

# LEO HIGH SCHOOL

## CAREER MAJORS ACADEMY



### Principal's Desk

As part of the district's overall school safety program, East Allen County Schools will implement the ALICE protocol for the 2014-2015 school year.

ALICE is an acronym that represents an alternative way of responding to a crisis situation. Instead of relying on a typical, static lockdown procedure, the ALICE concept encourages people to make decisions based on the specific crisis at hand. The five potential action steps in the ALICE concept are:



- Alert- Inform people that a crisis situation exists
- Lockdown- Lock doors and hide according to established procedures
- Inform- Give brief, specific, periodic updates about the crisis situation
- Counter- In an encounter with a perpetrator - distract, delay or defend if necessary
- Evacuate- Get out of "Harm's Way"

The ALICE program is designed to give a person, or group of people, who may find themselves in a violent, life threatening situation, some mental and physical tools that could play a vital role in their survival. The program is designed so that anyone can employ the strategies whether young, old, male, or female. One does not have to be police or military trained in order to survive a violent encounter. He or she does need to have a frame of reference from which to draw when making life saving decisions under extreme pressure; much like preparing for a fire, tornado or earthquake.

During May and June, training was provided to the staff in each building. Representatives from the police or fire departments assisted EACS employees with the training. As the 2014-2015 year progresses, additional training will be provided for staff and students will be educated about the ALICE protocol. Future crisis drills will use terminology and procedures consistent with ALICE protocol and using crisis drill templates, we will simulate hypothetical crisis situations. Each classroom teacher will strategize potential responses with students in the classroom. The Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) requires two crisis drills per year; however, EACS will have four drills a year.

If there are any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact my office.

Sincerely,

Dr. Neal Brown III  
Principal

# Spotlight on Academics



The Leo Junior-Senior High School English department is excited about the new school year, and the faculty and students are working hard. The English department is pleased to welcome Sarah Householder to the staff. She is a highly qualified teacher who spent a year at New Haven and ten years before that working in the Fort Wayne Community Schools system. Mrs. Householder will teach junior high language arts this year.

The 2014-15 school year brings with it many changes throughout the school, and the English department is no exception. The district-wide curriculum continues to develop, and this year it includes a new component—Media Literacy. Media Literacy involves studying and thinking critically about the media that surrounds us on a daily basis, and using it to develop an understanding of key literacy concepts, as well as improves skills of analysis, synthesis, and interpretation. The new state-issued English standards share quite a bit in common with the previously used Common Core, but there are subtle changes here and there that we as a department are working on incorporating into our teaching.

We continue to find new ways to integrate technology into our lessons. From iPads to Smartboards, we have more technological equipment at our disposal than at any time in educational history, and combining these instruments with language arts instruction has resulted in many new ways to communicate and learn. As a department, we are up to the challenge of continually looking for ways to improve our techniques and keep up with the digital natives we teach.

The Special Education Department at Leo Junior/Senior High School is building upon its success from last year. Last year's Algebra ECA scores indicated a 64% pass rate for the department, which was a district best! We are continuing to develop the skill development of our students in both math and language arts. The successful results that we have had are direct results of hard work and determination to improve. Character Development is a PBIS intervention that the Special Education Department continually is developing at the junior high level. We have chosen 10 character qualities (*Respect, Responsibility, Resilience, Compassion, Commitment, Integrity, Perseverance, Citizenship, Tolerance, and Accomplishment*) that the junior high students will demonstrate knowledge and awareness on.

# Guidance Department



Christi Smeltzley, Guidance Director – grades 11 & 12  
Gary Rogers, Guidance Counselor – grades 9 & 10  
Cary Cogdell, Guidance Counselor – grades 7 & 8



- PSAT testing for grades 10 and 11 will be on Wed., October 15. The test is free to sophomores (courtesy of the State of Indiana); however, there is a \$14 charge for juniors to take the test. All sophomores will take the test. Juniors can still sign up by paying their \$14 in the Guidance Office. There are still a few seats left... Please direct any questions to Mrs. Smeltzley.
- Senior Class Meeting: Friday, October 10 at 1:00 p.m. in the auditoria. Mr. Muncy will be here from Jostens to explain cap/gown and graduation announcement ordering. Please plan to attend!
- The Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation awards \$3 million in scholarships to high school seniors who demonstrate leadership, commitment to the community, and academic achievement. Applications are available online at [www.coca-colascholars.org](http://www.coca-colascholars.org). Apply today!!!
- Cap/Gown Orders will be taken on Friday, October 17<sup>th</sup> during the lunch mods. Seniors need to bring in all order materials.
- The November 1<sup>st</sup> deadline for scholarship consideration is quickly approaching for seniors. If you have not completed your top four college applications, please do so as soon as possible.
- Congratulations to Madelyn Kanka who was named a National Merit Semifinalist. She is one of approximately 16,000 seniors in the nation to be named a Semifinalist. What an honor!!!

KEEP CALM AND LIVE YOUR DREAMS!!

# Just For Parents

**Attendance Office:** To Report absences or receive attendance information please contact Mrs. Keane at 446-0186.

**Requesting Homework:** Requests for homework will be made for students who have missed at least three consecutive days of school. Please contact Mrs. Keane.

**Appointments:** Parents are encouraged to make appointments outside of regular school hours when at all possible. Parents should submit a written note or phone the attendance office when a student will miss a partial day due to an appointment. Students will sign out through the attendance office and may be picked up at the south entrance. Students returning from appointments need to check back in with the Attendance Office before proceeding to class. Students need to bring a school excuse upon returning to school (no bills please). School excuses may be faxed to 446-0189.

**Vacations:** Every attempt should be made not to schedule vacation days during the school year. Parents should provide a note to the Attendance Office (no phone calls please) stating when the vacation is to occur. A vacation form will be completed by the school and returned to parents for a signature before excusing the absence.

**College Visits:** Junior and senior students are allowed 2 college visit days per school year. Parents should notify the attendance office on the day of the absence. Students must provide signed documentation from a university representative to verify the absence.

**Clinic:** If your student needs to take medication during school hours, the medicine must be left in the clinic so the nurse can administer dosages. Parents and students are reminded that students who leave during the day due to illness **MUST** be seen by the nurse. Students should **NOT** use their cell phones to call home. The school nurse will place calls to parents after seeing the student.

**Faculty/Staff Phone and email list**

[http://lhs.eacs.k12.in.us/staff\\_directory](http://lhs.eacs.k12.in.us/staff_directory)

**Leo JSHS webpage:**

<http://lhs.eacs.k12.in.us/>

**Lost & Found:**

Located in the Library

# Athletics

The winter athletic season is right around the corner. If you plan on participating in a winter sport you will need to make sure that you have an IHSAA Physical Form on file in the Athletic Office. Also, be sure to listen for informational announcements about your sport.

IHSAA physical forms are available on-line at:  
<http://www.eacs.k12.in.us/lhs/page.php?pid=1156> or in the athletic office.

*Remember, all student athletes must have a completed physical form before being eligible to participate in an IHSAA sanctioned sport.*



**Please remind your students to move safely through the halls, especially to lunch. Students who are caught running in the halls will be assigned a Tuesday/Thursday School detention. Walking helps keep all students safe.**

## **PRIDE**

You may have heard your student talking about PRIDE. Leo Jr/Sr High School is participating in a school wide program entitled Positive Behavior Intervention Support (PBIS). PBIS is a way for schools to create a safe and productive learning environment. School members work together to determine behavior expectations for students in various environments at school. Leo Jr/Sr High School has chosen the acronym PRIDE to help define student behavior.

If a student is demonstrating PRIDE, they are acting with professionalism, respect, integrity, diligence, and excellence. Students show PRIDE when they are in the classroom, hallway, cafeteria, and at assemblies or large events. When students are witnessed demonstrating PRIDE, teachers are encouraged to recognize those students with PRIDE cards, which can be redeemed for incentives within the school.

As part of your conversation with your student about their school day, be sure to ask them how they demonstrate PRIDE each and every day at Leo.

# STUDY TABLE

Tuesday –Thursday  
After school until 4:15 PM  
In Library/Media Center

Tutoring and Study Table are offered to ALL students who need assistance in the classes being taken. Students are welcomed and encouraged to attend on a daily basis or a once-in-awhile, as-needed basis. Transportation to the Harding area is available for the after school tutoring. Two teachers as well as three paid interns and National Honor Society students will provide tutoring assistance. Students are asked to sign-in because attendance is monitored. If computers are necessary for work to be completed, technology will be available. Students are expected to be in study table area ON TIME and stay the entire time. Students are expected to follow rules of respect and to stay on task during the study time. Questions should be directed to Mrs. Roth. 446-0180, ext. 7181, [droth@eacs.k12.in.us](mailto:droth@eacs.k12.in.us).





EAST ALLEN COUNTY SCHOOLS

DREAM IT. DO IT.

## A.L.I.C.E.

Much has been said about the A.L.I.C.E. protocol that empowers students, staff, visitors and administrators to make decisions that will allow them to survive in the event a violent intruder or any other crisis threatens to cause harm. Those in harm's way shall be allowed to make decisions that are best for them given the circumstances. (A.L.I.C.E. is Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate)

On April 7 & 8, 2014 more than 30 East Allen County Schools (EACS) personnel and 20 police and fire fighters attended an ALICE "train the trainers" class. The purpose of the training was so they could in turn educate ALL people working in EACS about the ALICE Protocol and how to incorporate it into the overall safety plan.

During May and June, 2014 training was provided in each building for staff, teachers and administrators by EACS personnel who received the ALICE training in April. In most buildings a representative from a police or fire agency assisted the EACS person with the training. As the 2014-15 school year progresses, training will be provided for new staff members and ongoing assistance will be available for ALICE trained personnel.

During the 2014-15 school year students will be educated about the ALICE protocol. Future crisis drills will use terminology and procedures consistent with the ALICE Protocol. Crisis drill templates simulating hypothetical crisis situations will be used by teachers to strategize potential responses with students in the classroom. The Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) requires two crisis drills per school year, however EACS will have four crisis drills a year; one per quarter. Some people have expressed concerns that younger students may be frightened by crisis drills dealing with a violent intruder. In order to deal with those apprehensions, EACS purchased multiple copies of "I'm Not Scared...I'm Prepared! Because I Know All About ALICE", a book by Julia Cook for students in grades K-3. The book talks about responding to crisis situations in an age appropriate non- frightening manner. After the book is read to students, discussions will be guided by the teacher to help them understand how to respond if a real crisis were to occur.

If you have additional questions, please call your school or EACS Safety Manager Jeff Studebaker at 446-0175.