

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT LA PLATA HIGH SCHOOL



9/10/2021



~REMINDERS~

9/17/2021 - Teacher In-Service (Schools Closed)

9/22/2021 - First Day of Autumn

9/28/2021 - 2 Hour Early Dismissal

La Plata Students and Families,

I hope everyone had a good week. Students seem to be adjusting to their schedules and learning the expectations of their teachers and the school. Parents, as we are transitioning back to in-person instruction we would appreciate your support in reminding students about being prepared each day with a fully charged laptop and following the attendance, dress code, and other policies outlined in the CCBOE Student Code of Conduct and the LPHS Student Handbook.

As you are aware from emails going home about positive COVID cases we have had an increase this week in reported positive cases. When the school receives information about a student testing positive we start the contact tracing process. This can result in students being placed in quarantine for exposure. The school team consists of the administrators, school counselors, PPW, and the school nurse. We work with the CCBOE Safety and Security Office who works with the Charles County Health Department. The LPHS team not only contact traces, but works with families to make sure students can stay up on their studies. Mrs. Birmingham, our PPW is the point of contact for the school team. There is now information on our website regarding how to get support for students out of school under the COVID-19 Procedures tab at the top of the website.

During lunches we are asking students to check in their eating location with a QR code. This information is used for contact tracing purposes. I have received a couple emails asking about this process. Students can either use their laptop or cell phone to complete the QR process. If they need assistance with the process they should see an administrator in the lunch area to let them know they need assistance.

Now that all students have laptops we are asking that the string back packs issued with the laptop only contain the laptop and charger. Textbooks and other belongings should not be placed in the bag. Students that want to purchase their own sleeve for the laptop are able to do so.

If you need additional information or support for anything you do not see in the newsletter please reach out to your grade level administrator or school counselor. We appreciate your support. Have a great weekend!

Sincerely,
Douglass Dolan
Principal

Daily return to school

Checklist

☒ Pack a face covering

All students & staff are required to wear a face covering at school and on the school bus. Cloth face coverings should be washed regularly; disposable face masks should be used once. Masks must be able to be worn on the face unaided. If possible, students should pack an extra mask.

☒ Check wellness

Students showing symptoms of COVID-19 — or any signs of illness — may not attend school. If a student will not be in school, please report the absence to the child's school.

☒ Remember to bring a water bottle

Students are encouraged to bring their own water bottles from home. Water fountains & bottle filling stations are for filling an empty bottle, not for drinking directly from the fountain.

☒ Charge devices, pack charging cords

Students should carry their fully-charged laptop or iPad to school each day. Be sure to charge the devices each night and pack charging cords to ensure a student will have access to their device during the school day.

☒ Make meal plans

Breakfast and lunch will be available free of charge to all students. Look at the daily menu at www.ccboe.com. Students may bring their meals to school, as well.





2021-22 LPHS Student Handbook

The 2021-22 LPHS Student Handbook is posted to the main page of school website at this link: [https://www.ccboe.com/schools/laplata/images/Student-Handbook/2021-22 Student Handbook.pdf](https://www.ccboe.com/schools/laplata/images/Student-Handbook/2021-22%20Student%20Handbook.pdf).

Families who wish to have a printed copy of the handbook should contact the grade level administrator for the youngest child at La Plata High School by Friday, September 3, 2021.

- 9th grade – Mr. Underwood – cunderwood@ccboe.com
- 10th grade – Mr. Craley – bcraley@ccboe.com
- 11th grade – Mr. Mitchell – dmitchell@ccboe.com
- 12th grade – Ms. Bowie – jbowie@ccboe.com

2021-22 CCPS CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT

All students will receive a copy of the CCPS Code of Student Conduct for 2021-22. Parents should review this document with their children then sign and return the last page to the administrative homeroom teacher by Friday, September 3, 2021. This document is also available at [CCPS Code of Student Conduct for 2021-22](#).



Agenda Books for 2021-22

Students will not be required to purchase an LPHS agenda book for 2021-22. Teachers will continue to post assignments, instructions and due dates in the StudentVUE/ParentVUE gradebook/class website and the 2021-22 LPHS Student Handbook will be posted on the school website. We understand some students still prefer to use an agenda book, so a limited number of copies have been ordered and will be on sale during lunch for the first week of school. The cost of an agenda book is \$5, which can be paid with cash or check (payable to La Plata High School). Agenda books will be sold first-come first-served.

2021 Early Fall Assessments



Overview of Early Fall Assessments

As part of continued COVID-19 recovery efforts, the Maryland State Department of Education is conducting an early fall student assessment as one of several strategies to identify how students are performing academically. The results will help educators better understand student needs, so that we can address disrupted education and accelerate learning opportunities for all students. These results never stand alone in assessing student growth, and will be used in combination with other assessments and class work to gauge overall student performance.

What is MCAP?

The Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program (MCAP) is the overarching term used for all state assessments. MSDE will administer assessments in the Early Fall for English Language Arts/Literacy (ELA/L), Mathematics, and Science (Maryland Integrated Science Assessment-MISA), as well as the Alternate Assessments in ELA, Mathematics and Science, and the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment (KRA). The MCAP also includes assessments in Social Studies and the ACCESS for ELLs assessment for English language learners.

What is different this year?

SHORTER ASSESSMENTS

Each Early Fall assessment is a shorter version of the traditional ELA/L, Mathematics, and MISA assessments which will measure how well students performed in content presented during the last school year (2020-2021). Students will take the assessment for the grade or course in which they were enrolled last Spring when the assessment was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. For example: a current 4th grader will take the 3rd grade English Language Arts/Literacy (ELA/L) or Mathematics test, and a current 9th grader would take the 8th grade MISA assessment.

COVID-19 WAIVER

High school students who were enrolled in an ELA/L 10, Algebra I or High School Science course last year and take the shorter Early Fall assessment will not be required to pass the assessment to meet Maryland's graduation requirements. Additionally, during the 2021-2022 school year, students enrolled in an ELA/L 10, Algebra I, Biology or Life Science, or Government course will be required to take, yet not required to pass, the current assessments for graduation. Students must pass the respective course.

NO TESTS FOR 3RD GRADERS DURING THE EARLY FALL ASSESSMENTS

Students in 3rd grade will not test since it is content from the prior year that will be assessed.



For additional information on MCAP assessments, please visit:

marylandpublicschools.org

Early Fall Testing Schedule for MCAP

SEPTEMBER 13 – OCTOBER 22

English Language Arts/Literacy (ELA/L), Mathematics, Maryland Integrated Science Assessment (MISA)

- ELA/L Grades 3-8 & 10
- Mathematics Grades 3-8, Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II
- MISA Grades 5 & 8, and High School

SEPTEMBER 13 – OCTOBER 29

Dynamic Learning Maps Alternate Assessments

- ELA and Mathematics Grades 3-8 & 11
- Science Grades 5, 8 and 11

AUGUST 2 – OCTOBER 10

Kindergarten Readiness Assessment (KRA)



Questions/Comments?

Please contact your School Test Coordinator (STC), the Local Accountability Coordinator (LAC) for the school system or MSDE at mcap@msde.maryland.gov

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AP EXAM REIMBURSEMENTS

Charles County Public Schools will reimburse the cost of any AP exam which a student receives a score of 3, 4 or 5. In order to get reimbursed, students must:

- 1) Fill out a Test Reimbursement Request Form
 - ❖ only 1 form is needed for all exams being reimbursed
 - ❖ both sides of the form must be complete
- 2) Print off a copy of the AP score report from the College Board website.
- 3) Mail the form and the copy of the score report to:

La Plata High School
6035 Radio Station Road
La Plata, MD 20646

OR

Email the form and the copy of the score report to ksackman@ccboe.com

**All requests for reimbursement must be turned in by Thursday,
September 30th.**

PSAT/NMSQT

General Info

- The test is not mandatory but is being offered to 9th, 10th, and 11th graders.
 - October 13th- 10th grade
 - October 26th- 9th & 11th grade
- The test will be given in-person at La Plata High School.
- There will be no make-ups
- All students who wish to take the PSAT must complete the [PSAT Registration Form](#) no later than **Monday, September 13th**.

Benefits

- Receive feedback about critical academic skills
- Prepare for the SAT
- Receive FREE, personalized practice for the SAT through Khan Academy
- Begin preparing for college
- Qualify for scholarship opportunities (11th grade)
 - The score for the 11th grade students is used as qualifying information for the National Achievement Scholarship Program for outstanding African American students and the National Merit Scholarship Program.
 - You can check out further information on these scholarships by going to www.nationalmerit.org.

Payment Information

- Charles County Public Schools will be covering the exam fee for all 10th & 11th graders.
- 9th graders should submit payment of \$18 no later than **Monday, September 13th**.
 - Payment can be made via cash or check payable to La Plata High School.

Preparing for the PSAT

- Click [here](#) to download the PSAT Student Guide. This guide contains information about the test and sample test questions.
- You access free practice tests and sample questions [here](#).

IEP/504 Accommodations

- Students with an IEP or 504 Plan must apply for testing accommodations through College Board.
- Accommodations will only be implemented for students who are approved through College Board.
- If your child has been approved in the past, they do not need to go through the application process again.
- Contact Mrs. Deavers at ndeavers@ccboe.com with questions or to apply for accommodations.

Test Day

- Report to school ON TIME
- Bring several No. 2 pencils and erasers. Do not bring mechanical pencils.
- Bring an approved calculator (*Refer to [College Board](#) to see the list of approved calculators.*)

Scores

- Your counselor will provide you with a score report once scores are posted.
- Once you get your score report, you can visit <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/psat-nmsqt-psat-10/scores> to learn more about what your scores mean.
- If you have an account with College Board, you can sign in with your *Username* and *Password*; if you do not have an account, you will need to create a Student Account.
- Using your score report, you will learn how ready you are for college, explore which AP courses are a good match for you, and get insight into which skills to focus on in order to prepare for the SAT.
- You can also link your College Board and Khan Academy accounts to access free, personalized SAT practice based on your PSAT/NMSQT results.

COLLEGE AND CAREER CENTER NEWS

SENIORS – PLEASE CONTACT MRS. BAUTISTA OR MRS. GLADDEN FOR INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO REQUEST TRANSCRIPTS FOR COLLEGE APPLICATIONS.

Please go to the following link to get information on Colleges and Career and the latest scholarship information.

<https://www.ccboe.com/schools/laplata/index.php/login/2016-04-22-21-40-09>

The Charles County public school system does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age or disability in its programs, activities or employment practices. For inquiries, please contact Kathy Kiessling, Title IX/ADA/Section 504 Coordinator (students) or Nikial M. Majors, Title IX/ADA/Section 504 Coordinator (employees/adults), at Charles County Public Schools, Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building, P.O. Box 2770, La Plata, MD 20646; 301-932-6610/301-870-3814. For special accommodations call 301-934-7230 or TDD 1-800-735-2258 two weeks prior to the event.

CCPS provides nondiscriminatory equal access to school facilities in accordance with its Use of Facilities rules to designated youth groups (including, but not limited to, the Boy Scouts).