

# The Rebel Yell

Lacomb School • Whitney Connolly, Principal • (541) 451 - 8565

## Open House

Tuesday, August 28 is Open House. Teachers will be available from 11:00 to 2:00 to meet with students and families. You can drop off supplies and tour the classroom and school. We will have an interactive Scavenger Hunt that families can participate in to learn about all the great things we have coming up this year. Lunch will be provided from 11:00 to 12:30. See you then!

## First Day of School

Our first official day of classes is Wednesday, August 29. This will be a full day of class; it is the only Wednesday that is NOT an early release. We look forward to seeing all of our students on our first day!

## The Principal's Corner

Welcome back to the 2018-19 school year! I hope you have had a wonderful summer break and are ready to dive back in. We've been working hard this summer to get the school ready for back-to-school and are excited to see all of our students later this month.

We hired a number of new staff this year and look forward to welcoming them into the Lacomb family. Tuesday, August 28 is Open House. From 11:00 to 2:00, we invite you to drop in to meet your teacher, tour the school, and drop off supplies. This will be a great opportunity to meet the new staff and get ready for the first day.

I would like to invite all parents, families, and community members to my "Coffee Talk with the Principal" chats. On the first Wednesday of every month, from 9:00 to 10:00, I will have coffee and light refreshments available at the school and welcome everyone for some conversation and community-building. Our first Coffee Talk will be Wednesday, September 5, from 9:00 to 10:00.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or if there is anything we can do to support you. We are here to help and we look forward to working together to have a great 2018-2019 school year!

*Whitney Connolly*

## AVID Focus of the Month

AVID is a school-wide program aimed at teaching and reinforcing academics skills and higher-level thinking for all students. Our teachers use a variety of AVID skills and strategies in the classroom to help students develop the habits they will need to be successful in middle school, high school, college, and future careers. Students learn about organization, study skills, communication, and self-advocacy.



At the beginning of the year, we will be focusing on teaching and using Costa's Levels of Thinking. Through the use of rigorous questioning techniques at a variety of levels of difficulty, students learn to think and reason more critically. Ask your student what they are working on in class around asking and answering questions!



## Upcoming Events

**August 28 - 11:00 - 2:00**

Open House

**August 29**

First Day of School!  
NO early release

**September 3**

No School - Labor Day

**September 4**

First Day of Kindergarten!

**September 5 - 9:00 - 10:00**

Coffee Talk with the Principal

**September 10 - 3:00 - 4:00**

PTC Meeting

**September 14**

Classroom to Career Expo

**September 5 - 9:00 - 10:00**

Coffee Talk with the Principal

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## School Spotlight

*Ms. Della Long, 1st Grade*

My name is Della Long and I will be teaching 1st grade at Lacombe. This is my 28th year of teaching and my 12th year teaching here at Lacombe. I am excited to start with another new group of students. I am trying something new this year for my behavior system. They are called Brag Tags. Brag Tags are a classroom management system created to reinforce positive behavior, display student milestones, and reward students for growth they make during the school day. The tags look a little like military dog tags, but are printed on paper to be cost effective. They are essentially small awards to hand out throughout the day, week, and all year long. Students will store their Brag Tags on a necklace in the classroom. Stop by to check out our new Brag Tags!

*Ms. Kim Coleman, 6th Grade*

I have been thinking about my new group of 6th graders all summer, and I am excited for the start of this school year! (I'm a little biased, but I think 6th graders are the best!) This year, we have a lot of fun and learning to look forward to. We'll start with a focus on building collaborative teams through fun STEM and team building activities designed to help us create a powerful learning environment. We'll also spend time establishing the AVID skills that will help students find success as they progress through middle and high school. Every year, I strive to include more projects and fun learning activities; my past favorites include the tsunami vertical evacuation model, our Greek City States formation, the Global Cardboard Project, the playground redesign project (the new big toy!), painting murals, and our many hands-on Math lessons. As I get to know the personality of my new group of kiddos, who knows what interesting project ideas we'll explore! And of course, we have everyone's favorite event to look forward to - Forest Camp! I love to laugh and have a good time while we're learning new skills and content; so, if you're a 6th grader reading this, know that I'm excited for this year, and I'm looking forward to your enthusiasm, your fun stories, your jokes (please bring some!), your curiosity, and your successes!

## Important Reminders

August is a great time to get geared up for back-to-school. Remember to check your school supply list; our teachers tried to be very thoughtful about the specific items they would need to help their classrooms run smoothly this next year. Now is also a good time to think about sports physicals and sign-ups for fall sports. We will have a health screening at school this fall, but summer is also a prime time to take your children to the doctor, dentist, and optometrist, so they start the school year with everything they need to be healthy, happy, and successful. Please contact the office if there is anything we can do to help!