

Updates on Start of 4th Quarter and other high school items for LMHS Students and Parents: (April 21, 2020)

1. Please feel free to contact any of these counselors for any concerns you may have for yourself or for others.

Student Assistance Counselors:	Kevin McCauley (kmccauley@linnmar.k12.ia.us) Lisa Mooney (lmooney@linnmar.k12.ia.us) Janessa Walters (jwalters@linnmar.k12.ia.us)
Academic Assistance Counselors:	Tony Nicol (tony.nicol@linnmar.k12.ia.us) Danielle Patterson (dpatterson@linnmar.k12.ia.us)
School Counselors:	Greg Hall (ghall@linnmar.k12.ia.us) Pete Martin (pmartin@linnmar.k12.ia.us) Sheryl Cline (scline@linnmar.k12.ia.us) David Kennedy (dkennedy@linnmar.k12.ia.us) Jennifer Thurston (jthurston@linnmar.k12.ia.us) Elizabeth Kreher (ekreher@linnmar.k12.ia.us)
Family Support Specialist:	Katie Smith (Katie.smith@linnmar.k12.ia.us)

A reminder to LMHS students that you do have **Safe2SpeakUp** on your school-issued computer. You may also use this in more emergency situations to report students who you know may need immediate assistance.

A link to family resources has been added and is also available on the district website:

<https://www.linnmar.k12.ia.us/news/student-services-resources/>

School Counseling Programming:

Dr. Recker from Marion Dental will be speaking about dental careers on Thursday, April 23rd at 1:00. Students can sign up [HERE](#) – you must be logged in to your Linn-Mar account to sign up!

High School Student Meet-ups – School counselors are also offering virtual meet-ups on Fridays from 10:30-11:30. To join the team, sign up [Here](#). Feel free to join when you are able. Our first meet-up will be Friday, April 24th for a check-in and mindfulness activity.

Resources for this time, including future virtual offerings, will be posted on our website at <https://sites.google.com/site/linnmarschoolcounseling/covid-19-updates>. Also follow us on Twitter ([@LMCollegeCareer](#)) and Instagram ([@linnmarhscounseling](#)) for up-to-date information.

2. A sincere Linn-Mar Lion Roar and ‘Thank You’ to all of our LMHS Volunteers who have served our students in many capacities this school year as we honor National Volunteer Week!
3. The closure of LMHS and the LRC buildings **has been extended for the remainder of the school year**. To contact the Main Office, please email jgustason@linnmar.k12.ia.us or bbenton@linnmar.k12.ia.us.
4. **4th QUARTER: LMHS started 4th Quarter on Monday, April 13.**
 - a. **LMHS will continue the 4th Quarter/2nd Semester with our LMHS 4th Quarter Virtual Universe Schedule for the remainder of the school year.**

Any access to the building to cleanout lockers and return course materials, when possible, will be planned for the end of the quarter/semester as building access is available.
 - b. **CALENDAR: The Professional Development Day originally scheduled for May 4 has officially been changed to Friday, May 1. Monday, May 4, will now use the Monday+Wednesday Class Schedule on the LMHS 4th Quarter Virtual Universe Schedule.**

- c. **SCHEDULE**: All classes are now meeting using a **LMHS 4th Quarter Virtual Universe Schedule** (on the school webpage).
- d. **LIVE/TEAMS SESSIONS**: Please use your school computers for 'live' sessions. We have found that these work much better than your phones. LMHS Teachers will be using Teams for all video conferencing at this time. (All school-issued computers are installed with Teams).
- 1. Expectations and Rules of Engagement for Students regarding 'Live'/Teams Sessions:**
- No recording or posting of sessions should be done without permission from the class teacher.
 - Always be appropriate during any session. Disruptive or and inappropriate behavior may result in a student being restricted from attending 'live' class sessions.
 - Please mute your screen when you are not speaking during a session to avoid background noise or disruptions.
 - Please inform your teacher via email if you are unable to make a session for any reason so that they can communicate with you and ensure you have the new content and assignments/projects.
- e. **ATTENDANCE**: Teachers are taking attendance for the scheduled class sessions as required by the Dept. of Ed. when having 'mandated, graded for credit, online' classes. Please continue to communicate with your teacher if you have responsibilities that will keep you from attending a scheduled 'live' class session.
- f. **JOINING YOUR ONLINE CLASS SESSION**: Students may 'join' their class sessions in two different ways:
- If your teacher sent you a link to 'join' a class session, then simply 'click' on the link just before the class is scheduled to start. (We have discouraged this method to staff)
 - Go to Outlook Calendar or the Microsoft Teams Calendar, 'click' on the class and 'join' just before the class is scheduled to start. (recommended method)
- g. **GRADING**: All 4th Quarter/2nd Semester classes will be graded and issuing credit. Due to the extreme circumstance impacting all of our students and families at this time and the online nature of the instruction for at least a significant portion of 4th Quarter, students will have some options regarding grading provided certain criteria is met (document on the school webpage).
- h. **IEP ACCOMMODATIONS**:
- IEP Meetings continue to be held via video/phone conference.
- i. **STUDENT SCHEDULE QUESTIONS**: The '**DROP**' deadline for 4th Quarter classes has been changed to **April 24**.
- j. **TUTORING**: Two sources of tutoring are available for students during our virtual school time. To contact the Tutoring Center in the Learning Center, please email rebecca.cortez@linnmar.k12.ia.us. The LMHS MASS Tutoring Center is happy to be offering free online tutoring for both high school and middle school students in math and science classes and ACT/SAT. There will be one-on-one tutoring sessions that will be 30-60 minutes, depending on the student's preference, through Microsoft Teams. Please fill out this form (<https://forms.gle/72VPZiSdAaMaWFMZ6>) to sign up for a tutoring session!
- k. **PARENT CONFERENCES**: **Parent Conferences scheduled for Thursday, April 23, will not be held.** It is expected that efforts are made to contact parents to provide performance updates, especially for students who are struggling during 4th Quarter/2nd Semester.
5. **TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT**: "**Hey, I'm having issues with my school-issued computer. Since I cannot take it to the HELP Desk in the Learning Center at this time, what should I do?**" The HELP Desk has become virtual. You must contact the HELP Desk Helpdesk@linnmar.k12.ia.us from your school email account or call 319-447-3100. When leaving a message, please:
- State your name and grade level in school.
 - State a phone # for contacting you.
 - State the issue your computer is having.

We still have just a few students who are getting connected with wi-fi. A shout out to IMON and Mediacom for their efforts in helping get our students service as needed these past few days.

Connectivity-Internet Support. If you know of families in need of adequate internet when we begin 4th Quarter, please do not hesitate to email our counselors (contact information above), Joe Nietert (jnietert@linnmar.k12.ia.us) Brian Johnson (bjohnson@linnmar.k12.ia.us), Barb Benton (bbenton@linnmar.k12.ia.us), or Jeff Gustason (jgustason@linnmar.k12.ia.us).

6. **AP Testing:**

- a. AP Testing dates has been released and these will begin on May 11.

7. **The LMHS Class of 2020:**

- a. **Senior Recognition Night:** All Scholarships and awards to be announced during Senior Recognition Night must be confirmed by forwarding a copy of an award letter or certificate to you school counselor no later than April 30. Senior Recognition will still occur in a different format as the evening event on May 11 will not take place as scheduled. Once details are finalized for Senior Recognition these will be announced. Our current thinking/planning for the change to Senior Recognition involves announcing all awards, scholarships and honors in a presentation format that can be received electronically, viewed and kept by Seniors and families. This assumes that an on-site gathering will still not be able to happen in the month of May.
- b. **Scholarship Information: Scholarships are still available for Seniors.** Scholarships can be found on a student's Naviance Student account by clicking on the **Colleges tab**, *Scholarships and Money*, *Scholarship List*. If students need help accessing scholarships or have any questions, they can reach out to their school counselor.
- c. The last school day for Seniors is **Wednesday, May 20**. Commencement information and details regarding the end of classes on May 20 will be announced as planning is finalized. With all of the changes happening for Seniors, the last day of school as May 20 will stay the same. At this time, no change has been made to Commencement on May 24, at 1:00 p.m. at the U.S. Cellular Center (Cedar Rapids).
- d. **Some insight into our thinking regarding Commencement at this time:**
At this time, we are developing scenarios for Commencement which include:
1. If the ceremony is able to take place **in-person** in the U.S. Cellular Center either on May 24 (as scheduled) or later during the month of June if deemed safe to do so.
 2. If the ceremony (conferring of diplomas) must take place **in another format** due to safety concerns and social distancing recommendations.
- The goal of any scenario is to provide a first-class and dignified conferring of diplomas to each member of our LMHS Class of 2020.*
- e. Anything stated about Graduation by anyone other than our Board President (Sondra Nelson), Superintendent (Shannon Bisgard), or Principal (Jeff Gustason) should not be considered as accurate.

8. **Extra-Curricular Activities:**

- a. All spring sports have been cancelled by the IHSAA and IGHS AU.
- b. Softball and Baseball seasons have not been cancelled at this time. A decision on this is expected by June 1.
- c. **Prom on May 16 has been postponed. At this time, Prom is NOT cancelled. It will just not be held on May 16.**

9. **LMHS Student Advisory Meetings:** Our 3rd Student Advisory meetings have been rescheduled, but will be held at the following dates listed below at 8:00 a.m. Student Advisory members will be sent invitations to their respective meeting. These are always voluntary, but your input is always needed and appreciated.

- a. 12th Grade Student Advisory is scheduled for 8:00 a.m. on Friday, April 24.
- b. 11th Grade Student Advisory will be planned for 8:00 a.m. on Friday, May 1.
- c. 10th Grade Student Advisory will be planned for 8:00 a.m. on Friday, May 8.
- d. 9th Grade Student Advisory will be planned for 8:00 a.m. on Friday, May 15.

10. **Other Items:** (We will continue to update this listing)

- a. Please check your school email (students) on a daily basis from now until June 3. Students, please use/access your school email in Outlook, not Google. For parents needing help accessing Unified Classroom

at this time. The hyperlink below has also been posted on the district website. Here is the hyperlink for instructions to parents regarding Unified Classroom: <https://www.linnmar.k12.ia.us/powerschool-unified-classroom/>

- b. Building offices remain closed at this time. Please feel free to contact Jeff Gustason (jgustason@linnmar.k12.ia.us), Kim Buelt (kbuilt@linnmar.k12.ia.us), Joe Nietert (jnietert@linnmar.k12.ia.us) or Steve Goodall (steve.goodall@linnmar.k12.ia.us) should you need immediate assistance.
- c. With no access to our school phones and fewer landlines in our homes, you may receive 'unknown' or 'unverified' phone calls that is from a school staff member who is using their own cell phone to make calls.
- d. The next *LMHS 4th Quarter Updates and Announcements for Students and Parents* is planned to be sent on Friday.