

LSES Lynx Line



Vision

- Lynx to the future
- ### Mission
- Each child at Lithia Springs Elementary will acquire the skills to become effective decision makers, problem solvers, and communicators to confidently solve real world challenges. Each child will possess sound values, a sense of self-worth, and a life-long love of learning.

Upcoming Events:

- Sep 8** – Safety Patrol Induction, 6:00PM in the Multi-Purpose Room (MPR)
- Sep 12** – SAC Meeting, 5:30PM in Media Center
- Sep 13** – Mid-way through the 1st Grading Period
- Sep 14** – All Pro Dad's Breakfast, 7:00AM in the MPR
- Sep 16** – Grandparents Breakfast and Reading Day
- Sep 20** – Grades K-2 Open House, 5:00PM
- Sep 20** – PTA Skatentnight, 6:00PM at Skateland Brandon
- Sep 22** – Grades 3-5 Open House, 5:00PM
- Sep 23** – 2nd Grade Annual Team Day

EVERY
Monday is an
Early Release
day in
Hillsborough
County! LSES
students are
dismissed at
1:15PM every
Monday!

Lithia Springs Elementary School - (813)744-8016 – <http://lithiasprings.mysdhc.org>
A Hillsborough County Public School

Principal's Message from Mrs. Keene

Welcome to the 2011-2012 school year. This is Lithia Springs' 20th opening of school. We estimate that approximately 90 percent of our students came to our "Meet the Teacher" event. We want to thank parents for attending and orienting their children. This makes for a smoother first day of school. We opened this

year with 607 students, which is an decrease from last year's opening.

Our new staff members are: Susan Menendez, 2nd grade; Donna Terrell 3rd grade; Drew Romigh, Art teacher; Erica Knauer, VE teacher, Ted Lesinski, Social Worker, and Dominique Flanders Eugene, clinic nurse. I know that you will want to join me in giving our

newest staff members a warm welcome.

If you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me. You can call 813-744-8016 or email me at MaryAnn.Keene@shd.kc.12.fl. I am here to assist you whenever needed.

MaryAnn Keene, Principal
maryann.keene@sdhc.k12.fl.us
(813)744-8016 x 224

AP News from Mr. Martin

Welcome Back!

I'm very excited about this upcoming year at Lithia Springs. I've seen the planning and hard work our teachers have already put in to make this an amazing school year! Please remember that if I can ever be of assistance, just give me a call or send me an email.

Save the Date

Our "Minute to Win It Teacher Throw Down" has been set for the evening of October 27th. Come out and see your favorite teachers competing against each other in events such as "Elephant Walk" and "Junk in the Trunk". Who will get bragging rights and the cup – come on out and see! Ticket, t-shirt and sponsor information will be sent home the first week

of October.

EET...

An acronym you will hear around the halls of any HCPS school, it stands for *Empowering Effective Teachers*. The district is going to place greater emphasis on our parents and school communities knowing what this initiative (which is receiving national attention!) is and what it means. The web address below will link you to a short web video that serves as an introduction.
www.sdhc.k12k.fl.us/webvid/eos/eet_parents.aspx

Wordly Wise 3000

This year at Lithia Springs, we are trying out a direct vocabulary instruction series

called *Wordly Wise 3000*. The series will also help enhance reading comprehension and critical thinking skills.

Books were purchased with funds raised by the school as well as a fee paid when you purchased the school planner.

Teachers will use the books within the contexts of their classes in a manner that works best for them.

Kevin Martin, APEI
kevin.martin@sdhc.k12.fl.us
(813)744-8016 x 223

Child Find...

Parents – Are you aware that there are FREE screenings available for your infant, toddler, and/or pre-schooler for concerns that you may be having regarding their vision, hearing, speech, language, behavior and/or overall development?

These screenings are FREE, but you must make an appointment through the Early Childhood Council of Hillsborough County, Inc. (ECC) or Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resources System (FLDRS).

For more information, please go to <http://fdlrs.mysdhc.org/childfind/childfind> or call Dr. Raschke or Mr. Lesinski at the school's main phone number.

Sometimes children need an extra helping hand!

Jeanne Raschke, Ed.D., NCSP
School Psychologist

Ted Lesinski
School Social Worker

Safety...

The new school year has brought a major change to our dismissal plan. We are not allowing "car-rider" students to be met at the bus ramp gate and escorted through the parking lot to waiting cars. If you prefer to escort your child to your car, have them dismissed with the front side walkers – meet them behind the yellow line by the cafeteria and escort them past the covered PE courts on the north side of the school. When dropping your students off at school, we strongly urge you not to park on Lynx Paw Trail or the parking lot across the street. Please either drive through the drop off line or park in the school's parking lot and escort your children. With no markings for a crosswalk in front of the school, some drivers are unaware of pedestrians crossing Lynx Paw Trail.

As a reminder, please do not park in the bus ramp or block the entrance.

School Board Members

Doretha W. Edgecomb, Chair
Candy Olson, Vice Chair
April Griffin
Carol W. Kurdell
Jack R. Lamb, Ed.D.
Susan L. Valdes
Stacy R. White, Pharm.D.

MaryEllen Elia,
Superintendent of Schools

www.sdhc.k12.fl.us

**Cafeteria News**

All students are entitled to **FREE** breakfast in the cafeteria. Breakfast begins at 7:20AM; students may enter the gates to go to the cafeteria, but will remain there until the 7:30 bell. Bagged breakfasts will be available for those who want to be sure they are in class for the beginning of the morning show!

lsespta.com**Media Center News**

This year we are PLANTING THE SEEDS OF SUCCESS AT LITHIA SPRINGS!

Our new morning show crew has kicked off the new school year starting on the first day of school. Our new team includes Jack Csicsila, Jesna John, Rachel Mills, Nadia Mossad, Jeremy Barone, Julia LaRue, Brianna Langlois, Kailey Miller, and Lindsay VanAllen. Already these new fourth graders are doing an outstanding job.

We have an exciting year planned for you this year beginning with Grandparents Breakfast and Read on Friday, September 16. This activity is for students in kindergarten, first, and second grades. More information about this activity will come home with those students this week.

We are in the middle of media orientation for all students and the media center will open for checkout on Tuesday, September 6, the day after Labor Day. Renaissance Place testing will begin on Monday, September 12.

We are always in need of volunteers so if you are interested in getting involved at school, the media center is in the center of all that is happening! You will enjoy volunteering here! Contact me at Carolyn.lemanski@sdhc.k12.fl.us

carolyn.lemanski@sdhc.k12.fl.us
(813)744-8016 x227

School Advisory Committee (SAC) News

The 2011-2012 School Advisory Council (SAC) held its first meeting of the year on Monday, August 29th. The main focus of the meeting was to explain how well Lithia Springs scored on the FCAT last year and how that led to another "A" year.

Committee members this year consist of:

Teachers / Administration – Patty Dever, Mariana Grace, Leslie Janasiewicz, Shannon Sapp and MaryAnn Keene.

Parents - Kelly Haywood, Lisa Rogers, Heidi Myers, Sandra Carter and Tracy Mayfield

Business Partner – Ben Fernandes

Our next meeting will be held on Monday, September 12th.

PTA News You Can Use

Hello Parents!

I am excited for this opportunity to serve and work with such great teachers, administration, and parents to help our students. We have many exciting events this year and we need parents to help; whether it's 1 hour a week, a few times a month or more...we need YOU! Whatever time you have we will happily help find a place that fits your time and your talents and interests.

If you are not yet a member of the PTA, please join! This does not obligate you to volunteer but it does give you a voice to help us continually improve our school. Forms can be found on our PTA website www.lsespta.com or in the front office.

In our effort to conserve paper and lower our school's costs I invite you to sign up for our weekly E-blast newsletters it will help you stay connected with events going on at our school. Please visit our PTA website www.lsespta.com.

Whether you realize it or not, there is something YOU can do that will benefit our students. I look forward to meeting you and working together for our children.

Allison Jones, PTA President - Allisonjones1@me.com

PTA Fall Fundraiser

We're kicking off our annual fall fundraiser this Wednesday! This year we are having a catalog and cookie dough sale. We are very appreciative of the fundraising efforts by everyone at our school. Everything PTA offers and contributes to the school comes

directly from the funds we raise. This year, with your help, we will improve our school by purchasing new books for our library and blinds for our front office. Sell to your neighbors, friends, family and remember you can order online! Look for the information to come home with your child in their Tuesday folder.

Allpro Dads

We are starting an ALL Pro Dad's chapter here at Lithia Springs and want all of our Dads to join! Our first meeting is Sept. 14 from 7:00am - 7:45am at the multi-purpose room at the school. We will be providing breakfast for you and your students and a great program to enrich your relationships. If you have any questions, please contact Courtney Nelson at nelsoncourtney1@hotmail.com or visit <http://www.allprodad.com/dd/2710>.

Lost-n-Found

If your student comes home without their jacket or missing a shoe (and yes, it has happened), you can likely find it in our lost-n-found box in the cafeteria. Better yet, if you label all personal items we will return the items to you! A special thanks to Denise Brown for heading up this massive effort. I think you all would be amazed at how much we manage to lose each year.

GO-GREEN

Last year our PTA kicked-off a Go-GREEN effort to reduce school-wide distributions and YOU made it a huge success! Our Go-Green efforts will start up again soon and you will have the option to receive school-wide

information to each FAMILY instead of to each STUDENT. A Go-Green Sign-up Flyer will be sent home in the Tuesday Folder to families with multiple siblings attending LSES. If you are a multi-student family and do not receive this sign-up form please contact: Denise Brown via email: lagbrown@aol.com

Lynx Locker

Our school store will be back in business this week! Look for it every Tuesday morning in the breezeway, open 7:30 – 8:00. You can purchase school shirts (t-shirts, \$10 and hoodies, \$24) as well as basic school supplies. Stop by this week and check it out! If we are missing something that you would like to see for sale, please visit www.lsespta.com and click on the suggestion box. We would love to hear all ideas.

Volunteers

We are off to an amazing start this year! Did you know that our school has 123 volunteers signed up to help out this year? AMAZING!! If you are one of those 123, thank you! If you are not signed up to help but have an interest in volunteering, please do join us, we would love to have you! Don't forget to fill out the SERVE volunteer form. You can find it on our website – www.lsespta.com. If you filled out the volunteer sheet, the forms are being processed and you should hear from committee chairs by the end of the week.