

Research shows students who feel safe, actively engaged in their learning and build positive relationships with others are more likely to succeed in school and beyond.

The survey will expand to students in grades 3-12 in the spring of 2019.

Survey results will serve as a tool to help schools, teachers, and parents identify areas of strength, as well as areas that may need attention. For students, the survey is an important opportunity to be here and to be a part of efforts to improve the learning environment.

As we review each of the data sets that comprise the new profile, we renew our commitment to support every one of our students every day and reinvest in our mission to prepare students to realize

their fullest potential for success in each of their chosen endeavors.

Thank you for your continued support!

Chris

### **From the Desk of Dr. Dykens**

Happy New Year! I wish each and every one of you a very healthy and prosperous new year. I know that our faculty is really looking forward to getting back to school with the kids after the long Holiday break.

The winter months carry with them a feverish pace with the number of activities that the school district embraces. From multiple basketball games to wrestling meets, bowling meets and concerts, the school district seems to always have its doors open: So we invite you.

We hope that you as a community can find your way into our school to support your teams and young people. We are competing at a high level, and our teams are having success. Our bands, choirs and ensembles are preparing to represent at various competitions this great district. Our theatre folks are winding up for their season and again a flurry of activity is occurring.

Academically, our students are focused. The rigor of our academic endeavors is continually increasing as we evaluate our methods and content. Our faculty is challenging our students to new levels and we are continually looking at our curriculum to find the very best ways of teaching and meeting the standards established for us by our state and national departments of education.

We are not taking anything lightly and we are turning over every rock to evaluate our school system. This is the only way we can grow and prosper in this ever-changing environment. Another way we are doing this is through our Emergency Operations Planning Endeavors.

The state has mandated that we have a plan in place for emergency operations in regards to an active threat. We are pleased to announce that we were ahead of the curve in this aspect. The work that our school has been involved with over the last couple of years has set us up to be an example for other districts in regards to their planning and preparation. Many thanks go out to the community involvement, support from various community and county agencies, our local board of directors and Superintendent Coffelt for spearheading this initiative within the Lamoni Community Schools. It is making a difference for the safety and security of our students and staff.

The environment is changing, but thanks to the many hardworking faculty, staff, community members, volunteers and our board of directors and superintendent we are managing to stay above the curve and reaching new heights within the district.

Lamoni is a great place to live and raise a family. We are proud of our school district but not satisfied with where we are. We want to be better and grow. This will take everybody but we are excited for the challenge. So our new year's resolution is that simple: Shoot for the moon, because even if we miss, we will land among the stars!

In ALL We Do – PRIDE!

Dr. D

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### MISSION STATEMENT FOR LAMONI COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Through our collective efforts in a caring environment, we will prepare students for a life-long process of learning, which promotes the ability and motivation to contribute to a better world.

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