

Lutz Journal



*Lutz School
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MISD

NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Families of Lutz School, Hope this message finds you well and refreshed after our recent Mid-Winter Break. The 2017-18 school year is moving so quickly. One thing I learned while off work was the importance of enjoying each day and to try and slow down the speed of "life". In today's world with technology we can sure get caught up in the speed of things. I sure learned the importance of taking some time each day to enjoy the things that are so easy to take for granted. Oh well, enough preachy kind of stuff and on to things at Lutz.

Speaking of speed I am always amazed at the many creative ways our staff finds to bring new and exciting opportunities to our students. Recently our staff completed our application for "Green School" status. This requires certain criteria be met and involves student participation in all aspects of completing nomination. Students were taught valuable lessons on how they can help make our Earth a better, cleaner and more efficient place. I had a student the other day remind me not to throw away my water bottle but to recycle it. Made me think how important these life lessons being taught really mean to students.

Another exciting training for students is coming up this Spring. We will once again be offering our Health Education classes. Recently permission slips were sent home. The classes will begin in April and are wide ranging in content being taught. It is always great to see our students so engaged and participating in each lesson.

Recently all of our students completed their assessment on the Lutz School Student Transition Assessment. During that time our staff assesses each student in four critical domains for successful transition. That data is used to help develop goals for each students IEPT.

We were recently happy to develop a partnership with a new community business. A Little Caesars owner has allowed us to use his 2 sites as training places for some of our Lutz students. Our students have enjoyed the opportunity to train and work on new skills at these locations. These are the types of partnerships which we continue to look for and help provide our students with new opportunities.

These are just a few examples of the many things happening at Lutz. We continue to look forward to expanding and growing our program. With the partnerships of home & school we continue to provide our post-secondary students new and exciting lessons.

To end we have been fortunate to have the support of our wonderful Lutz Parent Group. They continue to plan and hold events that are so supportive of our students and staff. We are looking to add to our membership as we know how critical it is to have new faces and new ideas. PLEASE THINK ABOUT JOINING US AT OUR NEXT MEETING ON TUESDAY MARCH 13 AT 6:30PM.

John Nick
PS We would be remiss not to mention our recently completed Red Out for the American Heart Association. Our PE teacher (Pam) coordinated these activities. They ended with a Student-Staff Basketball game that the students won by 2 points. Best of all Lutz School raised over \$500 to donate to The American Heart Association.

UPDATE FROM MS. JANEL THE SPEECH THERAPIST

Speech Therapy Update

The students have been working hard all year on improving their speech and language skills. March is Reading month, and I plan on incorporating literacy into all my speech lessons. This will include social stories and themed books to complement my lessons. My office is located in the library and a lesson will taught on the system used for choosing a book (color coded by category) .

Happy reading!

CONTACTS

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When calling in an absence, be sure to notify transportation and the school.

IMPORTANT DATES

3/29	STUDENT OF THE MONTH
3/31-4/8	SPRING BREAK
4/9	STUDENTS RETURN TO SCHOOL
4/30	STUDENT OF THE MONTH

CAREER AWARENESS CLASSROOM

The Career Awareness class just completed its first semester. The intro classes will be switching students to finish up the school year. We will explore Lutz classrooms and work sites. The class continues working hard at Special Treasures, the school store, helping customers, stocking the shelves and taking inventory. We also picked up another classroom job sorting Legos for Play-Place for Autism & Special Needs Center.



LAUNDRY CLASSROOM

Wow what a start. 14 new students to the classroom, 2 new staff members to the building and one who has been in the building a year now. We have all grown to become the laundry class!

What we do each week: Launder 80 - 100 aprons, 50 - 60 work smocks, hundreds of rags, 40 - 50 gym shirts, 25 - 30 mop heads, work clothes for various work sites, 200 - 300 pool towels, and anything else that ends up coming our way. All these items are washed, dried, fold and delivered. We also mend and sew items that need to be fixed.

In addition we have two locations we work at outside the school. At Martha T. Berry we work in the laundry room hanging and folding clean laundry. We also have a custodial worksite at Lakeside Church. We rotate students so all are challenged and improving their work skills.

Most of all we like to have fun! We love going on CBI trips. We have been bowling and to Lakeside Mall already this year.



CUSTODIAL MAINTENANCE CLASSROOM

The Custodial Maintenance classroom offers students the opportunity to learn work skills in the community setting. The main focus of the class is to have students gain skills that increase their independence and employment opportunities. The Custodial Maintenance classroom is classified as a “work crew” class and goes out to various worksites every day. When the students go out to the worksites they learn how to work independently and as a team on a variety of cleaning and maintenance type of work. Jobs include vacuuming, sweeping, mopping, cleaning bathrooms, taking the trash out, wiping down tables and chairs, cleaning a kitchen, and washing windows. Custodial Maintenance also provides a car wash service once a week to the staff of Lutz School. Students wash the outside and detail the inside of the car. Students also participate in one field trip per semester. Student expectations include learning to be safe individuals while out in the community, working to complete jobs to a set standard, and learning to be conscientious and responsible workers.

