

Lee Academy School Newsletter

Lay's Lines: A Note From Our Headmaster

"Son, it's time to get up. You have to get to school or you will be late." "I don't want to go to school, mom. Nobody likes me. The kids make fun of me, the teachers hate me, and even the secretary ignores me. I'm not going!" "But you HAVE to go to school, son. You're the principal."

The principal in the scenario above had an attitude problem. Instead of focusing in on how he could serve others, he allowed others to control his mindset. As I reflect on my own situation, I can honestly say that I look forward to coming to school each day. I don't look at it as a "have to," but rather a "get to." I am very excited about the new school year and getting to know everyone better as we continue to grow our school. We have made great strides in strengthening our curriculum and have a faculty that is dedicated to continuing to improve in all areas of the Lee Academy Community.

This year we are adopting the theme of "Making a Difference." Our faculty is committed to making a positive impact on our students as we work with them each day. We want to lead and guide them in such a way that they will learn to make a difference in their interaction with others. Ultimately, we believe that as students graduate from our school, they will be prepared to make a difference in our community, state, and country. Our hope and prayer is that the Lee Academy Community makes a difference in the lives of all of our children. Thank you for your support and continue to pray for Lee Academy.

Lee Academy Happenings

September 7, 2011

LA offers more Honors Classes & Fine Arts

This year Lee Academy is proud to offer a wider variety of honors classes to our students.

Honors classes are available for students in eighth through twelfth grades in English, Math and Science.

Last year, we added Fine Arts Drama for

our seniors and this year we have added a Music Appreciation class for our ninth through eleventh grades.

In addition, tenth and eleventh graders will be taking a Journalism class and several senior high students will be serving on the yearbook staff.

Students continue learning during summer

Freshman Rachel Dawson had the privilege of attending CHAMPS which is a summer enrichment camp for junior high students. CHAMPS stands for Community Health Applied in Medical Public Service. It is a program that teaches junior high schools students about jobs in health care.

In addition, sophomores Sarahjane

Beauchamp and Rebekah Smothers attended the MASH program for senior high students. MASH stands for Medical, Activity, Safety and Health. This enrichment program allows students to learn about and participate in hands-on activities that highlight careers in the medical field.

LA makes school improvements over summer

We have made several updates to our school this summer.

- We have added a new computer lab next to our copier room. This lab gives our students an additional 24 computers on which to work. We are super excited!

- Our 3-yr-old Cubs will now be able to enjoy a new Smartboard that was recently added. Thank you, AFF!

- Our gym floor was mended and re-

waxed. It looks great!

- The Jr. and Sr. High cheerleaders purchased a new CD player for our sound system. Our entire school will benefit from that!

- The boys' and girls' locker rooms had a major face lift. Thanks, Coach Hendrix!

- With the help of the 2011Sr. Class and the booster club we were able to update our press box.



Congratulations to Lee Academy for receiving a higher rating in the MPSA Accreditation report!

Lee Academy develops new mission statement

“Our mission is to provide students with an excellent education in the nurturing environment of the Lee Academy Community.”



State Curriculum English/Language Arts

We are so proud to have a brand new Reading/Spelling/English/Literature series for our students this year that follows the Arkansas state curriculum. Students from grades Pre-K through 12th grade will be using a new language arts series

which follows the common core. Elementary students will be using the Houghton Mifflin series and junior high and senior high will be using Pearson/Prentice Hall. Thank you Men's Association for your contribution to our new series!

Cheerleaders bring home blue and gold

The junior and senior high cheerleading squads attended the UCA cheer camp at Arkansas State University this summer. They learned new cheers, chants, dances, stunts and new ways to lead the crowd.

Both squads earned blue and gold ribbons for learning all the new material. The senior high squad received a trophy for their home dance routine and the junior high squad received a trophy for their extreme cheer.

The cheerleaders learned many new ways to increase

school spirit and lead the crowd this year.

- Car chalk “GO COUGARS!” on your vehicles.
- Attend pep rallies.
- STAND UP and CHEER during crowd participation cheers!



Girls State at Harding University

Several students attended Girls' State the first week of June.

Seniors Bailey Moon, Kodi Wilson, Shelby Webb, Anna Harris, Anna Marie Myers and Olivia Bonds attended this program at

Harding University.

Girls State is a program sponsored by The American Legion of Arkansas to teach high school juniors from across the state the duties of Arkansas government.

Become a Cougar Booster

Lee Academy has adopted a new booster program. There are four levels of Cougar Boosters that you can donate to; bronze, silver, gold and platinum. If you give at the platinum level this money will go directly towards the renovation of the press box. All

donations will be recognized in the school gym. Thank you for your ongoing support to Lee Academy and the Booster Club!

- Platinum-\$250 & up**
- Gold-\$100**
- Silver-\$50**
- Bronze-\$25**

Civics Class participating in Coat Drive

The ninth grade Civics class will be participating in the coat drive “Kids for Coats”, sponsored by the local non-profit group LUV. Miss Trish wants to encourage students' active participation in

their school community. Not only will the students be participating in the coat drive, they will be directly involved in personally delivering the coats the Lee County schools.

New coaches/teachers join the LA family

Coach Greg Hendrix grew up in Glen Rose, AR, home of the Beavers; he says it will always be home for him!

He received his B.A. in History from Arkansas Tech, his M.S. in Kinesiology from Southern Arkansas University and a M.Ed. in Workforce Development from the University of Arkansas. His coaching career has consisted of being the Running Backs coach for the Southern Arkansas Muleriders under Head Coach Steve Quinn and as a Graduate Assistant coach at the University of Arkansas

under Head Coach Bobby Petrino. He played college football at the University of Central Arkansas... Go Bears!

Coach Hendrix: "I've been extremely blessed to accomplish what I have and am very happy to now be a Cougar and a part of the Lee Academy staff and community."

This year at Lee Academy Coach Hendrix will be the assistant football coach and the baseball coach.



Greg Hendrix



Fourth grade teacher Karen McLendon grew up in Marianna and graduated from Lee Academy in 1997. She received a Bachelor of Science in Accounting from Arkansas State University.

She worked for an accounting firm for 10 years before becoming a teacher. Karen and her husband Elton have one daughter, Sarah who will be in preschool at Lee Academy.



Karen McLendon



Sherry Lay

First grade teacher Sherry Lay graduated from Harding University with an Early Childhood Bachelor of Arts in Education. She taught for two years in Batesville, AR. She then taught for the

next 25 years at West Memphis Christian and one year at Kids for the Future.

She enjoys reading and basketball, and is thoroughly looking forward to a fun-filled year here at Lee Academy.



Basketball coach Gary Walker grew up in Detroit, Michigan. At the age of 16, he moved to Tennessee where he lived for 24 years. In 1994 he received his B.A. in History and Philosophy. In 1997 he earned his master's degree in Education with a major in Curriculum and Instruction.

Coach Walker has been teaching for 12 years and coaching for 6 years. He has coached basketball, baseball and track.

This year at Lee Academy he will be coaching girls' basketball and track. He will also be teaching four math classes to junior and senior high students.



Gary Walker

Counselor's Corner

ACT
Test Dates
2011-2012

Test Date

October 22, 2011
December 10, 2011
February 11, 2012

Registration Deadline

September 16, 2011
November 4, 2011
January 13, 2012

Late Fee Required

September 17-30, 2011
November 5-18, 2011
January 14-20, 2012