



2023-24 School Year

Linn-Mar High School  
Updates and Announcements  
For Students and Parents  
January 5, 2024



District Policy Update

The 2023 Iowa Acts, Chapter 96 (House File 604), signed by Governor Reynolds on May 26, 2023, requires the Iowa Department of Education to develop and distribute a model policy for school districts and charter schools that, if adopted, satisfies a school district's or charter school's responsibilities under Iowa Code 279.79 established by the Act. These model policies are intended to support a school district and charter school in meeting the requirements of new Iowa Code section 279.79 and in developing policies for different grade levels that describe how a school district or charter school may discipline a student for making a threat of violence or causing an incident of violence that results in injury or property damage or assault.

Districts are required to:

- Publish the district policy on the district website (2023 Iowa Acts, Chapter 96 [House File 604], section 7, new section 279.79, subsection 1).
- Provide each parent or guardian with a copy of the policy and require the parent or guardian acknowledge receipt of the policy in writing or electronically (2023 Iowa Acts, Chapter 96 [House File 604], section 8).
- Starting in the 24-25 school year, this will be required as part of student registration via PowerSchool.

The policy can be located here - [502.15 Discipline of Students Who Make Threats of Violence or Cause Incidents of Violence](#). We are required by law that parents/guardians acknowledge the receipt of this policy through the student handbooks. You are also being sent the link for the updated LMHS Student Handbook (below) and a form (below) for you to complete. Please fill out the form for each building you have children. Here is the Link: [LMHS Parent Policy Update Verification](#)

[Link to the Updated LMHS 2023-24 Student Handbook \(January\)](#)

Calendar

January 8 - 13, 2024

...The Finale of 1<sup>st</sup> Semester/2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter...

<b>Monday,</b>	<b>January 8</b>	<b>Regular Schedule (9:00 – 4:00 p.m.)</b>
	<b>3:30 p.m.</b>	<b>RTI</b>
	5:00 p.m.	*9 <sup>th</sup> Boys Wrestling CRANDIC meet @ CR Prairie
	7:30 p.m.	JV Boys Basketball vs. CR Prairie (LM Main Gym)
<b>Tuesday,</b>	<b>January 9</b>	<b>Semester Exam Schedule (9:00 – 4:00 p.m.)</b>
	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Period/1<sup>st</sup> Block Semester Exam</b>
	<b>10:40 a.m.</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Period Semester Exam</b>
	<b>12:50 p.m.</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Period/2<sup>nd</sup> Block Semester Exam</b>
	<b>2:30 p.m.</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Period Semester Exam</b>
	4:00 p.m.	Esports Overwatch 2 vs. Burlington HS (LRC 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor)
	4:30 p.m.	*JV2 Girls Basketball vs. CR Kennedy (LM Main Gym)
		*9 <sup>th</sup> Boys (Red) Basketball @ CR Kennedy
		*9 <sup>th</sup> Boys (Black) Basketball @ CR Kennedy
	6:00 p.m.	JV1/V Girls Basketball vs. CR Kennedy (LM Main Gym)
		10 <sup>th</sup> /V Boys Basketball @ CR Kennedy
		JV/V Boys Swimming vs. CR Jefferson (LM Aquatic Center)
		<b>**SENIOR NIGHT**</b>
<b>Wednesday,</b>	<b>January 10</b>	<b>Semester Exam Schedule (9:00 – 12:10 p.m.)</b>
	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Period/3<sup>rd</sup> Block Semester Exam</b>
	<b>10:40 a.m.</b>	<b>6<sup>th</sup> Period Semester Exam</b>
<b>Thursday,</b>	<b>January 11</b>	<b>Semester Exam Schedule (9:00 – 12:10 p.m.)</b>
	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>7<sup>th</sup> Period/4<sup>th</sup> Block Semester Exam</b>
	<b>10:40 a.m.</b>	<b>8<sup>th</sup> Period Semester Exam</b>
	5:45 p.m.	JV/V Girls/Boys Wrestling vs. CR Kennedy (LM Main Gym)
		<b>**SENIOR NIGHT**</b>
	7:15 p.m.	JV Boys Basketball @ Marion HS

**Friday, January 12 Professional Development Day – No Classes**  
3:00 p.m. JV/V Girls/Boys Bowling vs. CR Kennedy (CRBC)  
3:30 p.m. V Girls Wrestling Tournament @ Ankeny HS  
4:30 p.m. 9<sup>th</sup> Boys (Black/Red) Basketball @ Iowa City Liberty

**Saturday, January 13**  
All Day \*Show Choir ‘Supernova’ (LM Main Gym)  
9:00 a.m. JV Boys Wrestling @ Independence  
V Boys Wrestling @ Ankeny HS  
11:00 a.m. JV Boys Swimming @ Ankeny (Trail Point Aquatics/Wellness Center)

#### **Notes**

1/8 9<sup>th</sup> Boys Wrestling dismissed at 2:40 p.m.

1/9 9<sup>th</sup> Boys (Red/Black) Basketball dismissed at 3:20 p.m.

JV2 Girls Basketball dismissed at 3:45 p.m.

1/10 **LMHS STAFF LUNCHEON: Please come and enjoy a nice meal in the Cafeteria/South Commons. (The weather contingency for the staff luncheon would be on Friday at 11:35 a.m.)**

#### **Future**

1/15 Professional Day – No Classes **(REQUIRED – District Budget and PPEL live video 8:00-8:30 a.m.)**

1/16 1<sup>st</sup> Day of 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester/3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter – **HOMEROOM (3:30 p.m.)**

1/18 **GRADES DUE at 4:30 p.m.**

1/22 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Student Advisory (8:30 a.m., Presentation-Lecture Hall)

1/23 **SERIOUS THREAT-INTRUDER DRILL 9:01 a.m. ‘Barricade’ walk-through only**

1/24 11<sup>th</sup> Grade Student Advisory (8:30 a.m., Presentation-Lecture Hall)

1/25 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Student Advisory (8:30 a.m., Presentation-Lecture Hall)

1/26 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Student Advisory (8:30 a.m., Presentation-Lecture Hall)

2/5 Course Registration for the 2024-25 school year begins.

2/9 Course Registration for the 2024-25 school year ends.

## **Student Assistance Office**

**Student Assistance Specialists 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:

**Joyce Booth-Baisten:** [joyce.booth@linnmar.k12.ia.us](mailto:joyce.booth@linnmar.k12.ia.us) (319) 447-4884

**Jessica Deahl:** [jdeahl@linnmar.k12.ia.us](mailto:jdeahl@linnmar.k12.ia.us) (319) 730-3559

**Kevin McCauley:** [kmccauley@linnmar.k12.ia.us](mailto: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. Thanks to some hard work and efforts by some of our LMHS students, we now have a QR code and a link that can be used more easily for student reporting. The QR code will be posted at various locations around school and the link will be made available in the Updates as well as on the LMHS webpage on the district website.

### **High School Safe2Speakup**

*See Something. Say Something.*

**\*\*This reporting tool is for High School students only. \*\***

Student reporting helps keep our schools safe. **Please click on the appropriate link below to report a concern to school administration and counselors.** A QR code has been posted around LMHS that will also take you directly to this link. Please note that if you report anonymously, the investigation may take longer to conduct. Reports to school administration are seen during normal school hours 7:30 am-4:00 pm Monday – Friday when school is in session. If it is outside of this time or an extreme emergency, please dial 911.

**Need to make a report (THIS IS THE LINK)**

**I have been/Someone I know has been Sexually Assaulted**

**Weapon on School Grounds**

## I am/Someone I know is thinking about Suicide

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter**

#### **Semester Exam Schedule and Weather Contingency Schedule (January 9-11, 2024)**

The Semester Exam Schedule and Semester Exam Weather Contingency Schedule for January 9-11, 2024, are below.

#### **1<sup>st</sup> Semester Exam Schedule (January 9-11, 2024)**

#### **Important Information Regarding Semester Exams:**

- All classes will be having a final assessment during the scheduled time.
- Students are only required to be on campus for scheduled exam sessions.
- Students late to an exam will not be allowed into exam sessions so please plan accordingly.
- Students will be allowed in the South Commons/Cafeteria when not taking exams.
- Students will only be allowed in hallways during exams with a staff escort.
- Busses depart at 4:05 p.m. on January 9, and at 12:20 p.m. on January 10 and 11.
- If an exam session will be an RTI session for a course, the teacher will inform students and parents by December 20
- Teachers will inform students and parents by January 5, 2024, what the *Individual Course Weather Contingency Plan* will be in the event all weather contingencies are exhausted and an exam session is cancelled due to weather.
- Teachers will not change exam day/time without a Change of Semester Exam Form signed by the Principal or Associate Principals. Any needed request for an exam day/period change must be made by a parent/guardian to the Principal or Associate Principals.

#### **1<sup>st</sup> Semester Exam Schedule Weather Contingency Plans (January 9-11, 2024)**

#### **Order Your 2023-24 LMHS Yearbook**

Anyone interested in ordering the 2023-24 LMHS Yearbook may do so using the following link.

[Click here to order your 23/24 Yearbook!](#)

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter/2<sup>nd</sup> Semester begins on Tuesday, January 16 with a Regular Daily Schedule.**

#### **Depression Screening Available the Week of January 22, 2024**

The teen years are marked by a rollercoaster ride of emotions – difficult for teens, their parents, and educators. Linn Mar Counselors will be offering Depression Screening the week of January 22 with parental informed consent. They are focusing on 9th and 10th grades for screenings; however, 11th and 12th students will be screened upon parent request also. This tool cannot provide a diagnosis of depression, but it does give an indication of whether a young person should be referred for evaluation by a mental health professional. Parents can view a copy of the screener at: <https://forms.gle/zpDCxy5mygHg9DZVA>.

**If you would like your high school student(s) screened, please fill out the following consent form by January 16:** <https://forms.gle/MAhTCdzhEY4RASgt9>

If you have any questions, please contact one of the following:

Kim Bowen (School Counselor) 319-447-3175 or [Kimberly.bowen@linnmar.k12.ia.us](mailto:Kimberly.bowen@linnmar.k12.ia.us)

Jessica Deahl (Student Assistance Counselor) 319-370-3559 or [jdeahl@linnmar.k12.ia.us](mailto:jdeahl@linnmar.k12.ia.us)

### **12<sup>th</sup> Grade – LMHS Class of 2024**

#### **Iowa Seal of Biliteracy Testing on January 19:**

The first LMHS testing session for the **Iowa Seal of Biliteracy** will happen on **Friday, January 19**. French will be in the morning and Spanish in the afternoon.

To qualify for the Seal, a student must have proficiency in two or more languages. A student is proficient in English if they score 18 or better on the ACT or have 561 or higher on the ISASP. We will use this information in combination with specialized tests of second language proficiency to establish biliteracy. Tests are available to students in levels 4 and 5 French and Spanish, AP French, and Intermediate I and II Spanish. Testing at lower levels is possible, though not advised. Tests are also available to native speakers of other languages (Chinese, Korean, German, etc.) that may too be proficient in English. Students earning a 3 or higher on an AP exam in a non-English language also qualify for the Seal.

All seniors (Class of 2024) who would like to test for the Seal, as well as those juniors who are in their terminal French/Spanish class this fall and would like to test for the Seal this year to place on a 2025 diploma, may sign up for the test. The sign-up is non-binding and, for those that do ultimately test, will require students to pay a \$20 testing fee to the Cashier's Office by Thursday,

January 18 or to the test administrator on the day of the test. Those wanting to test must contact Heather Kosikas [heather.kosikas@linnmar.k12.ia.us](mailto:heather.kosikas@linnmar.k12.ia.us) either directly or through your foreign language teacher by **Wednesday, January 17 to order a test**.

**Twenty-One (21) Linn-Mar students earned the Seal in 2023.** Tests have four sections including *Presentational Writing, Interpretive Listening, Interpretive Reading, and Interpersonal Listening and Speaking*.

**Kirkwood Winter/Spring Course** registration is now open.

Students can find a [list of Linn-Mar approved Kirkwood courses](#) here. [Click here for directions for how to register and deadlines](#). Check your email for more details.

Upcoming visits- Students can sign up to meet with college admissions counselors at Linn-Mar at <https://sites.google.com/a/linnmar.k12.ia.us/linn-mar-high-school-counseling/career>.

### **Foundation Scholarships**

Linn-Mar Foundation Scholarships – Attention Seniors! The Linn-Mar Foundation has opened their scholarship application early this year. Applications are completely online and **due January 15**. Check out the LM Foundation website for more details.

### **How to Request a Transcript for College Applications**

Seniors needing to request a transcript for a college should do so through Xello. [See this video](#) for details on how to add a school and request a transcript. Students who are applying via Common App must connect their Common App account to Xello - see this [YouTube video](#) for details.

### **IMPORTANT LMHS Class of 2024 Planning Dates**

- 5/6 Senior Recognition Night (7:00 p.m., LMHS Auditorium)
- 5/11 Senior Prom (8:00 – 10:30 p.m., Olympic Southside Theater, CR)
- 5/22 Seniors Last Class Day (Graduation Rehearsal, 1:00 p.m.)
- 5/26 Commencement (1:00 p.m., Alliant Energy Powerhouse)

## **11<sup>th</sup> Grade**

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## **10<sup>th</sup> Grade**

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## **9<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**9<sup>th</sup> Grade Connection Dates: (3:30-4:00 p.m.)**

March 18, May 6

## Activities

### Athletics

#### **A Message as we begin the '23-'24 Winter Sports Season:**

### **SPORTSMANSHIP**

Linn-Mar High School students, parents, and spectators are all expected to exemplify the highest level of sportsmanship at athletic events. Chanting or taunting opponents, doing anything to incite opponents, or other actions that do not display appropriate sportsmanship is unacceptable at a high school athletic contest. Your actions of sportsmanship are greatly appreciated.

***DO YOUR PART TO SUPPORT LINN-MAR TEAMS LOUDLY, ENTHUSIASTICALLY, AND WITH THE HIGHEST DEGREE OF SPORTSMANSHIP!***

## Other Information

Attendance for the week before break: **93.1 %**

Attendance for the week (Wednesday – Thursday): **96.8 %**

The next edition of the *Updates for Students and Parents* will be sent to all LMHS students and parents on **January 12, 2024.**