



Elementary School Parent Information Guide

2015-2016

<i>Welcome Center</i>	To better serve our families, a Welcome Center is located at the Hogan Administrative Center, Room 112. Information and forms are available for all new enrollments and/or transfers within the district. Please call 789-7756 or email registrar@lacrosseschools.org to complete all required enrollment forms for your school.
<i>Releasing Information</i>	Student directory information (name, address, grade level, school, activities/sports participation, weight/height if member of athletic team, attendance, awards/honors, and photograph) is released to outside parties (secular and non-secular) upon their request, unless the parent or guardian indicates yearly they do not wish to have this information released. The Student Enrollment Form gives you the opportunity to indicate your preference.
<i>Sick child, medications, or other absences</i>	<p>If your child is ill or otherwise needs to be absent, please call the school. If the absence has not been reported, school personnel will try to contact the parent. Please note that 2 hours or more will be counted as an absence.</p> <p>If your child becomes ill at school, we will make him/her comfortable and call you. If you cannot be reached, we will attempt to contact the emergency number listed on the enrollment form. Please remember that we cannot keep ill children at school. We will make every effort possible to get your child safely home.</p> <p>If your child has a serious illness or injury that affects school participation, please notify your school principal so a plan can be implemented to meet your child's health needs. Should your child require medication that needs to be administered at school, a School District of La Crosse medication form will need to be completed. Prescription medication requires both a physician and parent signature. The form is available online, as well as at schools and clinics.</p>
<i>Picking up my child</i>	No student will be released from school to any person other than the custodial parent, legal guardian or the emergency contact listed on your child's enrollment form. Emergency release of a student to a neighbor, relative or family friend may be honored upon acceptable verification and confirmation by parent. A parent who wants to see their child during the school day should report to the office.
<i>Money at school</i>	Children who bring money to school for lunches, field trips, etc., should have it in an envelope with their name, their teacher's name and the purpose for its use written on the envelope.
<i>Volunteering in school</i>	Parents are always welcome in our schools and are encouraged to volunteer in a wide variety of ways. You will receive specific information about how to sign up from your school. To ensure the safety of all children in the district working with volunteers, a form has been developed which you can pick up at your school's office. Please join us--parent involvement is a key to success!

District Mission Statement

Students will discover their talents and abilities and will be prepared to pursue their dreams and aspirations while contributing effectively to their local, national, and global communities.

Ask about our Support Programs . . .

<p>Four-Year-Old Preschool Program</p>	<p>Every child in the school district is eligible for a free, voluntary preschool experience. The child must be four years old by September 1st. Preschool is available at the following sites: Emerson, Coulee Montessori, Northside, Hamilton, Summit, North Woods, Hintgen, Spence, State Road, Coulee Children's Center, Gundersen Health Child Care, Child First South, Congregational Preschool, Toddle Inn, YWCA @WTC and La Crosse Montessori. The district provides transportation to child care centers only when the child care is on a normal bus route. If new to the area, call 789-7006 to enroll in any of the above.</p>
<p>High Performance Learner (HPL)</p>	<p>The School District of La Crosse recognizes the unique values, interests and talents of each individual student. The District is committed to providing challenging program options for high performing students to support their personal potential. Students identified as meeting the criteria for the HPL program have their needs met in a variety of formats which include differentiated instruction within the classroom, small group work, instruction through a blended learning format with the HPL teacher as well opportunities to participate in various school, district and state events and competitions. Select students may be subject-level and/or grade-level accelerated. Questions regarding HPL can be directed to Shelley Shirel, program supervisor at 608-789-7773 or sshirel@lacrossesd.org.</p>
<p>After-School Programs</p>	<p>The School District of La Crosse has a strong partnership with the La Crosse Area Family YMCA and the Greater La Crosse Area Boys and Girls Clubs. As a result, these organizations offer before and after school programs in many of our schools. A fee is charged for these services and registration is handled directly through the organizations. In addition, several of our schools provide academic and enrichment after school programming that is funded through grants and various partnerships. Information on these programs is available from the individual schools.</p>
<p>No Pets, Please</p>	<p>To provide for the safety and welfare of all children, family pets are not allowed in the schools. The schools are not in a position to provide the assurances of appropriate animal vaccinations or the assurance that an animal's behavior will be appropriate to maintain safety in the presence of children.</p>
<p>Summer School</p>	<p>Many options exist for students to continue learning during the summer including Preschool Pals, Kindercapers, Elementary and Middle School Reading and Math, Coulee Montessori, ELL Science Adventures, High School Original Credit and Credit Recovery. There are enrichment offerings in language arts, math, world languages, technology, HPL, art, music, and physical education. Classes vary in length from a few days to several weeks as described in the summer school brochure, distributed in March. Registration takes place in the spring.</p>
<p>Class Size - SAGE Funding</p>	<p>SAGE funding from the State of Wisconsin has provided money to help reduce K-3 grade class size to 1:18.</p>
<p>School Nutrition Program</p>	<p>Healthy breakfasts, lunches, and fruit & vegetable snacks are available to students daily. Our fresh menu is available online at www.lacrosseschools.org. Parents are encouraged to use our on-line payment system or send a check in a sealed envelope with their child's name and PIN number on it. Families may apply for Free or reduced price meals. Applications are sent to all homes in August or available on-line. Dietary substitutions are accommodated with authorization from a medical authority. Call 608-789-7625 and we'll be happy to assist you. Visit us at www.facebook.com/smartteats4kids</p>

.. to Meet Elementary Students' Needs!

Parent Liaisons	Specially trained staff are available to serve the needs of African American, Asian and Native American students.
Fine Arts Options	<p>Beginning in 4th grade, any student may elect to play a string instrument. Lessons are provided during the school day and 4th and 5th graders play together in a beginning orchestra.</p> <p>All students receive instruction from an art and music teacher for 90 minutes each six-day cycle.</p>
Technology and Library Services	Each school has a library with excellent library media specialists that help your child navigate through electronic and print resources. There is a wide range of books to read for enjoyment and to support student reading achievement. Each library and school has technology (mobile and labs) for students to access during classes and in many cases before and after school. The curriculum focuses on two areas: digital citizenship and information technology literacy. Working in collaboration with classroom teachers, students receive instruction that encourages and teaches collaboration, communication, creativity, and problem solving skills and processes.
English Language Learners (ELL)	The School District of La Crosse offers the English Language Learners Program (ELL) for those students who are working toward proficiency in English language skills. Specially trained teachers offer an individualized program after a careful assessment of the student's English proficiency is completed. Hmong translators are available as well.
Special Education	The School District of La Crosse provides a full continuum of services for students with identified special education needs ages 3-21. Instructional and support services are provided as identified in a student's specific Individual Education Program (IEP).
Counselors and Social Workers	A counselor or social worker is available in every school providing classroom guidance, small-group and individual support for students and families.
Title I - Improving Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged Early Intervention	The schools currently eligible for these services are Hamilton, Spence, North Woods International, Summit, Hintgen, and Northside Elementary. Title I services and staff vary by school but all provide some type of academic support to students in reading and/or math. In addition, Early Intervention Reading programs for struggling first graders are available in every elementary school. Students may be recommended for further help in the summer school program and/or extended learning opportunities before or after school.
School Nurses	District nurses ensure that medical-related needs are addressed across the district. Working with health assistants at each school, they handle medications, injuries and illnesses, as well as organizing CPR and first aid training to ensure the safety of staff and students.

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★ **District & School Websites:** The district web site is available for all kinds of information, so please check it out at www.lacrosseschools.org

★ **Information available from your school:**

- Grade Level Benchmark Brochures
- School Nutrition Calendar, Meals and Prices
- Application Form for Free or Reduced lunches and breakfasts
- Parent/Teacher Conference dates
- Walking Field Trip Permission Forms
- Bus Schedules
- Supply list for the classroom
- Emergency school closing form
- Boundary Exemption Form
- Other information as needed

★ **Contact us:**

Elementary Principals & Curriculum/Program Directors and Supervisors:

Emerson Northside Elementary and Coulee Montessori 21 st Century Grants HA, NW, LM, NS	Lynda Gruber-Suskey Laura Huber	789-7990 789-7970 and 789-7760	lgrubers@lacrossesd.org lhuber@lacrossesd.org
Hamilton Early Learning Center/SOTA I	Steve Michaels	789-7695	smichael@lacrossesd.org
Hintgen Pre-Kindergarten Programs	Mark White	789-7767	mwhite@lacrossesd.org
Spence High Performance Learning	Shelley Shirel	789-7773	sshirel@lacrossesd.org
State Road	David Gluch	789-7690	dgluch@lacrossesd.org
Summit Cultural Liaison Program	Dirk Hunter	789-7980	dhunter@lacrossesd.org
North Woods International Social Studies/World Lang.	Sandy Brauer	789-7000	sbrauer@lacrossesd.org
Southern Bluffs	Lisa Schreiner	789-7020	lschrein@lacrossesd.org
Fine Arts	Steve Michaels	789-7695	smichael@lacrossesd.org
Pupil Services	Regina Siegel	789-7634	rsiegel@lacrossesd.org
Summer School	Lynda Gruber Suskey	789-7798	lgrubers@lacrossesd.org
Technology/Library Services	Vicki Lyons	789-7638	vlyons@lacrossesd.org
Special Education	Aimee Zabrowski	789-7688	azabrows@lacrossesd.org
Math	Wally Gnewikow	789-7700	wgnewiko@lacrossesd.org
Language Arts, English Language Learners (ELL)	Rob Tyvoll		rtyvoll@lacrossesd.org
Science, Assessments, RtI	Michael Lichucki	789-7664	mlichuck@lacrossesd.org
Physical Education & Health	Jon Baudek	789-7670	jbaudek@lacrossesd.org



Superintendent: Mr. Randy W. Nelson

Associate Superintendent/Instruction: Dr. Troy D. Harcey

Public Notice of Non-Discrimination Policy:

It is the policy of the School District of La Crosse that no person may be denied admission to any public school in this district or be denied participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be discriminated against in any curricular, extracurricular, pupil service, recreational, or other program or activity because of the person's sex, race, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, or physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability or handicap as required by s. 118.13 Wis. Stats. and/or section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Address all inquiries to school principals.

July 2015