



**Linn-Mar High School
Updates and Announcements
For Students and Parents
September 17, 2021**



Calendar for Next Week

Week 5 ...Mid-Term Week is Here...

Monday, September 20	*Regular Daily Schedule (7:50 – 4:00 p.m.)
3:15 p.m.	*V Boys Golf @ Dubuque (The Meadow G.C.)
	*JV Boys Golf @ Marion (Hunters Ridge G.C.)
3:30 p.m.	9th Connection Session
Tuesday, September 21	Regular Daily Schedule (7:50 – 4:00 p.m.)
7:30 a.m.	12 th Grade Student Advisory (Presentation-Lecture Hall)
9:30 a.m.	*V Boys Golf @ Cedar Falls (Pheasant Ridge G.C.)
3:30 p.m.	RTI Session
4:15 p.m.	eSports Smash Brothers Team vs. Newman Catholic H.S.
5:30 p.m.	10 th /JV/V Volleyball vs. Dubuque Wahlert (LM Main Gym)
	SENIOR NIGHT
6:00 p.m.	JV/V Girls Swimming-Diving @ CR Washington
6:30 p.m.	Marching Band Rehearsal (LM Stadium)
Wednesday, September 22	Regular Daily Schedule (7:50 – 4:00 p.m.)
All Day	*FFA District Soil CDE @ Waterloo
3:15 p.m.	*9 th Boys Golf @ CR (Ellis G.C.)
3:30 p.m.	RTI Session
Thursday, September 23	Regular Daily Schedule (7:50 – 4:00 p.m.)
7:30 a.m.	11 th Grade Student Advisory (Presentation-Lecture Hall)
3:15 p.m.	*JV Girls/Boys Cross Country @ CR (Seminole Valley Park)
	*JV Boys Golf @ Iowa City (Finkbine G.C.)
3:30 p.m.	RTI Session
4:00 p.m.	*9 th Volleyball @ Iowa City Liberty
4:15 p.m.	eSports Rainbow 6 Team vs. Davenport Central
4:30 p.m.	*LMHS PARENT CONFERENCES
5:30 p.m.	*10 th /JV/V Volleyball @ CR Jefferson
6:30 p.m.	9 th Football vs. CR Jefferson (LM Stadium)
Friday, September 24	Regular Daily Schedule (7:50 – 4:00 p.m.)
3:30 p.m.	RTI Session
TBD	*V Girls/Boys Cross Country @ Minneapolis (Univ. of Minnesota)
5:00 p.m.	*10 th /V Football @ CR Jefferson (Kingston Stadium)
Saturday, September 25	
9:00 a.m.	Marching Lions L-M Marching Fest (LM Stadium)
	V Girls Diving @ CR Kennedy
	10 th Volleyball Tourney @ Iowa City West
	V Volleyball Tourney @ Cedar Falls
1:00 p.m.	V Girls Swimming @ CR Kennedy
6:00 p.m.	Marching Lions @ Marion Marching Fest @ LM Stadium

Notes for the Week

- 9/20 **Regular Daily Schedule:** We will begin using the adjusted Regular Daily Schedule on this day.
- 9th Grade Connection will be held each Monday from 3:30-4:00 p.m. RTI will be held Tuesday-Friday from 3:30-4:00 p.m.
- V Boys Golf dismissed at 12:40 p.m.
- JV Boys Golf dismissed at 2:00 p.m.
- 9/21 V Boys Golf departing prior to 9:00 a.m.

- 9/22 FFA departing prior to 9:00 a.m.
9th Boys Golf dismissed at 1:25 p.m.
- 9/23 JV Girls/Boys Cross Country dismissed at 1:10 p.m.
9th Volleyball dismissed at 2:10 p.m.
JV Boys Golf dismissed at 1:10 p.m.
10th/JV Volleyball dismissed at 3:25 p.m.
- 9/24 V Girls/Boys Cross Country departing prior to 9:00 a.m.
10th Football dismissed at 3:25 p.m.

Future

- 9/28 10th Grade Student Advisory Council (7:30 a.m., Presentation-Lecture Hall)
- 9/30 9th Grade Student Advisory Council (7:30 a.m., Presentation-Lecture Hall)
- 10/4 Intermediate/Middle/High School showing of *Angst* at start of school day. Students will report to 1st Period/1st Block at 9:00 a.m. The movie will be shown following the Pledge of Allegiance at 9:00 a.m. We will use a Two-Hour Late Start Schedule on this day.

Student Assistance Office

Student Assistance Counselors Available to All Students including Online-Only Students: Student Assistance Counselors are available to provide support for all LMHS students. This includes online-only students via virtual meetings, phone calls or on-site. Student Assistance Counselors are available in the Student Assistance Office located in the hallway adjacent to the Main Office. Please reach out to any of the counselors via email, phone call, or Teams to schedule a meeting:

Janessa Carr: janessa.carr@linnmar.k12.ia.us (319) 892-4884
Jessica Deahl: jdeahl@linnmar.k12.ia.us (319) 730-3559
Kevin McCauley: kmccauley@linnmar.k12.ia.us (319) 447-3047

Any student may contact Student Assistance Counselors, School Counselors, or Academic Assistance Counselors at any time during the school day.

Safe2SpeakUp is an application on all LMHS student school-issued computers that allows a student to report something unsafe or to ask for help for a personal crisis for self or someone else at any time. Safe2SpeakUp alerts are sent directly to LMHS Administrators, Student Assistance Counselors and School Counselors.

1st Quarter

Eight LMHS Seniors Named National Merit Semifinalists

Congratulations to eight of our LMHS Seniors for being named Semifinalists in the National Merit Scholarship Competition. Semifinalists represent the top 1% of more than 1.5 million students who took the PSAT last fall and are now eligible to be named National Merit Finalists and receive National Merit Scholarships. Congratulations to **Clair Ammons, Nahom Fikreselassie, Samuel Greiner, Ayush Kalia, Aadarsh Kumar, Nikhil Reuben, Abhishek Sen, and Linghan Weng!**

Daily Schedule Adjustments Beginning This Monday, September 20:

This Monday, September 20, LMHS is making schedule adjustments which include a consistent daily schedule, allowing for 5 minute passing times, has RTI/9th Connection at the end of day, and increases the number of lunch sections.

9th Grade Connection continues to be required for all 9th Grade students on Mondays at 3:30 p.m. RTI is required for any 9th-12th Grade student requested, and students may also request RTI on any Tuesday-Friday.

All 9th Grade students will attend 9th Grade Connection at 3:30 p.m. on Monday. On Tuesday-Friday, 9th Grade students not requested nor requesting RTI and with a parent signed Form 3:38 may be dismissed at 3:25 p.m. 9th Grade students not requested nor requesting RTI and without a parent signed Form 3:38 will report to their 9th Grade Connection classroom at 3:30 p.m. each day of the week.

10th – 12th Grade students without Campus Release will have an assigned seat in the Learning Center at 3:30 p.m. If requested or requesting RTI on Tuesday-Friday, 10th-12th Grade students without Campus Release would report to the specific RTI classroom for the assigned day.

2021-2022 LMHS ADJUSTED DAILY SCHEDULE LINK: [Adjusted Daily Schedule beginning on September 20 Lunch Assignments Starting September 30](#)

Mask Update:

LMHS will continue as we have since the start of the school year with masks being optional for students and staff. We do appreciate that whether a person chooses to wear a mask or chooses not to wear a mask has not been made an issue in the building.

A Word About Homecoming Week:

It has been a good week so far. Class time has been focused, we had one of our largest parades on a gorgeous late afternoon, the Powder Puff game had a large and enthusiastic crowd, we had a great crowd and effort at the home volleyball game as well as the girls swimming and diving meet. We are hopeful for a great night tonight and expect a large crowd at the Homecoming football game.

I will address a couple of changes that were made in the past year regarding Homecoming. We are only allowing LMHS students to attend the Homecoming Dance due to the size of the dances. The previous four Homecoming dances had the following number of students attending:

Fall of 2019: 1425

Fall of 2018: 1350

Fall of 2017: 1300

Fall of 2016: 1301

Dances of this size are enormous and larger than most of the large high schools in our state. In the short term, not having the 200+ non-LMHS guests that have attended each of the past two Homecoming dances will help make the anticipated size more manageable. As we continue to grow, we do need to keep considering how to address the size of the LMHS Homecoming Dance while still having an event available for all LMHS students which also includes our Compass Program. (One can certainly argue the wisdom of having a dance this year as the pandemic continues. We are having the dance and it will take place in the LM Main Gym on Saturday night from 8:00-10:30 p.m. It is a voluntary activity and students may certainly wear masks).

Last year we announced a change to what has been a Homecoming Court. We no longer have a court. Our Student Council helped to create the PRIDE of Linn-Mar to honor seniors nominated by staff and 12th and 11th Grade students who exemplify Perseverance Respect Integrity Determination and Empathy. This honor is made in the spring of each year as a culmination to the year and a high school career. As we continue to grow as a high school and as we work to provide a welcoming environment for all of our students, we have started to self-reflect on our school-wide events to ensure that they are inclusive and allow opportunities for all of our LMHS students. We do not want to send subtle and unintentional messages to any student that they are not to be included at LMHS. We want all students at LMHS to feel welcome and a part of all school-wide events and activities.

Tik Toc Challenge Issues

We have had some issues with students participating in a nationwide TikTok challenge encouraging students to engage in pranks and vandalism such as stealing nametags off doors, emptying or taking soap dispensers from restrooms, or stealing paper towels rolls and dispensers and other items within a school building. Our understanding is that the challenges are to progress and get more invasive and severe as it continues. This is occurring at schools throughout Iowa and the U.S. We have dealt with several students already and will continue to find those who are engaging in any vandalism and wastefulness of needed health products in LMHS. Our building custodians and lunch staff have suffered the most as they handle these issues while also working to maintain and feed students in one of the largest high school buildings in Iowa. We ask parents to help ensure your student is not participating in such behavior and we want students who may be tempted to participate to realize the effect on the workload of our custodians and lunch staff as well as the impact on personal hygiene and cleanliness if there is no soap available in restrooms. We thank everyone for your attention to this.

LMHS Parent Conferences on September 23:

LMHS will be holding 1st Quarter parent conferences beginning on September 23. The focus for parent conferences is with students currently demonstrating additional need or concern. Teachers are reaching out to parents of students to schedule conferences. Remaining conference times will be open for sign up starting on September 21. Conferences may be in person or via Teams/Zoom, whichever is preferred by the parent.

Parents can sign up for any available time slot to meet with teachers regarding your student's progress. If you would like to schedule a time to meet, [please click here](#). Thank you for taking the time to meet with me. For help signing up for conferences, view the [Parents Guide to PT Connect](#).

District 'Return To Learn' Plan (includes protocols for Covid-19): **[District Covid-19 Protocols within the District Return to Learn Plan](#)**

LMHS Attendance Phone Number

(319) 447-3050 – this is the phone number for attendance calls to LMHS this year.

Process for Calling Students Out for Appointments during the School Day:

Parents are asked to call the day prior or early in the morning for an appointment during the school day. Students then pick up passes for appointment to show teachers when they need to leave. Students leaving for appointments must check out from the Deans Office and then check back into the Deans Office upon return. Thank you for your help when appointments are necessary during the school day.

LMHS 2021-22 Student Handbook

The 2021-22 LMHS Student Handbook can be found at this site: [2021-22 LMHS Student Handbook](#)

This link will also be emailed to all LMHS students along with a verification form that students received the link. All LMHS students will need to submit the link.

Academic Dates and Deadlines

September 23	LMHS Parent Conferences (4:30 – 7:30 p.m.)
September 29	Deadline to DECLARE CREDIT/FAIL for 1 st Quarter Classes
October 2	SAT
October 13	PSAT
October 15	Deadline to DROP Classes for 1 st Semester
October 22	Last Day of 1 st Quarter
October 23	ACT

12th Grade – LMHS Class of 2022

College Planning for 12th Grade

Job Shadows – Students in grades 10-12 can sign up for a job shadow at <https://www.kirkwood.edu/workplace-learning-connection/job-shadows/index>. Job Shadows are a 1-day, 2-3 hour experience in-person or virtual. This is a great way for students to explore career opportunities. Applications are due September 24th at 3:00 PM and require parent approval. Parents – if your student has signed up for a job shadow, but you have not received an approval email, please check your junk, clutter, and spam folders for the email.

September is College Savings Month. Learn more about Iowa's 529 Plan and get registered for a drawing to receive a \$1,000 College Savings Iowa contribution and an iPad. Visit Iowa529Contest.com to register.

Back on Track: Life After High School Kick-Off Events (Grades 9-12): ICAN is offering virtual grade-specific college planning events for high school students and parents Monday, September 20 – Thursday, September 23. Check out www.icansucceed.org/backontrack to register for an event.

Senior transcript requests: Seniors must request transcripts through Xello. You can learn how to complete the request by watching this short video: <https://youtu.be/rd1O95uHatg>

Seniors can sign up for the Kirkwood College Fair that is on Wednesday, September 15th. Colleges from around Iowa and the Midwest will be available to talk with students about the admission process. Stop in the College/Career Center to sign up and get a permission form.

Follow the College/Career Center on Instagram @LinmarHScounseling.

11th Grade

PSAT Sign-Up Has Started

Sign up for the **2021 Preliminary SAT (PSAT)** is now open. The PSAT is designed for juniors as a practice test and **is also a qualification for the National Merit Scholarship Program**. Sophomores may also take the test but will need to take the PSAT again as a junior to qualify as a National Merit scholar.

The 2021 PSAT will take place on **Wednesday, October 13th at 9:00 a.m. at Kirkwood Linn Regional Center (1770 Boyson Road Hiawatha)**. The cost is **\$18** and is paid at the **Cashier's window**. If you have any questions about the PSAT, please see Mr. Kennedy in the Counselors' office.

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10th Grade

10th Grade Students Interested in Taking the PSAT

10th Grade students interested in taking the PSAT, please see '11th Grade' section of the Updates.

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9th Grade

Back on Track: Life After High School Kick-Off Events (Grades 9-12): ICAN is offering virtual grade-specific college planning events for high school students and parents Monday, September 20 – Thursday, September 23. Check out www.icansucceed.org/backontrack to register for an event.

Student Activities

A. Activities:

The *Reach* document listing all of the current LMHS Student Activities can be found at this site:

<https://sites.google.com/linnmar.k12.ia.us/lmhsreach/home>

B. Athletics:

C. Fine Arts:

D. Clubs/Organizations:

LMHS eSports Fall Season begins:

LMHS eSports fall season has started in Smash Brothers and Rainbow 6. All matches may be viewed live at: [twitch.tv/lmhsports](https://www.twitch.tv/lmhsports)

Anyone interested in LMHS fall season eSports may contact Brian Johnson (bjohnson@linnmar.k12.ia.us), Luke Johnson (luke.johnson@linnmar.k12.ia.us) or Zach Mixdorf (zmixdorf@linnmar.k12.ia.us) for more information.

[LMHS Student Ambassador Application](#)

Other Information

Volunteer Opportunity for Parents and Students (CORDS)

Looking for a way to volunteer and help at a school event? Are you really good at popping popcorn? How about slinging pizza slices? We need you!

[Marion Community Promise](#) will be staffing the concession stand during the October 22nd LMHS home football game and needs your help for the evening. The time commitment will run from 5:30-9:30 that evening. Please sign up by emailing Emily Russ at emily@medcoiowa.org. We look forward to seeing you!

Ordering the Linn-Mar High School 2021-22 Yearbook

All 2021-22 LMHS Yearbooks are purchased directly through the vendor, Jostens. The link to order the 2021-22 LMHS Yearbook is: <https://www.jostens.com/>

Those who ordered and still need to pick up their 2020-21 Yearbook may do so in the Main Office.

Attendance for this week: **95.3 %**

The next *LMHS Updates and Announcements for Students and Parents* will be sent on **Friday, September 24.**