



www.leyden212.org

Incoming Freshman Eagle Report

News for the Families of Incoming Freshmen

January-February 2012

Welcome Class of 2016!

It is a pleasure for me to welcome the parents and students of the Class of 2016 to the Leyden family. Many important meetings and events will be occurring for you over the next few months that will help you and your student get off to a good start.

The "Eagle Report" is a valuable source of information for these events, and you will receive the newsletter until your student graduates. For the remainder of this school year, you will receive a bi-monthly Eagle Report specific to incoming students. Our newsletters are also available on our web site (www.leyden212.org).

The first important event that you and your student may consider attending is the "Taste of East." See the brief description in this newsletter for more information. We look forward to working with you and look forward to meeting you at our upcoming activities.

Additionally, I would like to take this opportunity to extend to you and your family best wishes for a healthy and prosperous New Year. May your home be filled with happiness and our communities filled with peace in this New Year – 2012.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Beth S. Concannon". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Beth S. Concannon, Ed.D.
Principal

Looking Ahead

Please mark your calendar with the following important dates:

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| Jan. 19 | "Taste of East" - 7:00 p.m.
(East Auditorium) |
| Feb. 2,
7, & 9 | Incoming Freshman Course
Selection - Evenings by Appt. |
| May 3 | Incoming Freshman
Parent/Student Athletic
Information Night
7:00 p.m. (East Field House) |
| June 1 | Freshman Medical Forms Due
to Health Office |
| June 4-7 | Leyden Sports Academy |
| June 11-
July 20 | Summer School &
Summer Academy |
| August 8 | Freshman Parent-Student Night
7:00 p.m. (East Auditorium) |
| August 9 | Freshman Orientation &
Book Pick-Up - 9:30 a.m.
(East Auditorium) |
| August 14 | First Day of School |

More information will be mailed home
regarding these events.



Save the Date!

Incoming Freshmen get a "Taste of East" on January 19

Incoming freshmen and their parents are invited to attend our "Taste of East" on Thursday, January 19, 2012. The evening will begin at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium and will feature presentations by our academic and elective departments. The auditorium is located on the south end of our building. You may enter the auditorium through the entrance on King Street. After a brief presentation in the auditorium, you will be able to attend the "Taste" portion of the evening. All departments will be represented in the field house. You will be able to stop by a department's table to discuss course offerings and ask questions. The evening will conclude by 8:30 p.m.

We believe that this evening will provide incoming freshmen and their parents with valuable information. We look forward to meeting you on January 19!

Course Selection

Course selection for the Class of 2016 will take place during the evening hours on February 2, 7, and 9, 2012. Individual appointments will be sent home in a separate mailing.



Welcome Packet

In the near future you will be receiving a Welcome Packet. Contained within this packet is a great deal of very important information, including:

- EXPLORE test scores and core placements;
- Sample course selection form;
- Summer School and sports opportunities;
- Course planning handbook.

After reading the information contained in the Welcome Packet, please do not hesitate to call any of the resource numbers listed on the forms in the packet if you have any questions.

Incoming Freshman Medical Forms Due June 1

By Illinois state law (school code, section 27-8.1), all incoming freshman students must have a physical examination taken within a year prior to entering 9th grade. As approved by District 212 Board of Education, all freshman medical forms are due in the East Leyden High School Health Office by June 1, 2012. After the June 1 deadline, a progressive scale of late fees will apply for freshman medical forms as follows:

- \$30.00 late fee from June 2 through June 30
- \$40.00 late fee from July 1 through July 31
- \$50.00 late fee after August 1

Late fees may be paid when physicals are turned in. **Students may not start school until all medical forms are turned in and checked for completion by the school health aide.**

*Please note: It is getting to be a very busy time of year for doctors' offices and you must allow time to obtain an appointment. Illinois Department of Human Services Physical Examination forms will be distributed through your child's counselor at their course selection appointment. Please make your student's physical examination appointment now so that late fees may be avoided.

Looking Ahead

Two very important dates to note for incoming freshmen are for Freshman Parent-Student Night and Freshman Orientation Day. Freshman Parent-Student Night will be held on Wednesday, August 8, 2012, and Freshman Orientation Day will take place the next day, on Thursday, August 9, 2012. At-



tendance at Orientation is mandatory, as this is where students will receive their books and take part in other orientation-type activities. Parents and their incoming freshman students are strongly encouraged to attend Freshman Parent-Student Night. Here you will be able to get your child's schedule and look around the building to familiarize yourselves with the location of their classrooms and locker. There will be a great deal of important information imparted to families that evening. Please take note of these important dates and if at all possible, try to schedule your family vacation time so that you will be able to attend both events.

Residency Verification



As we turn the calendar page and enter 2012, we realize that things can get a little hectic in the lives of the families of incoming freshmen. With this in mind, we'd like to give you some advance notice on what will be coming up in the next few months.

District 212's registration process begins with residency verification. All incoming freshmen will be required to complete this portion of the process in March.

In order to help you prepare for this event, we'd like to give you an idea of which documents you will need to provide to us. We will need:

1. A CERTIFIED copy of your student's birth certificate;
2. Parent/Guardian's picture ID;
3. Proof of residence, which could be one (1) of the following:
 - a. Signed current lease;
 - b. Current real estate tax bill;
 - c. Mortgage statement or real estate closing statement;
4. Two (2) other proofs of address, i.e., utility bills, voter registration card, insurance certificate.

As we get closer to Residency Verification Days, which are currently scheduled for March 13 and March 17, you will be receiving more information in the mail and also through our Eagle Report newsletter.



Leyden's Digital Evolution

For over a decade, Leyden has been moving steadily toward the day when each student is issued a digital device as an instructional tool like textbooks and other materials. This evolution over time has been guided by the following beliefs:

- That the nature of information and knowledge is changing;
- That students learn differently today;
- That education has to become about more than just standardized tests;
- That we live in a digital age, dominated by information, that sees technological advancements happening at an exponential rate;
- That we must prepare students for their futures, not our past;
- That students have a fundamental right to expect an education that reflects these principles.

With this vision guiding us and after years of research and study, **the Board of Education recently approved a plan for the 2012-2013 school year which includes the issuance of a Chromebook computer for virtually all Leyden students.** This plan will provide equal access to information, learning resources, and the digital tools that we believe will foster an environment of critical thinking, collaboration, and creativity.

We know that parents and students will have many questions, and there is some general information available now on our district Web site www.leyden212.org. We will provide a great deal of additional information in the upcoming weeks. We hope you share our enthusiasm about the exciting opportunities in store for our students.

