



Volume 14, Issue 1

Oct. 2010

# CARDINAL CONNECTION

## NEWSLETTER

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## From the Desk of the Superintendent

The 2010-11 school year has begun. I am excited with the prospects for this school year. The Lawson R-XIV School District has maintained a standard of excellence for a long time and we have expectations to make it even better this year.

We have been fortunate to have a very stable staff which is very dedicated and committed to excellence out of both themselves and their students. We had one new teacher last year in the district and one this year. That stability has been one of the outstanding traits of this district.

Another example of excellence has been the outstanding Boards of Education we have had over a long period of time. The 2010 board finished as one of the top 10 school boards in the state of Missouri. They were honored by the Missouri School Board Association and have recently received a certificate recognizing that fact.

While we have been able to maintain a commitment to excellence and continue to achieve at a high level, we are not without problems. A major issue we have been and will continue to deal with is a loss of funding for our district. We are not unique with this problem as districts all across Missouri and the United States are dealing with a decline in funding. From fiscal year 2010 to fiscal year 2011, we are anticipating a de-

crease of \$700,000 in revenue. That is a considerable amount of money. We look for Fiscal Year 2012 to possibly be even worse. We will continue to work hard to be good stewards of our money and make the best possible decisions on spending. Hopefully, the economy will turn around soon and we don't have to get to the point of making major spending cut decisions. One of the problems with operating in a very lean manner is when cuts have to be made, there is no fat to cut. We, so far, have been able to make some adjustments without any major changes to the way we educate our students.

Remember to sign up for Lawson@lerts. There is information on how to sign up for this service elsewhere in this newsletter. This is our fourth year of providing this service and I want to thank the Lawson Bank for paying for this wonderful program. It is a good way to stay current of any changes in schedules, school closing, announcements, etc.

Remember to attend the Parent/Teacher conferences. They are scheduled for 1 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, October 21.

Thanks for all your support. Try to attend some activities throughout the school year. I think you will find them a great source of entertainment and a good way to see our students in action. Best of luck to everyone as we attempt to make 2010-2011 the best school year in Lawson history.



**Craig Barker**  
Lawson R-XIV  
Superintendent

## Have a More Successful Conference

Parent-teacher conferences are one of the most important ways you can learn about your child. In these conferences, you can see how well your child is doing. You can meet the teacher face-to-face to let him/her understand your child better. You can also ask for suggestions that will make it easier for you and the school to work together throughout the year.

The Lawson R-XIV School District will hold Parent-Teacher Conferences from 1 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, October 21, 2010, at each individual building. We encourage all parents to attend.

**Southwest Elementary will have scheduled confer-**

**ences.** Parents will receive a note reminding them of the time of their scheduled conference. First quarter grade cards will be given out at the conference.

**Middle School Parent-Teacher Conferences--**Parents may stop by the office to pick up their child's grade card prior to visiting with the teachers. Fifth and sixth grade teachers will meet with parents in the middle school gym. All other middle school teachers will meet with parents in the commons.

**High School Parent-Teacher Conferences--**Parents may pick up their child's grade card in the high school office and then visit with teachers about their student's progress. Teachers will be located in their rooms.

Here are five tips that can help you have a more successful parent-teacher conference:

**1. Plan for it.** Before you come to your conference, write out some questions you'd like to ask.

Here are some suggestions:

- o Does my child get along with others?
- o How is my child's behavior in class?
- o Does my child perform at the level you would expect for this grade?
- o What are my child's strengths and weaknesses? (You'll want to share your ideas about this as well.)
- o Does my child need special help? Where is this help available?

**2. Keep an open mind.** Your goal is to work for cooperation between you and your child's teacher. Even if the teacher says something you disagree with, try to listen to what he/she has to say. Later, you can add your own thoughts.

**3. Ask to see your child's work.** There's no better way to see how your child is progressing than to look at his/her school work. You can judge for yourself whether your child is making progress.

**4. Ask for suggestions.** If your child is doing well, ask what you can do to keep things on a positive track. If there are problems, ask what you can do to help. If a teacher identifies problems, ask for ways you can work together to solve the problem. If he/she can't give you any ideas immediately, ask for a follow-up conference.

**5. Clarify and summarize as you go.** Teachers sometimes use educational buzz words. If you don't know what an "IEP" is, for example, ask. If you are confused or uncertain, you won't be able to help your child.

**Parent-Teacher  
Conferences**  
Oct. 21, 2010  
1 - 8:30 p.m.

Check us out on the Web:  
<http://lawsoncardinals.org>

**Lawson R-XIV  
School District Patron**

**Bulk Rate  
Permit #14  
Lawson, MO 64062**

# SW Elementary Title I Reading Program

The Title I Reading Program at Southwest Elementary is a federally funded program that provides extra assistance in reading for students in kindergarten through fourth grade. Students are placed in this program by various reading assessments and teacher referrals.

Students in the program will receive instruction through the newly purchased *Journey's Intervention Program* published by Houghton Mifflin Reading and/or Pathways to Reading program. Students also have access to RAZ- Kids, an online, interactive, leveled reading library, and Quick Reads. Both are designed to help students improve their reading



skills as they listen to modeled fluency, read for practice, record their readings and check their comprehension. Teachers work with students in small group settings each day. Leveled books are checked out to the students to promote our "school-to-home" reading connection.

Each year the Title I Reading Program offers a parent orientation meeting and two "Family Night" activities that promote parent involvement in reading. Some of our most popular fun nights have been Bingo for Books and Readers' Theater. The Title I Reading Program also has a Parent Advisory Council that meets twice during the school year. This

council shares ideas and offers suggestions to enhance our reading program.

We will offer an after school reading support program for Title I Reading students again this year. It will be designed to offer additional aid to students in the area of communication arts once a week beginning in October. Last year's program was well attended and helpful to our Title students.

The ultimate goal of our Title I Reading program is to help students become successful, independent readers in a variety of settings. We work to develop and encourage skills necessary for our students to become life long readers. Southwest's Title I Reading program is taught by Myra Hill and Sharon Wright.

## Hit the Ground Running Camp

For the second year, Title I students were offered the opportunity to get a fresh start to the new school year at our "Hit the Ground Running Camp." The camp was held at Southwest Elementary on August 9-12 with Mrs. Hill as the teacher. Students attended in small group settings and ranged from

first through fourth grade. Activities varied depending upon grade level, but all were geared toward the idea of making the start of school more transitional for them while keeping things fun and active! Overall the camp was very productive and successful for the start of the 2010-2011 school year.



## Latchkey Available

Latchkey is a child care program that is available for school-aged students before and after school. Latchkey is located at Southwest Elementary in the cafeteria. Latchkey is available before school starts at 6 a.m. and after school until 6 p.m. Our Latchkey program is open only on days that school is in session.

The primary objective of the Lawson Latchkey Program is to provide care and supervision for children who might otherwise be home alone before and after school. Children attending the Lawson Latchkey program will be provided with a safe environment and the chance to participate in enrichment opportunities.

The goal of the Lawson Latchkey Program is to offer children opportunities within a carefully planned daily routine, to work and play independently, to make choices, to pursue their own interests, and to solve problems that arise during this process. Our focus is on the children's own choices and decisions, guided and supported by adults who are aware of the children's developmental needs.

### ENROLLMENT PROCEDURE AND REQUIREMENTS

- Orientation and enrollment are required each year. You may do this in the spring or end of summer - dates will be posted.
- If your child is enrolled, it is your responsibility to pay childcare fees and keep your file updated.
- Children must be enrolled in the Lawson School District and be between the grades of K - 6 with the maximum age being 12 (students who are 12 and are in the 7th grade are not eligible for services).
- All children must be able to use the bathroom on their own.
- All enrollment forms must be completed and notarized before the child will be accepted for care.

If you want more information and details, Latchkey's handbook is available on Lawson's website.

## Health Room Update

The following Health Room forms and information are now available on the Southwest Office page on the School Nurse/Health Room site: the Student Health and Emergency Form, Medication Authorization Form, the Asthma Authorization Form, the Missouri School Immunization Requirements 2010-2011, Seasonal and H1N1 Flu A Guide for Parents and information about Peanut & Nut Allergies. It is very important that we have accurate and current contact information on each student in the event of an emergency. Parents/guardians are encouraged to use these forms to update their child's health and emergency contact information throughout the school year and as a source of information regarding the flu and peanut/nut allergies.

The Missouri School Immunization Requirements for 2010-2011 include the recently revised state regulations regarding immunizations for school children. One of the new requirements are that all eighth grade students are required to have the Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis) vaccine. The Ray County Health Department has an immunization clinic in Lawson every third Friday of the month at the Lawson Assembly of God Church from 1 to 4:30 p.m. These clinics are held each month throughout the year. The Ray County Health Department also has an immunization clinic every Monday from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. at their office located in Richmond. The Health Department can be contacted at 816-776-5413.

Asthma Action Plans Forms are for the students who have been diagnosed with asthma, a chronic lung disease. It provides information regarding the student's medical information, identified asthma triggers, emergency procedures and contact information.

Medication Authorization Form must be completed and signed by the parent/guardian and the medication brought to the school before any medication will be given at school. Medications will be given during school hours only when absolutely necessary. We encourage dosage schedules which allow medicine to be taken before or after school. All prescription medication must have a current label attached by the physician or pharmacist with the child's name, name of the medication, dosage prescribed and physician's name. All non-prescription medication must be brought to school in a new, sealed original bottle. Prescription and over-the-counter medications are not allowed to be brought to school or sent home with the student on the bus. Only the instructions listed on the medication container will be followed unless a physician requests (in writing) different instructions. If you have any questions please contact Cheryl Swearingin RN 580-7272 (Southwest) or Joy Tipton RN 580-7279/7270(MS/HS).

## Southwest Singers Begin Year Seventeen

Over sixteen years ago, the Southwest Singers, the select choir at Southwest Elementary, had their first formal concert. Since then, over four hundred students have participated in the choral program here at Southwest Elementary.

The Southwest Singers is the third and fourth grade select choir. It is a gifted program and students must audition and be selected for the group. Each year, eighty to ninety-five students audition. Approximately fifty of those students are selected.

Auditions occur throughout the school day, during the students' regular music class time. All students work on the things they must do to audition whether they audition or not. This is because the concepts that are assessed during the audition are also part of the regular music class curriculum. These concepts are as follows:

1. Matching Pitch-Are students singing the correct note?
2. Intonation-Does the student have a good sound quality?
3. Upper Register-Can the student sing in a range above their speaking voice?
4. Articulation-Does the student speak clearly while singing?

Other considerations are the students' citizenship and academic performance in the music room and the classroom. Students wishing to audition will sing by themselves for Mr. Sallee only.

The Southwest Singers perform a wide range of two and three-part songs from African American Spirituals to popular songs of the 1970s. They sing for the Senior Citizens' Thanksgiving Dinner, Pancakes with Santa and have a formal concert in May. As always, we here at Southwest Elementary encourage your attendance at all school functions and we thank you for your support.

Shaun Sallee  
Southwest Elementary Music



# Middle School Readers...

How do I get my kid to read? That is a great question. As I ask myself the same question, I always revert back to what makes me want to read? If truthful, it is others around me excited about a book or author. Kids are no different. They do not want to go grab a book off the shelf hoping to fall into a good book. They want to be excited about a book before they pick it up and know they are not wasting their time. I have to agree. My time is valuable and I don't want it wasted. So how do parents help students find that gem of a book?

- Visit the library with your student. Mark Twain Award books are a great place to start looking for a good book for middle school students. Encourage them to read the book jacket.
- Ask your student what his/her reading interests are. What type of books are their favorites? Whether it's mystery, fantasy, historical fiction, sports, etc., reading what

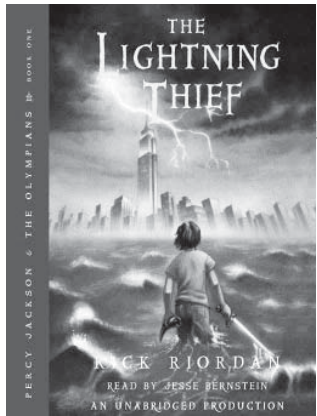
interests them is important to keep kids excited.

- Talk to other parents about books their kids are reading.
- Use the internet to search for popular books. The website [www.common-sense-media.org](http://www.common-sense-media.org) gives book reviews for parents to look at with suggested age levels included.
- Read a book your student is also reading. Talk about what might happen next and how you like the characters! Your excitement can stir their excitement.

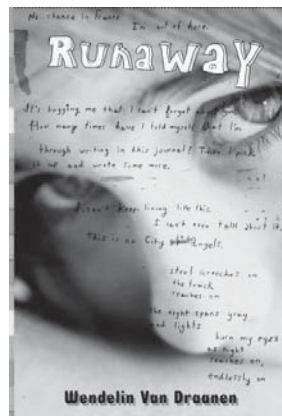
"There are many little ways to enlarge your child's world. Love of books is the best of all." — Jacqueline Kennedy

Teachers are a great resource for high interest books. Listed below you will find some suggestions from Lawson faculty. Help your child pick up a good book today and don't forget to enjoy a good book yourself!

Tammy Dunn, LMS Principal

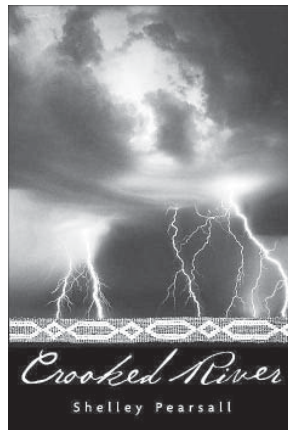


Mr. Koebel... Percy Jackson and the Olympians: The Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan (plus the other four books in this series)

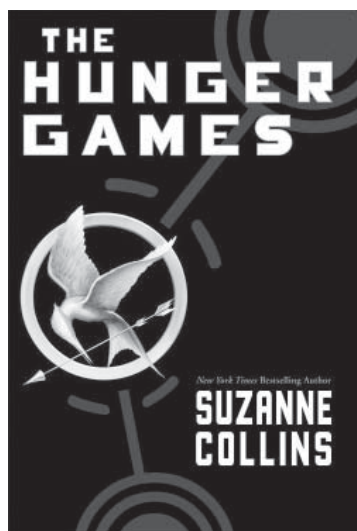
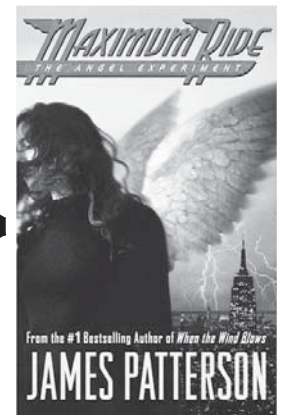


Mrs. Dreesen... Runaway by Wendelin Van Draanen

Mrs. Jacobsen... Crooked River by Shelley Pearsall



Mrs. Chancellor... Maximum Ride (series) by James Patterson

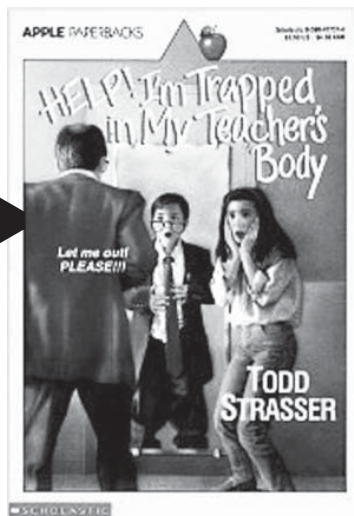


Mrs. Miller recommends... The Hunger Games, Catching Fire, and The Mockingjay (series) by Suzanne Collins (suggested for Grades 7/8)

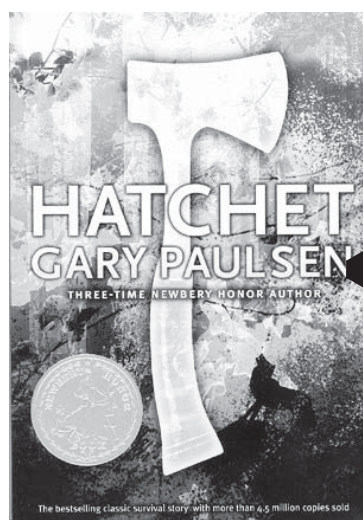


Mrs. Reynolds... Into the Wild by Sarah Beth Durst

Mrs. Brewer... Help! I'm Trapped in my Teacher's Body by Todd Strasser



Mrs. Dunn... 39 Clues (Series of 10 Books) by various authors

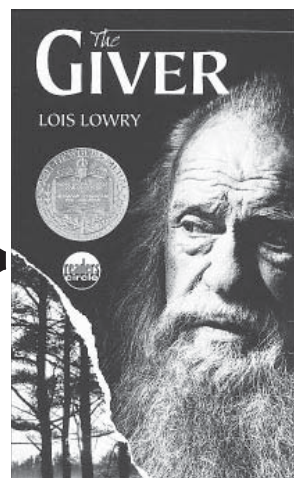


Mr. Andersen... Hatchet by Gary Paulsen

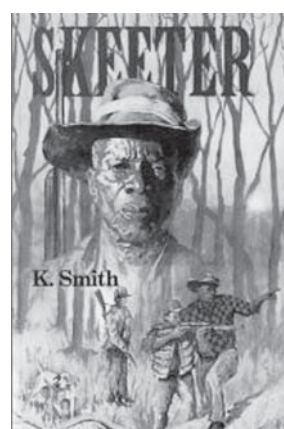
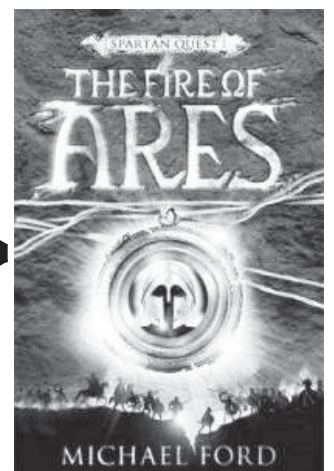


Mr. Schmitz... Lord of the Rings Trilogy by J.R.R. Tolkien

Mrs. Busby... The Giver by Lois Lowry



Mrs. Phillips... The Fire of Ares by Michael Ford



Mrs. Keller... Skeeter by K. Smith

# Resources to Assist Students

If you are a parent of a middle school student, be certain to take advantage of those resources available to assist your child in school:

## Before- and After-School Study Halls

A number of middle school teachers stay after school (or arrive at school early in the morning) to provide additional one-on-one instruction, tutoring or a quiet space in which students may work. Contact the middle school office (580-7279) or have your child stop by the office to pick up a handout listing the times that teachers are available for before- or after-school tutoring.

## Cardinal Planners

The first day of school each student received a student planner. The planner contains the student code of conduct, the middle school sports schedule, the school district calendar and other important information. The planner also serves as a student's hall pass, as students are not to be in the hallways during class time without their planners. Teachers sign the student out to see the nurse, use the restroom, etc. using the sign-out sheet located in the planner.

Encourage your daughter or son to record all daily assignments in his/her planner. That way parents can check whether or not their child has

an assignment. Teachers and parents can also use the planner to communicate with each other by writing notes in the planner. Check the planner daily in order to help your child do his/her best in school, and to communicate with your child's teachers.

## Communicate Regularly With Teachers

If your child needs additional help, or if you have questions regarding their progress in school, contact the middle school at 580-7279 to speak with a teacher during his/her plan time, or to schedule an appointment to meet personally with a teacher. If you prefer and have access, you may communicate with any teacher via e-mail. Each teacher has an e-mail address, listed on the course syllabus given to students on the first day of school.

## PASS Grading System

Parents have online access to their student's grades. Each student should have received a letter explaining how to access the PASS system, which includes a password and access code. If you need this information again, please call the office. This is a great way to keep up with your student's progress in a class. Teachers also leave notes about big projects coming up in their classes.

# Opportunities for MS, HS Students

A simple walk down the halls seeing banners, locker decorations, practice fields and gyms full of athletes can show a student what is available to him/her outside the classroom. Although athletics are important pieces of our schools and community, there are many other opportunities for students to enhance their educational careers as well.

Statistics show that students involved in extracurricular activities have higher GPAs, fewer discipline issues, higher social skills, a better appreciation of their school and respect for fellow students. This involvement gives students an outlet to see their fellow classmates in different situations and become connected in ways not offered in a normal school day.

One of the many great things about the Lawson School District is that along with outstanding athletic programs with a history of tradition and success, we also have many other activities that provide our community with reasons to be proud. The diversity offered provides our students with many chances to become involved. With opportunities ranging from Chess Club, Art Club, and FCA to becoming involved in FCCLA, Community 2000, SADD, and the Academic Team, we have several ways to keep students interested and learning throughout their time in school.

Below is a list of activities we have at Lawson Middle and High School. I would encourage parents and students to check out these activities and become involved. As we know, school is what you make of it!

**\*Academic Team** – A question and answer competition over various subjects open to students in high school and middle school. Teams compete against other schools in various categories. Meets are held each spring.

**Art Club** – Members are involved in the design and production of their own T-shirts, making various art projects, and competing with up to 10 other schools each May for medals and ribbons in different art categories.

**Cardinal Chorale** – Singing group open to 25-30 students, fifth and sixth grade, by audition. They perform two concerts throughout the school year.

**Cardinal Theatre Productions** – Open to students who have a desire to be involved in producing and acting in plays, which are held twice a year in the Seller's Performing Arts Center

**Chess Club** – An opportunity for students who enjoy chess to meet and socialize while learning new strategies and sharing ideas.

**CIA** – A group available to students interested in

making the Lawson community better for all citizens. This group gives students a chance to discuss ideas and implement plans to help students of the Lawson School District enjoy their educational careers.

**\*Band** – An opportunity for students to learn various musical instruments. Students are involved in parades, halftime shows, and concerts throughout the school year.

**FBLA – Business Club** – For students interested in the various aspects of business, including entrepreneurship, accounting, and advertising.

**\*FCCLA (Family Career, and Community Leaders of America)** – Members are involved in various charity events throughout the school year. They are also eligible to compete in STAR events along with attending the State Leadership conference.

**FTA (Future Teachers Association)** – Open to students interested in a career in teaching. FTA gives its members an inside look at the daily activities involved in teaching.

**International Thespian Society** – A high school theater organization which sponsors a one-act play and attends the State festival each school year.

**\*Literary Society** – For students interested in discussing books, attending plays, and watching movies about obscure novels and authors. Open to both high school and middle school students.

**National Honor Society** – An organization that requires an invitation based on a student's coreGPA, citizenship, values, and involvement in making the school a better place.

**Pep Club** – Allows students to help our cheerleading squads in supporting our athletic teams and bringing school spirit to events held throughout the year.

**Robotics** – For those students interested in building and working with machinery. This club builds a functional robot which is entered in the State competition where it must perform different activities against other robots.

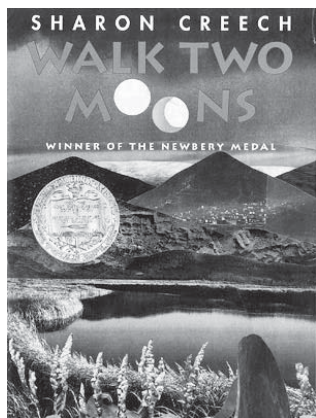
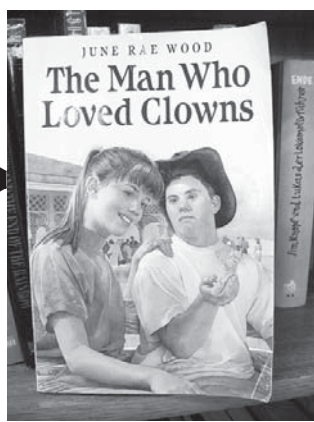
**SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions)** – An organization involved in helping students make correct choices that will make them successful in life.

**\*Student Council** – The school government organization involved in making policies and procedures to help students enjoy their time in the Lawson School District.

**\*Yearbook** – An opportunity for students to create the popular *Lanidrac*. Both middle and high school students enjoy looking back at their school, fellow classmates, and popular culture.

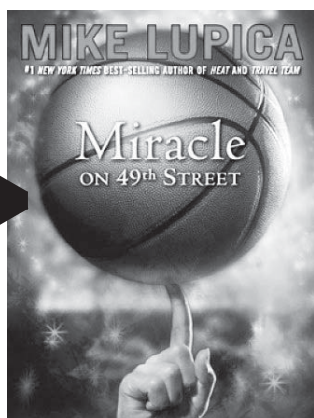
\* Available to both Middle School and High School students.

Mrs. Smith...  
The Man Who  
Loved Clowns  
by June Rae  
Wood



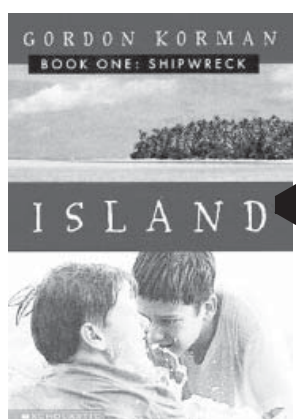
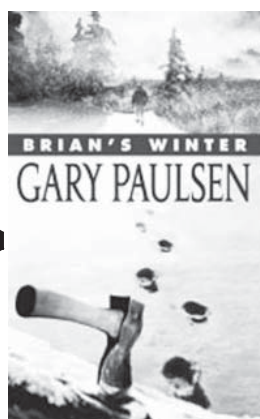
Mrs. Swenson...  
Walk Two Moons  
by Sharon  
Creech

Mrs. McNeely...  
Miracle on  
49th Street  
by Mike Lupica



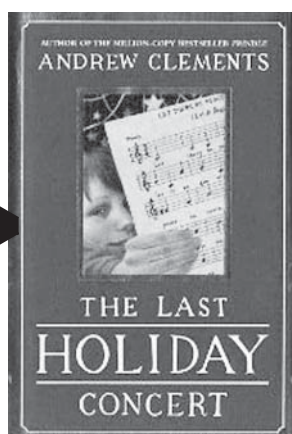
Mrs. Morris...  
When Pigs Fly  
by June Rae  
Wood

Mrs. Susan Ed-  
wards...Brian's  
Winter by Gary  
Paulsen



Mr. Harrold...The  
Island Series by  
Gordan Korman  
(Shipwreck, Sur-  
vival, Escape)

Mrs. Covey...  
The Last Holi-  
day Concert  
by Andrew  
Clements



Check us out on the Web: <http://lawsoncardinals.org>

Weekly events and results, course information, sports schedules, school calendar, pictures, lunch menus, and much, much more!

# Class of 2011-Please Turn In These Items...

Lanidrac (yearbook)

Senior DVD

Senior Issue of the Cardinal Tribune (newspaper)

OPTIONAL Items needed from Seniors:

Items needed from ALL Seniors:

## 1 Senior picture

**DUE February 4, 2011**

Please make sure the picture is appropriate for including in a school publication. This can be submitted digitally or a print copy may be turned in. The print copy will be returned at the end of the student's senior year. Please submit a picture that is of excellent print quality. An inferior print will still look inferior when scanned and placed in the yearbook. Make sure the student's name is printed on the back of the picture. If a picture is not submitted by the deadline, the student's composite picture will be used.

## 1 "Baby" picture

**DUE February 4, 2011**

Regardless of the name, students may choose pictures from when they are younger but not necessarily a "baby." Please make sure the picture is appropriate for including in a school publication. This can be submitted digitally or a print copy may be turned in. The print copy will be returned at the end of the student's senior year. Please submit a picture that is of excellent print quality. An inferior print will still look inferior when scanned and placed in the yearbook. Make sure the student's name is printed on the back of the picture. If a picture is not submitted by the deadline, a baby picture of the student will not be included in the Senior DVD.

## Other photos

**DUE February 4, 2011**

These pictures are any taken throughout the senior's "school years." Preferably the pictures would include your student, and several of the other students in the 2011 graduating class. Please make sure the picture is appropriate for including in a school publication. This can be submitted digitally or a print copy may be turned in. The print copy will be returned at the end of the student's senior year. Please submit a picture that is of excellent print quality. An inferior print will still look inferior when scanned and included in the Senior Issue

of the Newspaper or in the Senior DVD. Make sure the student's name is printed on the back of all pictures submitted.

## Remember Me Questionnaire

**DUE February 4, 2011**

Answers typically included in the senior portrait section of the Lanidrac yearbook. These questionnaires will be distributed at school to all seniors. If your senior is not at school daily because of school-to-career, etc., s/he will need to ask a friend to pick one up or come in before the due date to pick up these surveys. They may also be available online.

## Cardinal Tribune (Newspaper) Senior Issue Questionnaire

**DUE March 4, 2010**

Answers included in the senior issue of the newspaper. These questionnaires will be distributed at school to all seniors. If your senior is not at school daily because of school-to-career, etc., s/he will need to ask a friend to pick one up or come in before the due date to pick up these surveys. They may also be available online.

## How are these items used:

--The senior picture is used in the *Lanidrac* yearbook, Senior Issue of the newspaper, and in the Senior DVD.

--The "baby" picture is used in the Senior DVD and some may also be used in the Senior Issue of the newspaper.

--The other photos are used in the Senior DVD and some may also be used in the Senior Issue of the newspaper.

--Remember Me Questionnaire--See explanation above.

--Cardinal Tribune (Newspaper) Senior Issue Questionnaire--See explanation above.

## PDA's (Personal Display Ad) DUE

These ads are placed in the *Lanidrac* yearbook. Your student could be a graduating senior, or possibly have achieved a special academic or athletic accomplishment during the school year. You might simply want to tell them how much they mean to you. In any of these situations, a personal ad in the yearbook allows you to recognize the student with photos, written sentiments or both. Order forms are available in the high school office or online. Orders may also be placed online through the school Website. Write first and last name on the back of all photos submitted. Pictures will be returned to the student at the end of his/her senior year. PDAs must be paid for at the time the order is placed. The prices and deadlines are explained below.

## Lanidrac PDA Price Information

**1/8 page (2.4 x 4")**  
\$40 (Business card size)

**1/4 page (4 x 5")**  
\$80

**3/8 page (4 x 7.5")**  
\$120

**1/2 page (5 x 8" or 8 x 5")**  
\$160

**Full page (8 x 10")**  
\$310

## HS Counseling Website Updates

The counseling department at Lawson High School maintains an updated webpage to provide parents and students with numerous resources. Information on tutoring opportunities available, ACT deadlines, scholarship information, and other pertinent information can be found through the "Counselor's Corner" page. During second semester, when local scholarships become available, the scholarship information on the website is updated approximately once a week so that students can submit scholarship applications in a timely manner. In addition, bi-monthly newsletters are posted with a variety of useful tips and articles for parents and students. A newly developed course description booklet in PDF form is coming soon to the website and will enable parents and students to more accurately evaluate class choices when planning schedules for next year. Go to [www.lawson-cardinals.org](http://www.lawson-cardinals.org) to access all counselor resources.

- 2010 LANIDRAC YEARBOOKS ARE IN AND THERE ARE A FEW EXTRA BOOKS AVAILABLE ON A FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVE BASIS. CONTACT THE HIGH SCHOOL OFFICE FOR MORE INFORMATION.
- CLASS OF 2010 GRADUATES WHO ORDERED BOOKS SHOULD PICK UP THEIR COPIES IN THE H.S. OFFICE ASAP.

## ACT 2010-11 Registration Dates

The ACT test is the most popular college entrance exam in the country. Lawson students planning to attend college should take the ACT at least two times before the end of the junior year. That allows time to evaluate scores and to be prepared before the beginning of the senior year. Students enrolling in dual credit courses (i.e. College Biology, College Chemistry, College Algebra) that require a particular ACT score for enrollment may want to take the test earlier to evaluate their

scores so that there is time to retake if desired. Seniors must have earned the score necessary for dual credit enrollment before the beginning of their senior year. Most seniors planning to apply to a traditional four-year college or university will need to apply in the fall and ACT scores are needed before that time as well.

Cost for the exam is \$33. Students may register for the exam online or through paper registration. Registration packets are available in the

literature sorter outside the high school counseling office or students may register for the 2010-2011 test dates online by visiting [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org). This site also has study materials available for purchase, sample questions, and access to other resources that might be needed.

Lawson High School's ACT school code is 261-875. By entering this code when registering, it will allow a student's scores to be reported to LHS and included on transcripts mailed to colleges.

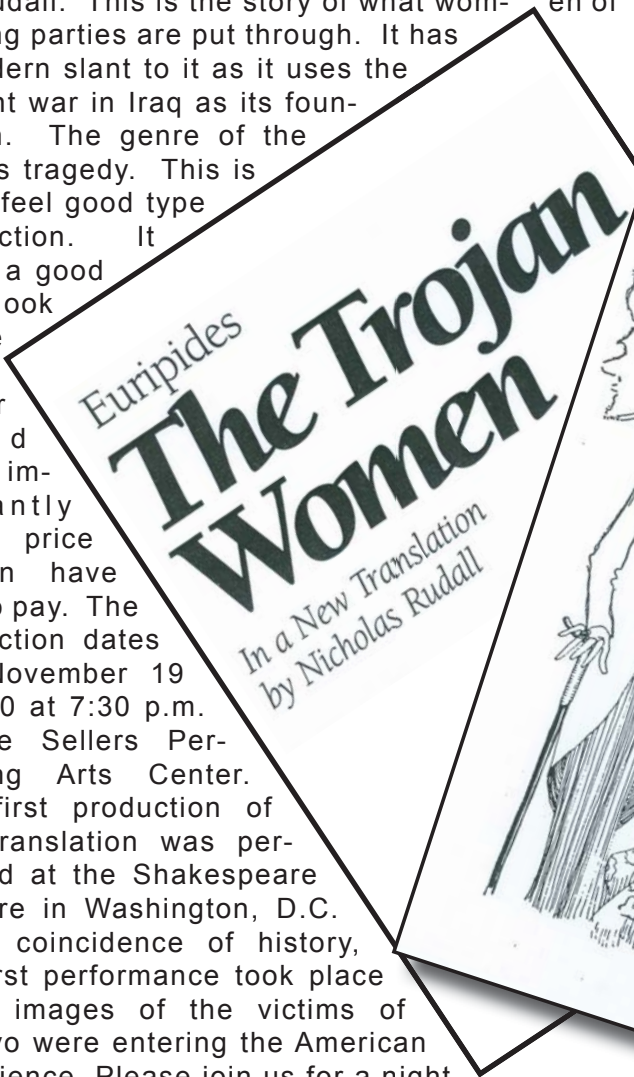
## Test dates are as follows:

Test Date	Registration Deadline	(Late Fee Required)
Oct. 23, 2010	Sept. 17, 2010	Sept. 18-Oct. 1, 2010
Dec. 11, 2010	Nov. 5, 2010	Nov. 6-19, 2010
Feb. 12, 2011	Jan. 7, 2011	Jan. 8-21, 2011
Apr. 9, 2011	March 4, 2011	March 5-18, 2011
June 11, 2011	May 6, 2011	May 7-20, 2011

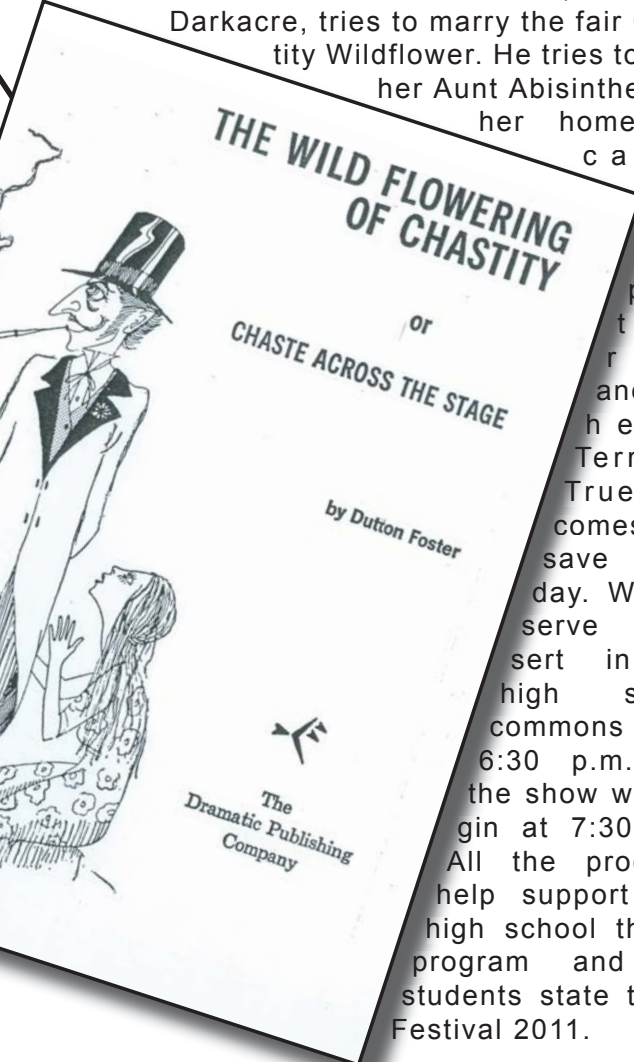
# Cardinal Theatre's Fall Productions



This year Cardinal Theatre's Fall production is a period piece from the Greek plays entitled *The Trojan Women* by Euripides, translation by Nicholas Rudall. This is the story of what women of warring parties are put through. It has a modern slant to it as it uses the current war in Iraq as its foundation. The genre of the play is tragedy. This is not a feel good type production. It takes a good long look at the price of war and more importantly the price women have had to pay. The production dates are November 19 and 20 at 7:30 p.m. in the Sellers Performing Arts Center. The first production of this translation was performed at the Shakespeare Theatre in Washington, D.C. By a coincidence of history, the first performance took place when images of the victims of Kosovo were entering the American conscience. Please join us for a night of truly enlightened theater.



Cardinal Theatre is also proud to announce the production for this year's dessert theatre. The play is entitled *The Wild Flowering of Chastity* and it is a melodrama. The play will be performed on Friday, November 12. This is a traditional melodrama where the villain, Desmond Darkacre, tries to marry the fair Chastity Wildflower. He tries to evict her Aunt Abisinthe from her home because she



can't pay the rent and her hero, Terrence Truelung, comes to save the day. We will serve dessert in the high school commons at 6:30 p.m. and the show will begin at 7:30 p.m. All the proceeds help support your high school theater program and ITS students state trip to Festival 2011.

## Does Reading Matter in Middle, High School?

As children enter elementary school, the number one goal of parent, teacher, and student is to learn to read. From the alphabet song, to guided reading, to story time, the entire school experience seems to revolve around this burgeoning and so important skill of reading. The librarian at the elementary school is inundated with requests from students for more books. "What can I read next?" every eager reader excitedly inquires. Soon, most children experience fluency in their reading and find reading a pleasurable task that wiles away rainy afternoons and excites adventurous daydreams.

Through reading, anyone can achieve the most important cognitive structures [skills] necessary to process information and to create meaning. When a reader can make connections, find patterns and relationships, and identify rules, the ability to transfer the learning from one context to another becomes real. For this reason, if for no other, reading matters.

Reading is a basic life skill. It is the cornerstone of education. As students progress through the grades, reading becomes necessary for more than learning to sound out words and/or to identify words and "get" their meaning. Middle and high school requires a degree of self sufficiency in reading. Skilled readers utilize a variety of strategies to dig deeper into text and frame the reading into a meaningful experience. Readers construct understanding by interacting with the written text and questioning not only the words, but the author and purpose. Through fluency (reading easily and automatically so that attention is freed for the analysis of meaning) students can transcend the daily grind of school and be transported to ancient Egypt, pre-Revolutionary War America, or distant galaxies. This is only possible through sustained and continued practice of the very skill that was so sought after in kindergarten—reading. Find a book. Find a magazine. Read a website. Start a blog. The key to any and every understanding is within your grasp.

## Significant State Funding Cuts Result in Big Changes for PAT

Over the past few years, funding for Parents as Teachers has steadily been reduced by state legislators. For the upcoming school year (FY 11), the most drastic cuts in funding to date have been made.

Priorities outlined by the state of Missouri are on three key areas: 1) Screening, 2) Personal visits with high needs families, and 3) Services for families with children prenatal to three years of age. When notifying districts of these changes, DESE noted that while

appropriations have been made for the provision of these services, current funding could be withheld resulting in additional reductions for local programs.

What does this mean for Lawson families? District staff will continue to take calls and provide as many services as funding will allow. Parents calling in for services will be asked for information to assist PAT staff in determining eligibility based on new state guidelines. In addition to reductions in

funding for visits and screening, PAT will not host any group events this year.

While the quantity of services available is limited, the quality of parent education services families receive through PAT is very valuable. District staff continue to be dedicated and are working hard to provide as many services as are possible to children and their families.

You may contact Parents as Teachers at 580-7277.

## Cardinal's Nest in 11th Year of Service

Cardinal's Nest is a childcare/preschool program for children two to five years of age. This is the program's eleventh year of service. The program is directed by Joanie DeWeese, Stephannie Mueller and Ory Chrane. Cardinal's Nest is located at Southwest Elementary. If openings are available after staff enrollment, the program is then offered to those in the community.

Preschoolers love to learn, so activities focus on 'hands-on' sensory experiences to help children understand concepts as we emphasize pre-reading skills, problem solving and oral and written language skills. Cooperative learning enhances social skills, while our art classes focus on the process not the

product. It is the district's goal to have open communication every step of the way as we provide childcare and education for children age two to five. This includes helping teach children lessons that will last throughout their lives like sharing, cooperation, self-confi-

dence and respect for others. Since they are learning by doing, it's both fun and educational at the same time.

Cardinal's Nest is in full swing with full enrollment for this school year. For inquiries regarding Cardinal's Nest call Southwest Elementary at 580-7272.



Check us out on the Web: <http://lawsoncardinals.org>

Weekly events and results, course information, sports schedules, school calendar, pictures, lunch menus, and much, much more!



# A+ Schools Information

Lawson High School is once again re-designated as an A+ School for the 2010-2011 school year. The A+ Schools Program is a school-improvement initiative established by the Outstanding Schools Act of 1993. It is administered by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. The key goal of the A+ Schools program is to assure that all students, when they graduate, are well prepared to pursue advanced education, employment or both.

The deadline for students to sign up for the A+ Schools program is December 1 of the student's senior year.

Students who meet the eligibility requirements may qualify for state-paid financial incentives (tuition and fees) assistance to attend any public community college or technical school in the state. The financial incentives can be used for a maximum of six (6) semesters and is available for up to four years after high school graduation. Students must meet the following requirements to be eligible for the financial incentives reimbursement:

- Attend a designated A+ School at least three (3) consecutive years prior to graduation and be entered into a written agreement

with the A+ Schools program by December 1 of the student's senior year.

- Graduate from a designated A+ School with a grade point average of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale.

- Maintain at least a 95% average attendance record during all four years of high school.

- Maintain a record of good citizenship and avoidance of the unlawful use of alcohol and drugs.

- Perform at least 50 hours of unpaid tutoring or mentoring for younger students.

- Complete and submit the

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for the funds that do not require repayment. (Parental income and financial need are NOT factors for A+ tuition incentives reimbursement. The FAFSA must be completed during the senior year.)

\*All funds for the A+ Schools Program are subject to annual state budgetary appropriations.

For more information about enrolling in the A+ Schools Program, contact Clint Ross at Lawson High School (580-7270). Informational pamphlets may be picked up in the high school office.

## Frequently Asked Questions about A+ Schools Program...

For these and more frequently asked questions visit:  
[www.dese.state.mo.us/divimprove/aplus/A+HSQ&A.html](http://www.dese.state.mo.us/divimprove/aplus/A+HSQ&A.html)

**What does signing the "A+ Participation Agreement" mean?**

By signing and submitting the A+ Participation Agreement, students and their parents are simply indicating an interest in the students' participation in the A+ Financial Incentive Program and indicating that they understand the requirements that qualify the students for that program.

**What if a student signs a participation agreement and then decides not to attend a community college or vocational or technical school?**

Signing the participation Agreement in no way restricts a student's post high school career or educational opportunities. It is simply a funding resource for postsecondary education should the student choose to utilize it. The current trend of postsecondary educational institutions is to ask on the admissions application for community service/volunteer activities performed, so this would serve as an excellent opportunity to complete these requirements. In addition, someone once said, "It is better to have it and not need it, then need it and not have it." A student who signs a participation agreement is not required to attend a community college or vocational or technical school.

**Does a student qualify for A+ incentive funding if his/her high school GPA upon graduation is 2.45 (on 4.0 scale) and/or the student's average attendance rate for the last three years is 94.9 percent?**

No - The A+ Schools Program does not permit rounding up of the GPA percentage. The average attendance rate must be figured over a four-year period and must be a solid 95 percent.

**What are the guidelines for tutoring and mentoring? When can a student begin? Where may tutoring activities be performed? Etc.?**

Remember these basic points. Tutoring should be academic in nature and always be supervised by district staff. Tutoring may be for students younger, older or the same age as the student and may be performed before, during or after the school day or during summer school.

**Can cadet teaching be counted toward the required 50 hours of tutoring?**

Cadet teaching involves much more than just teaching. Only that portion of the cadet teaching assignment that provides a one-on-one tutoring exercise can be counted toward the A+ Schools Program required 50 hours of tutoring.

## Some Eligible Public Community Colleges

Below are a few of the eligible public community colleges where A+ funds can be used. A complete list is located on the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education website. <http://dese.mo.gov/divimprove/aplus/collegecoord.htm>

**Maple Woods Comm. College**  
2601 NE Barry Road  
Kansas City, MO 64156  
[www.kcmetro.edu](http://www.kcmetro.edu)

**Penn Valley Comm. College**  
3201 SW Trafficway  
Kansas City, MO 64111  
[www.kcmetro.edu](http://www.kcmetro.edu)

**Longview Comm. College**  
500 SW Longview Road  
Lee's Summit, MO 64081-2105  
[www.kcmetro.edu](http://www.kcmetro.edu)

**Blue River Comm. College**  
20301 E M78 Highway  
Independence, MO 64057  
[www.kcmetro.edu](http://www.kcmetro.edu)

**Business and Technical College**  
1775 Universal Avenue  
Kansas City, MO 64120  
[www.kcmetro.edu](http://www.kcmetro.edu)

**North Central Missouri College**  
1301 Main Street  
Trenton, MO 64683  
[www.ncmc.cc.mo.us](http://www.ncmc.cc.mo.us)

**State Fair Community College**  
3201 West 16th Street  
Sedalia, MO 65301  
[www.sfcc.cc.mo.us](http://www.sfcc.cc.mo.us)

## A+ Checklist for Lawson Seniors

A+ Seniors need to complete the following to be eligible for the A+ financial incentives.

The student must enter into a written agreement before December 1 of the fall term of the student's senior year to establish eligibility.

Additionally:

- Attend a designated A+ school (Lawson R-XIV) for three (3) consecutive years prior to high school graduation.

- Maintain a record of good citizenship and avoidance of the unlawful use of drugs.

- Completion of 50 hours of school approved unpaid tutoring or mentoring.

- Sustain at least 95% attendance rate, (cumulative average for all 4 yrs. of high school)

- Graduate from high school with a grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale (unweighted grade scale).

- Social Security Number—Verification needed (copy for your file)

- FAFSA—(Free Application for Federal Student Aid)—Apply for federal financial assistance funds that do not require repayment: Complete and Submit, provide verification for your file.

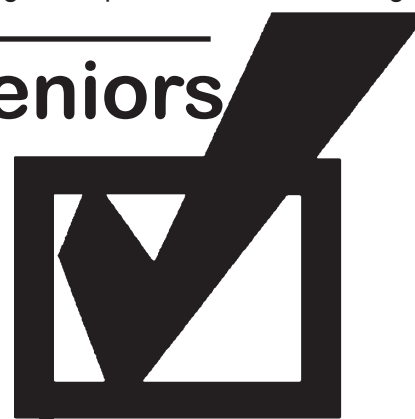
### FAFSA CHECKLIST

1) Before you fill out the FAFSA, Get the documents you need—Start with your social security, driver's license, income tax return, bank statements, and investment records

2) Print a Pre-Application Worksheet—located at the website [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)

3) Apply for a PIN to sign your FAFSA electronically—located at [www.pin.ed.gov](http://www.pin.ed.gov) (It will take several days to receive your PIN.)

4) Note important deadlines—March 1, 2011. This deadline will assure your student priority funding. Complete and



Submit FAFSA on or before this date. Apply at the website [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)

5) FAFSA Follow-Up—Please check the status of your FAFSA. You may do this at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) Follow-up is recommended. No one will contact you if there is a problem. You will find out when your student tries to enroll in college and then the funding will be delayed.

If you ever have questions, please call Clint Ross at Lawson High School (580-7270).



# School Attendance, Pre-Approval

One of the most important prerequisites to good school work and a good school attitude is regular attendance. An absence from class can never be fully made up because the student will have missed class discussion, teacher presentation, and his/her own opportunity to participate. In addition, regular attendance in class promotes habits of punctuality, responsibility, and self-discipline. Students who have good attendance generally achieve higher grades, enjoy school more, and are much more employable after leaving school. One of the first things prospective employers ask about is attendance records. Parents can have a tremendous impact upon their children's attendance by leaving no doubt in their minds that they are expected to be in school.

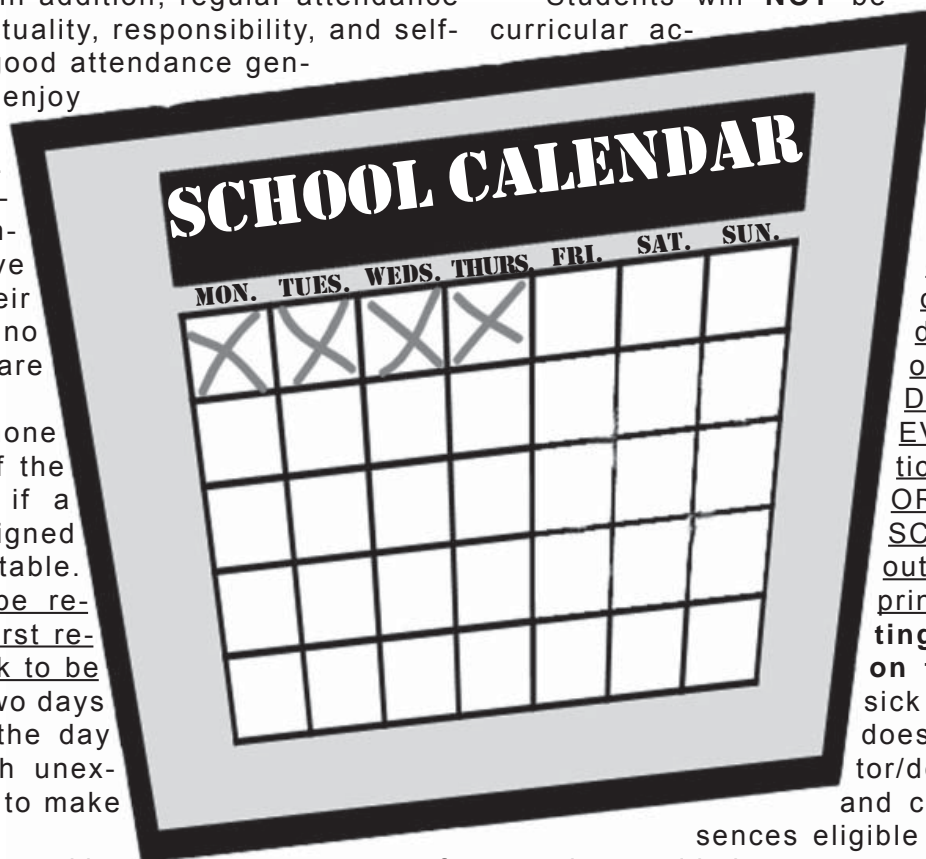
Parents are requested to phone the school office the morning of the student's absence. However, if a phone call is not possible, a signed note from the parent is acceptable. The note or phone call must be received on the day the student first returns to school for make-up work to be allowed. Students are allowed two days to make up missed work from the day they are absent. Students with unexcused absences are not allowed to make up their school work for credit.

We would appreciate parents making every effort possible to give prior notification to the school for planned

absences such as: doctor/dentist appointments, parental vacations, driving tests, and college visits. By giving prior notification, work assignments and pertinent information can be given to the student.

Students will **NOT** be allowed to participate in extra-curricular ac-

activities (this includes attendance at or participation in athletics, music, science Olympiad, drama, academic team, etc.) on the date the student is absent from school except through **PRE-APPROVAL** of the building principal. Students must be in attendance all day on the day of the activity. Students absent any portion of the day on FRIDAY OR THE LAST SCHOOL DAY BEFORE A SCHEDULED EVENT will not be allowed to participate in WEEKEND ACTIVITIES OR ACTIVITIES HELD ON A DAY SCHOOL IS NOT IN SESSION without pre-approval from the building principal. Pre-approval means getting approval before school starts on the day in question. Calling in sick or "running late" in the morning does not constitute pre-approval. Doctor/dentist visits, driving examinations, and college visits are examples of absences eligible for pre-approval. Documentation must be provided upon return to school if pre-approval for activities has been arranged.



Sign up for **LAWSON@lerts** and get important information about the Lawson Schools sent as text messages directly to your mobile phone, wireless PDA, pager or email address. For example if school will be dismissed in the middle of the day for weather, then a message will go out on **LAWSON@lerts** directly to your phone or computer. This will not replace existing methods of school communication, but does add an instant communication for emergency information, school closings, early dismissal, and school reminders. Signing up for **LAWSON@lerts** is easy and free. On the Lawson R-XIV Website, <http://www.lawsoncardinals.org/>, click on the Lawson Alert button on the right side of the front page or paste the following address in your browser; <http://my.textcaster.com/ServePopup.aspx?id=937> and complete the simple 2-step process.

Once signed up, you'll receive reminders and announcements for each school building you choose. You may choose one building or all three, plus you may choose to get messages about the Cardinal Activities & Athletics. Emergency information, school closings, early dismissals, game rain outs, and school reminders will all be information shared via **LAWSON@lerts**. District-wide announcements will be broadcast through each category, however, when a District-wide announcement is sent you will receive only one text/email no matter the number of categories you choose.

**NOTE:** This is a **SPAM-free** service sponsored by Lawson Bank for patrons of the Lawson R-XIV School District. Your name and personal contact information are protected and will remain private. Please check your cell phone plan for any text message fees your wireless provider may charge.



## High School Attendance Incentive Program

The high school encourages good attendance and maintains high expectations for students throughout the school year. The following attendance incentives are awarded to qualifying students:

1. At the end of 1st quarter, all students with perfect attendance will receive \$1. At the end of 2nd quarter, all students with perfect attendance both quarters will receive \$2. At the end of third quarter, all students with perfect attendance all three quarters will receive \$3.
2. At the end of first semester, all students with perfect attendance will be entered in a drawing with two students winning \$50 each.
3. At the conclusion of second semester, all students with perfect attendance the entire year will be entered in a drawing. Prizes include four \$100 bills and gift cards. Once all perfect attendance students have received prizes, then anyone with 95% attendance or better for the entire year will receive \$5.

Please encourage your child to try to qualify for one of these incentives. Working together, we can help your child be the best they can be.

**BUY YOUR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT'S 2011 YEARBOOK NOW!**  
**BOOKS ARE ON SALE FOR \$45 THROUGH DEC. 19. AFTER THAT, THE PRICE INCREASES TO \$50. THE FINAL DAY TO PURCHASE A 2011 BOOK IS MARCH 10, 2011. ORDER FORMS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE HIGH SCHOOL OFFICE OR ONLINE. ORDERS MAY ALSO BE PLACED ONLINE.**

**Check us out on the Web: <http://lawsoncardinals.org>**

Weekly events and results, course information, sports schedules, school calendar, pictures, lunch menus, and much, much more!



# Lawson R-XIV Public Notices

Lawson R-XIV School District  
401 N. Allison  
Lawson, Missouri 64062  
District Office (816) 580-7277 Fax (816) 296-7723

August 18, 2010

Dear Parent or Guardian,

Our district is required to inform you of certain information that you, according to The No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (Public Law 107-110), have a right to know.

Upon your request, our district is required to provide you in a timely manner, the following information:

- Whether the teacher has met state qualifications and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction.
- Whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which state qualification or licensing criteria have been waived.
- Whether your child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.
- What baccalaureate degree major the teacher has, any other graduate certification or degree held by the teacher, and the field of discipline of the certification.

In addition to the information that parents may request, districts must provide to each individual parent:

- Information on the achievement level of the parent's child in each of the state academic assessments as required under this part; and
- Timely notice that the parent's child has been assigned, or has been taught for four or more consecutive weeks by, a teacher who is not highly qualified.

Craig Barker, Superintendent of Schools

## **PUBLIC COMPLAINTS STANDARD COMPLAINT RESOLUTION PROCEDURE**

### **Standard Complaint Resolution Procedure**

This complaint resolution procedure applies to all programs administered by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education under the Goals 2000: Educate America Act and the Improving America's Schools Act (IASA).

A complaint is a formal allegation that a specific federal or state law or regulation has been violated, misapplied, or misinterpreted by school district personnel or by Department of Education personnel.

Any parent or guardian, surrogate parent, teacher, administrator, school board member, or other person directly involved with an activity, program, or project operated under the general supervision of the Department may file a complaint. Such a complaint must be in writing and signed; it will provide specific details of the situation and indicate the law or regulation that is allegedly being violated, misapplied, or misinterpreted.

The written, signed complaint must be filed and the resolution pursued in accordance with local district policy:

1. Complaints on behalf of individual students should first be addressed to the teacher.
2. Unsettled matters from (1) above, or problems and questions concerning individual schools should be directed to the principal of the school.
3. Unsettled matters from (2) above, or problems and questions concerning the school district should be directed to the superintendent.
4. If the matter cannot be settled satisfactorily by the superintendent, it should be brought to the Board of Education. Questions and comments submitted to the secretary of the Board in letter form will be brought to the attention of the entire Board at a regularly scheduled or called meeting. If necessary, a Board hearing will be scheduled to resolve the complaint.

If the issue cannot be resolved at the local level, the complainant may file a complaint with the Missouri Department of Education. If there is no evidence that the parties have attempted in good faith to resolve the complaint at the local level, the department may require the parties to do so and may provide technical assistance to facilitate such resolution. Any persons directly affected by the actions of the Department may file a similarly written complaint if they believe state or federal laws or regulations have been violated, misapplied, or misinterpreted by the Depart-

ment itself.

Anyone wishing more information about this procedure or how complaints are resolved may contact local district or Department personnel.

## **ANNUAL NOTIFICATION OF STUDENT DIRECTORY INFORMATION Rights to Parents and Students August 18, 2010**

"Directory Information" is considered a "public record" which must be released by the district to any person who requests it under the Missouri Sunshine Law, §§ 610.010- .030, RSMo.

"Directory Information" is information contained in an education record of a student that would not generally be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed. The school district designates the following items as "Directory Information": student's name; parent's name; address; telephone number; electronic mail address; date and place of birth; grade level; major field of study; enrollment status (e.g. full-time or part-time); participation in officially recognized activities and sports, including audiovisual or photographic records of the openly visible activities thereof (e.g., artistic performances, sporting contests, assemblies, service projects, awards ceremonies, etc.), weight and height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, degrees, honors and awards received, most recent previous school attended; and photographs including photographs of regular school activities that do not disclose specific academic information about the child and/or would not be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy.

Parents or eligible students have ten (10) school days after annual public notice to view the student's "Directory Information" and provide notice in writing to the school district that they choose to not have this information or any portion of the "Directory Information" released. Unless notified to the contrary in writing within the ten (10) school day period, the school district may disclose any of those items designated as "Directory Information" without the parent's or eligible student's prior written consent.

## **ASBESTOS HAZARD EMERGENCY RESPONSE ACT (AHERA) Annual Notification**

AHERA (40 Code of Federal Regulations 763) requires the Lawson R-XIV School District to inspect its buildings for asbestos, and to develop a management plan for those asbestos-containing materials that were located within its buildings. This initial inspection was completed in July of 1988. The law also requires a reinspection of these materials every three years. Lawson R-XIV School District is in compliance with these requirements.

Each of our school buildings has been inspected for asbestos-containing materials by EPA-accredited inspectors. The results of these inspections/reinspections are included in the management plans that are on file in each school's administrative office and at the district's main office. Evidence suggests that the mere presence of asbestos in a building does not necessarily pose a hazard. Research indicates that unless asbestos is disturbed, allowing fibers to become entrained into the air, the potential health consequences appear to be negligible. Our goal is to control the disturbances of asbestos-containing materials and the release of fibers into the air in our schools.

During the past year Lawson R-XIV School District has conducted asbestos inspections as required by AHERA (40 Code of Federal Regulations 763). All asbestos materials in the district are in good condition and will continue to be managed as recommended in the district management plan.

Should you have any questions regarding the inspection/reinspection results, response actions taken or the management plans please contact the district office and ask for the asbestos program manager.

Craig Barker, Superintendent of Schools

## **Lawson R-XIV School District PUBLIC NOTICE**

All responsible public agencies are required to locate, evaluate, and identify children with disabilities who are under the jurisdiction of the agency, regardless of the severity of the disability, including children attending private schools, children who live outside the district but are attending a private school within the district, highly mobile children, such as migrant and homeless children, children who are wards of the state, and children who are suspected of having a disability and in need of

*LAWSON R-XIV PUBLIC NOTICES--cont. to pg. 11*



special education even though they are advancing from grade to grade. The Lawson School District assures that it will provide a free, appropriate public education (FAPE) to all eligible children with disabilities between the ages of 3 and 21 under its jurisdiction. Disabilities include autism, deaf/blindness, emotional disorders, hearing impairment and deafness, mental retardation/intellectual disability, multiple disabilities, orthopedic impairment, other health impairments, specific learning disabilities, speech or language impairment, traumatic brain injury, visual impairment/blindness and young child with a developmental delay.

The Lawson School District assures that it will provide information and referral services necessary to assist the State in the implementation of early intervention services for infants and toddlers eligible for the Missouri First Steps program.

The Lawson School District assures that personally identifiable information collected, used, or maintained by the agency for the purposes of identification, evaluation, placement or provision of FAPE of children with disabilities may be inspected and/or reviewed by their parents/guardians. Parents/guardians may request amendment to the educational record if the parent/guardian believes the record is inaccurate, misleading, or violates the privacy or other rights of their child. Parents have the right to file complaints with the U.S. Department of Education or the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education concerning alleged failures by the district to meet the requirements of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). The Lawson School District has developed a Local Compliance Plan for the implementation of State Regulations for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). This plan contains the agency's policies and procedures regarding storage, disclosure to third parties, retention and destruction of personally identifiable information and the agency's assurances that services are provided in compliance with the General Education Provision Act (GEPA). This plan may be reviewed at the office of the Director of Special Services, 401 N. Allison, Lawson, Missouri, 64062, phone 816-580-7277, during regular business hours.

Rev. September 14, 2007

**PUBLIC RELEASE**

DATE 8/16/10

Lawson R-XIV today announced its revised free and reduced price policy for school children unable to pay the full price of meals served in schools under the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program.

Local education officials have adopted the following family-size income criteria for determining eligibility:

Household Size	Maximum Household Income Eligible for Free Meals			Maximum Household Income Eligible for Reduced Price Meals		
	Annually	Monthly	Weekly	Annually	Monthly	Weekly
1	\$14,079	\$1,174	\$271	\$20,036	\$1,670	\$386
2	18,941	1,579	365	26,955	2,247	519
3	23,803	1,984	458	33,874	2,823	652
4	28,665	2,389	552	40,793	3,400	785
5	33,527	2,794	645	47,712	3,976	918
6	38,389	3,200	739	54,631	4,553	1,051
7	43,251	3,605	832	61,550	5,130	1,184
8	48,113	4,010	926	68,469	5,706	1,317
Each add'l member	+4,862	+406	+94	+6,919	+577	+134

Children from families whose current income is at or below those shown are eligible for free or reduced price meals. Applications are available at the principal's office in each school. To apply, fill out a Free and Reduced Price School Meals Family Application and return it to the school. The information provided on the application is confidential and will be used only for the purpose of determining eligibility. Applications may be submitted any time during the school year. A complete application is required as a condition of eligibility. A complete application includes: (1) household income from all sources or Food Stamp/Temporary Assistance case number, (2) names of all household members, and (3) the signature and social security number of adult household member signing the application. School officials may verify current income at any time during the school year.

Foster children may be eligible regardless of the income of the household with whom they reside. A foster child is considered a family of one and only personal use income is counted to determine eligibility.

If a family member becomes unemployed or if family size changes, the family should contact the school to file a new application. Such changes may make the children of the family eligible for these benefits.

Under the provisions of the policy, the bookkeeper will review the applications and determine eligibility. If a parent is dissatisfied with the ruling of the official, he may wish to discuss the decision with the determining official on an informal basis or he may make a request either orally or in writing to the Superintendent whose address is PO Box 157, Lawson, MO 64062 for a hearing to appeal the decision.

Hearing procedures are outlined in the policy. A complete copy of the policy is on file in each school and in the central office where any interested party may review it.

In accordance with Federal law and U.S Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TTY). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

This notice will be provided in native languages as appropriate.

# Cell Phones at School

Cell phones have become very popular with people of all ages. More and more school-age students have a cell phone. The current Lawson school policy bans students from the use of cell phones during the school day. Cell phones are to be turned off and put away upon entering the building for the beginning of the school day. The reason for this policy is: 1) to help prevent classroom disturbances, 2) to help prevent cheating, 3) to help control bullying, 4) safety concerns during an emergency.

**To help prevent classroom disturbances** - A cell phone ringing during class time is a disturbance to the educational process. Other disturbances include text messaging back and forth among friends, and students checking for messages during the day.

**To help prevent cheating** - With the additional capability of picture phones, taking and distributing pictures of a test and/or worksheet is easy to do. These pictures can then be easily sent to someone else. Also, sending and/or receiving test answers is increasingly becoming a concern.

**To help control bullying** - Bullying or harassment via unwanted text messaging is a possibility. Also, taking inappropriate digital photos of students in the locker rooms and bathrooms, then distributing them electronically is a big concern.

**Safety concern during an emergency** - The use of cell phones could potentially detonate a real bomb if one is actually on campus or interfere with the proper response to an emergency situation.

The current discipline policy for controlling the use of cell phones at school is: 1st offense - confiscation of phone, principal/student conference, and a parent/guardian will need to pick up the phone from the office, 2nd and subsequent offenses shall result in confiscation of phone, principal/student conference, parent pick up from the office, and in-school suspension and/or out of school suspension.

We understand that communication is vital and the convenience and need of students carrying cell phones is important as they relate to before school and after school activities. However, if the need arises during the school day for parents and students to communicate with one another, the office phones should be used. Lawson School District would appreciate your help in controlling the use of cell phones at school.

**Check us out on the Web: <http://lawsoncardinals.org>**

**Weekly events and results, course information, sports schedules, school calendar, pictures, lunch menus, and much, much more!**



# Lawson R-XIV School Calendar 2010-2011

August 5	New Student Enrollment 9 a.m.-Noon
August 16	SW Elementary Open House 6-7 p.m.
	SW Elementary Kindergarten Question/Answer Meeting & Student Tour 7-7:30 p.m.
August 18	First day of school
September 6	No School--Labor Day
September 13	1/2 Day of School--Dismiss @ 11:30 a.m.
	Teacher In-Service 12:30-3 p.m.
October 1	1/2 Day of School--Dismiss @ 11:30 a.m.
October 15	End of 1st Quarter
October 21	1/2 Day of School--Dismiss @ 11:30 a.m.
	Parent Teacher Conferences 1-8:30 p.m.
October 22	No School
November 18	21st Annual Senior Citizen Thanksgiving Dinner
December 21	1/2 Day of School--Dismiss @ 11:30 a.m.
	End of 2nd Quarter and 1st Semester
Dec. 22-Jan. 2	No School--Winter Break
January 3	Classes Resume--Start of 2nd Semester
	1/2 Day of School--Dismiss @ 11:30 a.m.
January 17	No School--Martin Luther King Jr. Day
February 18	1/2 Day of School--Dismiss @ 11:30 a.m.
	Teacher In-Service 12:30-3 p.m.
February 21	No School--President's Day
March 10	End of 3rd Quarter
March 11	No School
April 22	No School--Spring Break
April 25	No School--Spring Break
May 12	Last Day of School--1/2 Day--Dismiss @ 11:30 a.m.
	End of 4th Quarter and 2nd Semester
May 13	Make up day #1
May 15	High School Graduation Ceremony @ 2 p.m.
May 16-20	Make up days #2-#6
May 23-27	Make up days #7-#11
May 24	Summer School Enrollment
June 1	1st Day of Summer School
June 21	End of 1st Session of Summer School
June 22	2nd Session of Summer School Begins
July 1-5	No Summer School--4th of July Break
July 6	Summer School Resumes
July 15	Last Day of Summer School

Board Approved 1/20/10 Board Amended 4/19/10

## Phone Numbers

Southwest Elementary  
580-7272  
or 7276

Middle School  
580-7279  
or 7299

High School  
580-7270  
or 7271

Superintendent  
580-7277  
or 7278

Parents as Teachers/Early Childhood Special Education  
580-7277

Cardinal's Nest  
580-7272

School Bus Office  
580-3383



## Parent-Teacher Conferences

Oct. 21,  
2010  
1 - 8:30 p.m.

**Cardinal Connection**  
**Lawson R-XIV School District**  
**4th and Allison**  
**Lawson, MO 64062**

Craig Barker, *Superintendent*  
Roger Schmitz, *Asst. Superintendent*  
John Wier, *Board President*  
Don Edwards,  
*High School Principal*  
Clint Ross, *H.S. Assistant Principal*  
Debbie Hutchinson,  
*Director Special Services*  
Tammy Dunn,  
*Middle School Principal*  
Scott Harrold,  
*M.S. Asst. Principal/District Activities Director*  
Holly Simmons,  
*Elementary Principal*  
Val Swearingin,  
*Elementary Asst. Principal*  
Karen Johnson,  
*Newsletter Compiler*

Cardinal Connection is a publication of the Lawson R-XIV School District. To comment, write to the above address or call 580-7277.



## Lawson R-XIV School District Mission Statements



The mission of the **Lawson R-XIV School District** is to provide students with an educational environment which will motivate them to achieve their potential and to serve as a resource center for the community in promoting lifetime learning experiences.

It is the mission of the **Lawson Early Childhood Center** to ensure that children come first, by empowering home, school and community to support and enable children to flourish throughout their learning experiences in a safe, respectful and creative environment.

It is the mission of **Southwest Elementary School**, in partnership with home and community:

- to support and motivate the desire in students to become lifelong learners.
- to create the educational experiences children need, want and can achieve.
- to inspire students to linger on learning.
- to prepare children to be successful middle school students.

The mission of **Lawson Middle School** is to provide the educational and social stepping stones for all students to proceed to high school with a broad academic base, a positive attitude, self-esteem and above all...an eagerness to continue to learn.

The mission of **Lawson High School** is to form a partnership with family, business and community in order to provide a quality education in a safe, drug-free environment that prepares students to be confident in their abilities, enthusiastic about their possibilities and eager to engage life as contributing members of society.