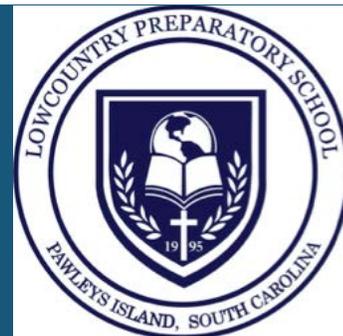


Monthly Report to Parents

April 2017



April 2017, Volume 16

Clemson, College of Charleston, Sewanee, Wofford Lead College Symposium

LPS hosted the Lowcountry Symposium on College Planning and Financial Aid on April 5, 2017 in the gymnasium. Admissions directors from Clemson University, the College of Charleston, Sewanee, and Wofford College held a panel discussion before an audience including both LPS families and families from other local schools—we even had a family from Marietta, Georgia. Prompting the panel were Middle and Upper School Director and IB Coordinator David Suber and College Counselor Janet Kelly.

Following the panel discussion, both students and parents posed questions. Admissions directors were candid in their responses, leaving families better informed and more comfortable at the prospect of applying to colleges.

Earlier that day, the admissions directors visited with LPS students in the classroom. Effective were their presentations—two students previously unfamiliar with Clemson and Wofford learned those schools might respectively

constitute the right fit for them.

We thank the key players whose initiative, hard work, and generosity made the event so successful. They include Trustees McClary, Ray and Lenhart, and Mrs. Jennifer Chapman (parent). Plans are already underway for a similar event next academic year.

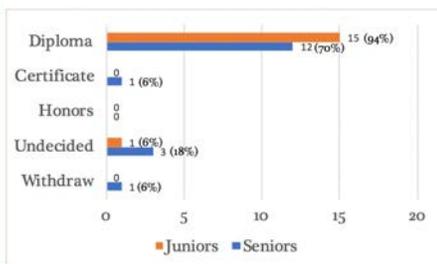


Rising Seniors, Juniors Choose Their IB Paths

International Baccalaureate (IB) Coordinator David Suber has met with most of the rising seniors, juniors, and their parents to aid in their respective selection of IB paths for next academic year. Options, ranging from the most rigorous, are three: 1) IB Diploma, 2) IB Certificate, and 3) Honors Curriculum. A clear majority opted for the IB Diploma.

“This does not come as a surprise,” said IB veteran Suber. “The IB diploma is eminently doable. Our students are bright and hard working—no reason they cannot successfully earn IB diplomas. I think students and parents alike are beginning to understand the strength associated with being an IB World School and with applying to college while on track for an IB Diploma. The IB helps with both college acceptances and scholarship dollars.”

Selections by Juniors and Seniors



Three Candidates for Boys' State

Candidates for Boys' State this year are three sharp juniors: John Augustino, Rayce Gibson, and Andy Williams. They participated in individual interviews on campus on April 26, 2017. Interviewers from The American Legion's Boys' State included Mr. Glenn Hero, Mr. Greg Hill, and Mr. Don Corinna.

LPS enjoys a history of participation in both Boys' State and Girls' State. Last year, for example, Brice Landstreet attended Boys' State, while Coleman Lucas attended Girls' State. Both benefited from learning about the American system of government and politics, the primary aim of the program.

We look forward to hearing the decision of the officials of Boys' State regarding our three juniors!



Alice Dong's Art Featured at Franklin Burroughs Art Museum

Sophomore Alice Dong has consistently created beautiful art in Ms. Diane Gibson's art class over the years. This year, one of Alice's works was featured in the 18th Annual Horry-Georgetown Juried Art Exhibition at the Franklin G. Burroughs Art Museum in Myrtle Beach. The exhibit was opened on April 23, 2017.

“I'm very proud of Alice,” said Ms. Diane Gibson. “She has a fine eye for detail, which is clear in this work and in her other works, as well. Remember that she is only a sophomore. I predict we will see more beautiful art from Alice over the next two years.”

Nice work, Alice!



Golf Team Brings Home SCISA Silver

Coaches Key and Lutz took Albert Miller, Hannah and Elijah Fesperman, Haven Busby, and Andy Williams to the SCISA 1A Golf Championship. The match took place at Coastal Carolina University on the Hackler Golf Course on March 25, 2017.

Albert jumped out front with an impressive front nine. However, the Fespermans hung tough and overcame him through the back nine.

In the end, the LPS golfers pulled out a second place win and with it a large trophy to bring back to campus. The team already had an impressive amount of talent. Albert Miller's enrollment this year added to it.

Congratulations, team, and thank you, Coaches Key and Lutz!



Seniors Visit Mosque

Seniors in Ms. Maggie Dunlap's World Religions course headed to Myrtle Beach on April 28, 2017 where they visited the Grand Strand Islamic Society. They had the opportunity to observe the Friday prayer service. Additionally, Imam Abdou provided an orientation session, which concluded with a question and answer session.

"The seniors posed intelligent questions," said Dunlap, "and represented our school well."

Among the religions covered in the World Religions class are the three major monotheistic religions, namely Christianity, Judaism, and Islam. Previous field trips have included a trip to a Jewish synagogue.

On their way back, the group stopped at Habibi's Cafe and Market for lunch, a Lebanese restaurant. The students returned to campus better equipped to be "ethical global citizens," as noted in our mission statement.



Impressive Results on National Spanish Exam

Both the Spanish and the French language programs have adopted national level testing, which increases the credibility of our programs. Such testing is encouraged by our accrediting organization, AdvancED.

In March 2017, all LPS Spanish students in grades eight through twelve sat for the National Spanish Exam, a motivational contest to recognize student achievement and a tool for the measurement of interpretive communication. The exam was administered online in two 40-minute sections.

The results are just in, and they are impressive. Six honorable mentions include Olivia Collins, Gentry Miller, Blake Errico, Joey Ray, Emory McClary, and Caroline Warren. Bronze Recognition went to Brian Duggan, Finally, Silver Recognition went to Chetna Patel.

Ms. Dunlap deserves credit for her leadership in ensuring that our students participated in the exam. Her near-native language skills and passion for the language derive from her having grown up in Central America. Living abroad for an extended period of time, particularly in formative years, has a decidedly positive impact upon one's modern language skills. Thank you, Ms. Dunlap!

Two Silvers and a Bronze at the State Science Fair

Mr. Heyward Key, with his tropism toward the informal, described the results of the Science Fair as “bringing home the hardware.” Bring it home they did with Maddie Davis earning a silver, Elijah Fesperman doing likewise, and Griffin Ballard earning a bronze. Mary Chapman was also recognized for her excellent work.

The Science Fair has a place of growing importance at LPS as we continue our pursuit of AdvancED STEM Certification. Intelligent work by our students clearly articulated is precisely what AdvancED seeks when determining whether to grant certification. Nice work, Maddie, Griffin, Elijah, and Mary!



Once is Not Enough!

Sixth grade students in Writing Mechanics are typically invited to lunch at the teacher’s residence each year. One lunch, however, was apparently insufficient for this year’s sixth-graders. Accordingly, a second lunch was planned.

With the bus already spoken for, Coaches Riddle and Tanoff stepped up with two other more stylish vehicles, thereby saving students the embarrassment of transportation in a no-frills school bus.

Mrs. Kathy Gibson was ready for the group upon arrival. Her lunch featured hamburgers, cheeseburgers, chips, beans, and ice cream. Young David Allen was counseled by his classmates for insisting upon three burgers, which delayed dessert. Fortunately, the students were back in time of their next class!



Visit to Indigo Farms

Students in grades K5 and first grade headed to our neighboring state, North Carolina, recently for a visit to Indigo Farms in Calabash.

The highlight of the trip was the hayride! Throughout the ride, students marveled at vast fields of strawberries, blueberries, and grapes.

Additionally, members of the staff provided useful lessons in science. For example, they explained the critical role that bees play in pollination. Also, they toured the students through their greenhouses in which various vegetables and spices were growing. Finally, they aided the students in feeding the horses, goats, and lambs—what an experience on the farm!



Second-Graders Explore Local History

Mrs. Debbie Kimbrough took her second-graders down the road to historic Georgetown where they visited the Kaminski House. The original house was constructed before the Civil War and nicely represents the Georgian style. The house overlooks the Sampit River.

Students enjoyed a tour of the house and a hands-on demonstration of the feather quill pen. Outdoors, the children participated in some of the games popular among children a century and a half ago.

Thank you, parents, who helped with transportation for our students!



Continued Progress on Strategic Plan

At the board meeting on April 25, 2016, trustees approved as “completed” more goals in Strategic Plan 2020.

Approved was Goal III A, “Establish and implement a formal character development program for students in the Middle and Upper School.”

Also approved were three sub-goals of Goal IV D, namely “Secure campus entrances,” “Secure exterior doors,” and “Install an exterior surveillance system.”

“The requirement to report progress on a monthly basis to the board is a great motivator,” said Head of School Scott Gibson III. “We are ahead of schedule with 44 percent of goals completed and 35 percent of our timeline elapsed. We plan to remain on that course.”

Final Press for 100 Percent Participation Among Families

We have reached crunch time with Marlinopoly! Participation by families in the Annual Fund is impressive in each class. However, we want more than impressive participation—we want 100 percent participation among families, as we managed last year.

In Academic Year 2015-2016, we managed 100 percent participation among trustees, among members of the faculty and staff, *and* among our parents. This year, the trustees and members of the faculty and staff have, once again, participated at the 100 percent level. We need our parents to do likewise. You can do it!

Among member schools in the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS), 100 percent participation among all three stakeholders is rare. So, too, is LPS. Let’s come through, again, this year!



MARLINOPOLY
Percentage Participation by Grade

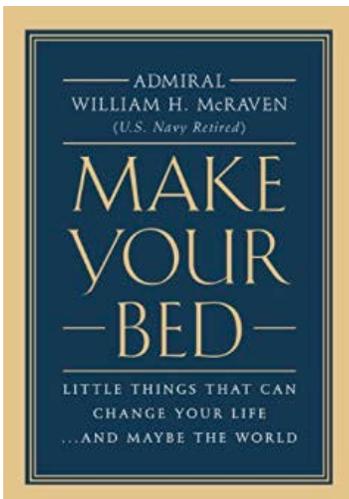
K3/4 88%	3rd 83%	7th 90%	11th 65%
K5 70%	4th 49%	8th 50%	12th 80%
1st 91%	5th 75%	9th 83%	OVERALL 77%
2nd 92%	6th 88%	10th 80%	

Text Selected for Next Year's Character Development Course

President William H. McRaven of the University of Texas at Austin garnered national attention with his commencement address to the Class of 2014 in which he shared ten simple principles derived from his first career as an officer in the US Navy. Disarmingly simple is his first principle: make your bed each morning.

Admiral McRaven received many requests for elaboration upon his ten lessons. Accordingly, he decided to write his book, *Make Your Bed: Little Things That Can Change Your Life . . . and Maybe the World.*

Goal III, A of our Strategic Plan 2020 requires that we, "Establish and implement a formal character development program for students in the Middle and Upper School." The program will take the form of a one-academic-quarter course. The text will be the Admiral's book.



Prom!

The LPS Prom took place this year on April 29, 2017 in the gymnasium. On the faculty and staff, Ms. Jamie Prosser stepped up to assist the students in arranging the event. This year's theme was the roaring 1920s!

Turnout was good among students. The Marlin ladies looked resplendent in their dresses, while the Marlin gentlemen clearly put effort into looking dapper, as well. Of note, young Julian Mathis was wearing a white or black hat, depending upon one's angle of approach.

The disc jockey had the place hopping and the "bartender" kept the "drinks" flowing. The chocolate fountain proved to be a popular stop among students.

In addition to Ms. Prosser, also present at the prom were Middle and Upper School Director David Suber, Ms. Valerie Hensley, Mr. Phil Cook, Ms. Becky Schroeder, and volunteer Mr. John Landstreet. Thank you all!

