

LEO HIGH SCHOOL CAREER MAJORS ACADEMY



Principal's Desk

East Allen County Schools is in the midst of an \$88.5 million construction project to upgrade facilities. Contractors and Central Office Administrators are meeting with building level administrators to finalize designs. Early indications are that all projects will come in under budget or at budget. The following projects are scheduled for Leo Jr. Sr. High School:



- Secured Entrance
- Auditoria and Cafeteria improvements
- Sound System improvement (Auditoria)
- Athletic Facility improvement football and track
- Outbuilding with restrooms to serve baseball, softball, and soccer
- Air Conditioning in the kitchen
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East Allen County Schools is optimistic that all projects at Leo Jr. Sr. High School will be completed by the summer of 2018. Renovations for the auditoria to replace the seating, flooring and sound system are already underway. The auditoria & sound system work will be completed during the 2016-17 school year. The air conditioning in the kitchen and secured entrance will take place during the summer of 2017. The Athletic Facility improvements will start in the fall of the 2017-2018 school year. While all construction dates are tentative, we will keep the Leo Jr. Sr. High School community informed on the progress of these renovation projects.

Sincerely,

Dr. Neal Brown III
Principal

Spotlight on Academics

Spotlight on Academics



SCIENCE

The Science Department is very excited about the money the students raised for the Christmas families that SSH supported this year. Students raised over \$2000—what a great gift! In Mr. Shappell's Biomedical Science courses, his first-year students are wrapping up their unit on diabetes by examining the complications of the disease, while his third and fourth year classes just finished a PCR and electrophoresis lab. Third year will be moving on to child and mother prenatal care and fourth year will be testing local water samples for different potential contaminants. In Chemistry, students are learning about periodic trends and getting ready for their upcoming ion test. In Mrs. Hess' Biology classes, students just wrapped up their unit on ecology and investigation of how invasive species arrive, survive, and thrive in a new ecosystem. They are starting a new unit on cells where students will be looking through microscopes to view animal and plant cells. In Mr. Malone's Earth Science classes are working our way through plate tectonics. Throughout this unit we will be studying earthquakes, volcanoes, and mountain building. Over the next month, Eighth Grade Science classes are working through our chemistry unit. Students will be studying chemical bonding and reactions. Mr. Harless' chemistry classes have begun to compile a catalog of various aspects of the periodic table. The students will map out these aspects on separate outlines of the periodic table. "Everyone concentrates on the numbers and letters printed on the periodic table, but there is a world of information embedded in it just under its surface. By examining these patterns I hope to give the students an appreciation of the power of the periodic table that goes far beyond chemistry," says Mr. Harless. In Mr. Tonkel's Physics classes, students are gaining a new awareness to what physics really is. As we have worked through mechanics-type problems and labs, they have learned how to utilize what was given and observed and not what they thought. That is great progress for them. Mr. Tonkel's Astronomy class have completed watching the new COSMOS series—all thirteen of the episodes since the beginning of the semester. I have tried to mix the book work up with exciting and amazing videos as well as current news-of-the-day happenings in Astronomy. I think we are having too much fun to call this a class, but I am good with that. The ICP classes are completing their semester on chemistry and have had several visits by the wizard who has shown demonstrations to them. He even blew some things up for them! The class recently launched Estes rockets after building them in class. This was an excellent example of potential energy and combustion in action.

Mrs. Daenell's Anatomy had a great time learning about the integumentary system and completing a project on burns. They even used supplies to create fake Burns on their skin to show their knowledge. Anatomy students also participated in a live knee replacement surgery and will be viewing an autopsy in December. Students have been exposed to several health careers throughout first semester through many field trips. And in her Human Body Systems class, they are currently exploring the nervous system and creating wearable brains to show what learned. They are loving it! Look for more information about the Science Fair coming in December!

FINE ARTS

The fine arts department has been busy! This past summer, Mrs. Hoff took 12 others to Europe. The students saw the ancient ruins, the Colosseum, the Pantheon, the Forum, and the Vatican in Rome. They saw Michelangelo's David and the Florence Cathedral. In Venice, they toured the Doge's Palace, saw a glass blowing demonstration, and took a gondola ride. Then they took the night train to Paris and visited the Eiffel Tower, the Louvre, and the Palace of Versailles. On the last night in Paris, they took a cruise on the Seine. Mrs. Hoff and Mrs. Hinrichsen are starting to plan another student trip to Europe in the Summer of 2018. See them if you are interested. The art department also took a trip to Chicago this fall. The 49 students went on a 90 minute architectural boat ride. Then they walked down Michigan Avenue to see the art in Millennium Park and spent the afternoon in the Art Institute of Chicago. As always, we will be collecting top examples of art and writing to enter in the Scholastics Regional Art and Writing Competition. The entry fees are \$5 per piece this year. The work will be due shortly after Christmas Break. Winners' works will be on display at the Fort Wayne Art Museum for about six weeks and the students will be recognized at the Grand Wayne Center in Fort Wayne. The very top pieces of art and writing will be sent to New York City to be judged at the National Competition. Winners there will be recognized at Carnegie Hall in New York City. Visit www.artandwriting.org or see Mrs. Hoff or Mrs. Hinrichsen if you have questions.

Guidance Department



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



- **Wednesday Counseling** – Counselors will be available in the cafeteria every Wednesday for any student needs. If it is not convenient to come to the guidance office, this is an opportunity for students to ask questions, seek guidance, or take care of any student service needs.
- **Grades** – Please take advantage of the Parent Access tool to monitor your child(ren)'s grades. Communication with teachers is very important to ensure you know what is taking place in the classroom and how your child(ren) is/are progressing.
- **Senior cap/gown orders** have been taken. There are still many seniors who have not ordered yet! Please take care of this very important detail of your senior year. You can order your official graduation announcements, senior graduation products along with your cap, gown and tassel by visiting [Jostens.com](http://www.jostens.com) using the link below before the December 16th deadline. After the deadline, the custom school announcement will no longer be available and the cost of caps and gowns will increase.
<http://www.jostens.com/apps/store/customer/1072726/Leo-High-School/>
- **ECA Testing** - End of Course Assessment Re-Testing in Algebra I and English 10 will begin the week of December 5. Any students who have not passed either or both test will be involved in this testing. It is very important that students pass both of these tests as they are required by the State of Indiana for graduation. Students involved in testing will be personally notified.



Final Exam Schedule and Information

Final exams will be given on Friday thru Tuesday, December 16,19-20.

Friday, 12/16	Periods 1, 4 & 7
Monday, 12/19	Periods 2 & 5
Tuesday, 12/20	Periods 3 & 6

Please note: Students are not permitted to take exams early for any reason. Students who miss exams associated with an excused absence will be afforded the opportunity to make up exams with their teacher upon returning to school in January. All students should schedule make up exams with their teachers prior to leaving on vacation.



Join students from the Leo Fine Arts Department for the Yuletide Dinner and Concert on December, 3rd. Dinner starts at 6:00 PM with the concert following at 7:00 PM. Tickets for the concert are available at the door. Please contact Mrs. MacDonald for more information.

EAST ALLEN TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT

- Microsoft updated Internet Explorer (the big blue e) in a way that hasn't worked well with Canvas. Canvas's engineering team is actively looking into ways to reconcile the issue. In the meanwhile, we recommend that you use another Internet browser, such as Chrome or Firefox for anything related to Canvas.
- We have recently put all student iPads on our Global Proxy due to the changes that Google, Yahoo and Bing have encountered. Because of this, all students are reminded they will need to sign into the Lightspeed Proxy (big blue rocket icon) at least once to authenticate to the server.

Please note:

- iPads will need to be authenticated each week if the iPad goes home and the IP address changes to the home network and then returns to school.
- Canvas has recently released a Parent Canvas App for iOS and Android users. This App allows parents to add multiple children to the same account and also allows parents to easily look at each of their children individually.
- The App allows the parents to
 - view assignment descriptions and due dates as posted in the calendar
 - set reminders for assignments
 - view assignment grades
 - view course announcements

iOS <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/canvas-parent/id1097996698?mt=8>

Android <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.instructure.parentapp&hl=en>



For all teachers and parents: Do you know about the app *OurPact*? This app is free in the App Store. *OurPact* is a groundbreaking parental control app that enables parents to control their children's device habits through Internet and App blocking. *OurPact* allows parents to manage their child's screen time at any time from anywhere, enforcing bedtime, dinner time, study time, and family time throughout the day or night.

Look What's Happening in the Library!



There has been a lot going on in the library! In September, junior high students learned how to use Google Docs. They also learned the difference between Primary and Secondary sources. In October, they learned that Plagiarism and Copyright Infringement are two different things! These lessons are leading up to a research project coming after we return from Christmas break. Not only are they learning new things in the library but they are continuing to read their genres and take AR tests. We are challenging them to read at their Lexile level as well!

Students are very excited about the new books display and eagerly check for new materials.

Mrs. Mahoney's 9th grade students that read their class novel quickly were sent to the library to read another novel as a group! It was very fun to see how eager they were to read another book and discuss it in small groups!!

Juniors are starting their research papers with a visit to the library for a refresher lesson over finding the information they need! This will include databases, ebooks, internet searching and more.

Finally, LBC (Leo Book Club) for high school students have met twice now. We get to meet during PRIDE time on the first Tuesday of each month. The students are very excited about meeting during the day this year, especially since they are all so busy with after school activities like sports, drama, work and internships.



EACS is Participating in Project Tomorrow, and Speak Up 2016

Dear student/parent/educator,

We are excited to announce that East Allen County Schools is participating in **Speak Up 2016** from **October 12th through December 16th**! This survey will help us answer questions, such as:

- How are our students using technology for learning in and out of school?
- How important are the use of technology to our teachers and parents? What types of technology would our teachers like and how would they use it in the classroom? Do our ideas about technology align with our students' parents?
- What are the hot trends in emerging technologies (e.g. mobile devices, online learning, gaming, simulations)?

Speak Up is an online national research project that provides an easy way for students, parents, and educators to participate in our decisions about technology, as well as contribute to the national dialogue about educational technology. Since 2003, Project Tomorrow has collected the viewpoints of over 4 million students, educators and parents – the Speak Up dataset represents the largest collection of authentic feedback from these key educational stakeholders.

As a participant in Speak Up, we receive free, online access to the aggregated results with state and national comparisons, providing us with valuable data that can be used for our strategic planning, professional development and budgeting plans during the school year.

Taking the survey is easy!

Follow these instructions to take the survey:

1. Visit <http://bit.ly/SU16survey>.
2. Select your group (e.g. parents, educators)
3. Search for your school by entering your zip code or by selecting [Indiana] and selecting your school's name from the list.
4. Read the instructions and begin the survey.

We look forward to East Allen County Schools' strong participation in Speak Up 2016! Be sure to take the survey from October 12th to December 16th. The Speak Up team is available to answer any of your concerns; they can be reached via email at SpeakUp@tomorrow.org or by calling 949-609-4660.

Sincerely,

Keith Madsen

Director of Technology, East Allen County Schools