

# ST. IGNACE AREA SCHOOLS

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LaSalle High School – 643 8800

Middle School – 643 7822

Elementary School – 643 8500

## Welcome Back!

It has been a great summer and we hope you have fully enjoyed summer break! Once again it is time to begin thinking about a new and challenging school year. The 2020-2021 school year begins on Tuesday September 8, 2020. **The first day of school will be a full day of school** this year with school beginning at 8:00 a.m. and dismissing at 2:50 PM as these times will be the starting times and ending times for class each day for the 2020-2021 school year. Lunch will be served this day and we will announce during third hour what classes will have lunch times. As a reminder this year our high school building doors will open at 7:40 am. Our cafeteria will be open for a quick “Grab & Go” breakfast. All breakfast items must remain in the cafeteria and items are not allowed to be taken into the classrooms. At 7:45 AM teacher classrooms will be open; students will be allowed to put their personal items. and backpacks in their locker. **As a reminder this year for safety concerns, all student personal items and backpacks should be locked in student lockers during the school day and should not be brought to classrooms!** It is expected that students will be in their 1<sup>st</sup> hour classes and ready to start promptly at 8:00 am each day.

**Student Points of Emphasis:** The following are items that are designated for a “Points of Emphasis” for LaSalle High School students. The goal of these “Points of Emphasis” is to provide each student with the opportunity to be the best person they can be as well as accomplish the highest level of success they can achieve. I ask you please to discuss these points of emphasis with your child, please review student behavior expectations, and any information for the coming school year reviewed in this packet.

### 2019-2020 “Student Points of Emphasis”

1. All students will respect fellow students and all staff members. LaSalle High School students are expected to be **“great teammates.”** It is expected all students pick each other up and stay positive towards one another. We encourage all our students to get along and respect one another and to make this a great place to be! Additionally, it is expected great teammates are respectful to all staff and teachers in our building.
2. All students will respect the rules and expectations for electronic devices/ cell phones. Again, this coming school year students cannot have or use electronic devices/ cell phones in school during class time, unless they have permission from their teachers to be using for educational purposes. Also, students are not allowed to have out during passing time between classes. Students can have their devices out during their lunch period. It is expected all students respect and follow these expectations.
3. All students will get to school on time and to class on time. We want to give our students the best education as possible. We ask all students to come to school on a regular basis and to get to class on time. LaSalle High school is a closed campus for lunch and students are expected to remain in the building during the lunch period.
4. All students are expected to follow the dress code policy in the student handbook and dress appropriately for school.

**Cell Phones/ Electronic Devices:** One area of concern I would like to communicate with all students and parent/guardians is the use of cell phones, i-pods, and/or any electronic devices. Several years ago, the rules and expectations for using electronic devices changed and this was a very positive change. A survey was taken and results from the survey, along with staff and parent requests, indicate a revision to the electronic device policy. The policy is consistent with other schools in the region, will provide boundaries and expectations for students, and will help minimize any distractions and disciplinary situations. The goal of this policy is to provide a great atmosphere for teaching and learning and provide students with the best educational opportunities as possible. Basically, the policy establishes students should not have electronic devices out nor can they be heard in school pm unless teachers are using for educational purposes. Students can access them during their lunch period. If students have them out without permission in the classroom, they will face disciplinary consequences. Additionally, if students have them out in the hallways and bathrooms during the times stated above, they can be confiscated for the rest of the day. **We ask you discuss this expectation with your child and remind them to turn these devices off and keep them locked in their locker during the designated times. If you have an emergency and need to contact your child, please contact the office!**

**Vapor Device Reminder** – Another area of concern for students is the use of vapor devices. Vapor devices are not healthy for students and others who are around the devices, and these devices can also contain other dangerous substances that can be harmful. If a student is found using or in possession of such a device the student(s) will be assessed 6 points and if the student has previously accumulated points they could be suspended. **Again, please encourage your child to be healthy and say no to using vapor devices!**

**Student/ Parent Handbooks:** In September, all students will receive a 2020-2021 student parent handbook. The handbook is very similar to last year's handbook. Changes to any of this year's handbook policies will be communicated with students at class meetings with students. A list of notable changes listed below in this year's handbook was approved by the St. Ignace Area Schools Board of Education at the August 10<sup>th</sup> school board meeting.

#### **LHS 2020-2021 School Board Approved Handbook Changes:**

\*Students enrolled in MIVHS online courses and work experiences throughout the traditional school day will be assumed to be passing the classes unless indicated in Powerschool with a failing letter grade or "NC" (No Credit) for academic eligibility checks of the end of the third week, the end of the fifth week, the end of the seventh week, and the end of the last week of the marking period. It is the student and parents' responsibility to monitor student progress and or lack of progress in MIVHS online classes. A student's final overall grade for a MIVHS online class will be computed only at the end of the marking period and semester. If the student ineligible in these courses listed above, as soon as they are passing the course and the students are able to show proof of this, they would become eligible.

\* Students enrolled in Eastern Upper Peninsula Virtual Online Collaborative Classes will be eligible for extra-curricular activities applying the same academic standard as traditional LaSalle High School classes outlined above.

**Academic Eligibility & Procedures Reminders:** The athletic director will check with the teachers of all athletes to determine any ineligibilities at the end of the third, fifth, seventh, and last week of each marking period. If a student is ineligible, parents and coaches will be notified in writing by the athletic director. **The period of ineligibility is 14 calendar days which begins on the Sunday following the check showing that the student is ineligible and continues for two full weeks. If after one school week of ineligibility the student's grade(s) are no longer failing and the student has attended at least two after school homework sessions during that school week, the student's ineligibility period is reduced to 7 calendar days. Eligibility is determined based upon the student's current marking period academic grade. During the last week of a season, a student shall gain immediate eligibility upon fulfilling the requirements deemed insufficient. If a student is ineligible, he/she may continue to practice with the team but cannot play interscholastically until he/she is passing. If a student is ineligible at the end of the first or third marking period, he/she is ineligible for three weeks with no reduction in ineligibility. If**

**a student is ineligible at semester end, he/she is ineligible pursuant to Section 45B and is ineligible for practice or competition.**

**Training Rules Reminder:** When **alcohol, tobacco, vapor cigarettes / vapor devices**, or **drugs** are involved on school property or school sponsored trips, the penalty for the infraction will be moved up to the next level. Example, a student with a clean record in this instance would move to step 2. A student on step 1 would increase to step 3. During the summer or off season, **any alcohol, substance abuse, vapor cigarettes/ vapor devices, or illegal tobacco (including vapor devices)** related offense that is documented will result in application of the stated training rules disciplinary consequences.

**School Lunch Information:** Reminder to students and parents we have a closed campus during lunch and students are not permitted to leave the high school at lunchtime unless their parent(s) pick them up

**Future Mailings/ Reduction in Postage/ Automated Calling with “School Messenger”** – One way our office is going to try and save money this year is by reducing the amount of paper and items sent home. If you specifically would like progress reports or report cards mailed home, we ask you to please call 643 - 8800 and we will make sure such items are mailed to you. As stated in our handbook, all progress reports and 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> marking period report cards will be sent home with students. Semester 1 & 2 report cards will be mailed home. **Additionally, this school year we are going to continue to work on improving communication with parents in utilizing an automated calling system called “School Messenger.” This automated calling system will be a work in progress, and we hope to work out the bugs in the system throughout the year. We hope to utilize this system to communicate weather related delays and closings and as we work more with the system hope to use as other forms of communication including notifying parents of unexcused absences. We ask you to please make sure you provide accurate phone numbers and e-mail addresses in the registration form enclosed so we can update this information for using this new system.**

**Bring Your Own Laptops/ Tablets:** Again, school year we will have students have access to laptop carts in classrooms and this will be monitored by teachers. Additionally, this school year LaSalle High School has opted to allow students to bring their own laptops/ tablets to school to be used for educational purposes in classrooms. Students should be aware if they choose to elect to use their personal device in school, the school will not be responsible for fixing the device, will not be responsible for any physical damage to the device, or will not be responsible for any viruses that were acquired through the use of the device. Also, by agreeing to the terms of the agreement students and parents must understand the school district technology department will be able to track the use of the device and restrict use on its network. For a student to be eligible to use their laptop/ tablet here at school for educational purposes, they must have the completed information listed on the agreement form that can be obtained when registering for classes. **It’s recommended if students bring these devices to school and they are not being used for educational purposes in the classroom, they should keep them locked in their lockers!**

**Attendance/ Tardiness:** Regular school attendance is critical for academic success. **If a student is absent, a parent should contact the school office (643-8800) by 9 a.m. on the day(s) that the student is absent so that the absence may be excused in a timely manner. As stated above if we do not receive a phone call excusing your child, we are working on an automated system to call parents to remind them their child was absent, and no one called to excuse them.** If students miss class 10 or more times, a Student Assistance Team (SAT) may be held with the student, parent, and or teachers to discuss the excessive absenteeism. Medically or legally documented absences will not count toward the total. We are working to improve student attendance and eliminate tardiness with our students. **Also, a reminder per student handbook, all student athletes must be present in school for all afternoon classes to participate in practice and games for that school day.**

Although with current times remain difficult, our goal remains to provide a quality education for our students. As you know there are many challenges with the delivery of education for our teachers and students this year. We will continue to do our best to provide a safe learning environment for our students and will monitor and make the necessary changes as we work through these challenges. I hope that this year will be a positive educational experience and strongly encourage all parent/guardians to become involved and work together with us in your child's education at Lasalle High School! If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call.

**Go Saints!!!! - Mr. Fettig**

