

LSA Community Team October Meeting



MISSION: POSSIBLE
AGENTS OF CHANGE

Welcome to the second Community Team Leader meeting! I apologize for the last minute notice of this month's community team meetings that caused many of them to need to be rescheduled to this week. I am glad you are able to join me! Because of my technical difficulties last month, I am using my desktop. Unfortunately it's placed with a great view of my messy kitchen but hopefully you'll be able to see my presentation this time! In case you are new, I will introduce myself again. I am Laura Chapman, and I have a 10th grader who is new to Longleaf this year. Daniela is happy to be able to pursue visual art, particularly digital art, and creative writing. She comes to Longleaf from 9th grade in Wakefield public high school. We are a long-time charter school family, and Daniela's 3 younger siblings still attend another charter school, Casa Esperanza in northeast Raleigh.

Purpose of LSA Community Teams

- **Essential Agreements**

Introduction Activity

- **School 2020-2021 Theme**

Discussion Topic: Student and Family Engagement

- **LSA Staff Survey Results**

Sept Meeting Follow-up: Concerns, Questions

Takeaways from Oct Meeting

Service Requirement Update/Opportunity

Share Community Team Announcements and Celebrations for School Communications



Our agenda this month will start with a reminder of the purpose of our monthly community team meeting.

We will go over the meeting ground rules and then have a brief activity involving our school theme this year to be positive Agents of Change.

Our topic this month continues our discussion of Student and Family engagement, this time looking at survey results from a staff questionnaire.

We have some follow-up from questions and concerns raised at some sessions of last month's meetings, a few takeaways from this meeting, and an update to community service requirements as well as an opportunity for some community service this month.

At the end of the meeting I will ask for any good news you might want to share with our school community.

LSA Community Teams

Mission: Connect the Community

LSA Community Team Leader Role and Responsibilities:

Direct Contact and Community Representative - Available via school email address:

laura.chapman@longleafschool.com

Hosts and Facilitates Discussions - LSA Community Team meetings are held once per month online via Zoom for families to **Connect, Congregate, and Celebrate** by sharing feedback on topics impacting LSA

Attend Head of School Meetings - Share questions, comments, and suggestions gathered from community meetings or email messages and convey responses

Provide School Information - Announce school events and encourage participation

Collect Team Announcements - Information will be shared in the school newsletter

Community teams are smaller group meetings that are a nice way to welcome families into a smaller setting in order to discuss concerns, pass along information, and just get to know each other, since we can't get together in person.

I am one of your school representatives and you can contact me at this email.

I will be one of your monthly meeting hosts and will share with you information from Ms Williams and lead a discussion about this with everyone's input welcome. Every month I attend a meeting with Ms Williams to go over the information she would like me to share during my meeting with you. I will update her about any celebrations that families would like to share with the school community, and I can also pass along suggestions from those that attend the meeting.

Community Team Meeting Dates

My Zoom meetings will be on Tuesdays at 6:30pm:

11/17	03/16
12/15	04/13
01/12	05/11
02/09	06/08



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2020/21 Calendar



Weather Make Up Days

Cir 1	1/25, 1/27, 1/28
Cir 2	11/23, 11/24, 11/30
Cir 3	2/15, 3/3, 3/4, 3/5
Cir 4	4/5, 4/30

Days will be made up in the order listed for any days missed during that quarter.

Professional Development
First/last day
Exams
Teacher workday
Last day of the quarter
Community service day

The monthly Community Team meetings will be held via Zoom. My meetings, for the North Raleigh section of the Longleaf community, will be held the 3rd week of each month.

A Zoom link will be emailed out to everyone prior to the meeting, and I believe there will eventually also be a link provided on the Longleaf website that you can just click to join. This webpage is also where you can find the presentations from past months. From the Home page, click the Parents tab and you will see Community Team Leaders.

As a reminder, there will be 10 sessions held each month by each of the 10 community leaders. You can attend whichever meeting fits into your schedule. You don't have to attend the one that corresponds to where you live.

Meeting Essential Agreements

1. Be Courteous and Respectful of all Contributors
2. Maintain Confidentiality
3. Keep Comments Brief to Allow Others to Share
4. Turn Negative Statements into Positive Suggestions
5. Enjoy Building Relationships - **Connect, Congregate, and Celebrate** Together!

Essential agreements are the ground rules for our meetings: be respectful, be helpful, be positive, and let's enjoy getting to know each other better.

Introduction Activity

2020 - 2021 School Theme - **MISSION POSSIBLE: AGENTS OF CHANGE**

The entire LSA Community is on a mission to be leaders of all of the changes impacting education this school year! We will prove that as a united team our school can be a model for all other schools in the state of North Carolina! Instead of allowing the changes to negatively impact LSA, we will proactively face challenges by taking charge of our journey as Agents of Change!

Your TEAM Mission: Share the top 3 reasons a new prospective family should join LSA or 3 reasons an existing family should join your team's monthly meetings!

The LSA school community is on a mission this year to be Agents of Change. Our activity this month is to come up with reasons why a prospective family should join LSA, or why an existing family should join in the monthly community meetings. Think of this assignment as an advertisement for our school community. Our group must decide on three statements!

These will be shared with Ms Williams at my next monthly meeting with her as she thinks about ways to recruit prospective students without being able to use Shadow Days. You can write in the chat or use your mic. I can lead off with 3 ideas that my kids and I came up with: Consider Longleaf if your students enjoys the arts, if you enjoy being part of a small school community, and we feel that there is a better chance for your student to get the classes she wants because in a smaller school she's not competing with 2,000 other students. My student is in a class with just 4 other students. I know that class would not have made with so few students in her previous 2,000-student school.

Topic - Student and Family Engagement

LSA Staff Survey Results: Remote Learning

Challenging for Teachers and Staff

- 44% - report receiving 50% or less responses from parents.
- 25% - think students are not prepared for NC standards.
- 35% - have 80% to 100% of students completing and submitting assignments.

LSA Teacher and Staff Recommendations

Students - Attend tutoring

Parents - Attend the monthly Coffee with Counselors and Community Team meetings

Students & Parents - Reach out to LSA staff members for support
Check Powerschool regularly

Successes for Teachers and Staff

- There is an increased level of communication between students, parents, teachers, and counselors, which has been awesome.
- Students who wouldn't normally participate in discussions will send anonymous messages in the Zoom Chat and concerns can be discussed out loud or privately during class.
- 1-to-1 support is welcomed and received positively by students.
- We can play with different tools and try out different learning methods while online.

The discussion topic for this month is a continuation of the online learning survey that parents and students completed and that we discussed last month. Now we are looking at how LSA staff and teachers responded to a survey about remote learning. I have included the slide from last month showing the responses from parents and students, and I will flip between that slide and this one as I go over the results. Not everything is directly comparable but I hope you find it helpful to have both sets of responses available. Keep in mind that ALL teachers and staff completed the Staff survey, compared to just 21% of families that completed their survey.

Challenging for Teachers and Staff: top answers were... compare to what Students found challenging (flip to next slide).

Successes for Teachers and Staff include... (flip to next slide for Students).

Recommendations from Teacher and Staff include... (flip to next slide for Parent/Student recommendations).

Tutoring; hours are on the website, on the left under Staff Directory OR under the Academics tab.

Ask for other comments or suggestions from your group.

Topic - Remote Learning

From September

Parent/Guardian Survey Results: Online Lesson Presentations

Challenging for Students

- Small group activities
- Reading and research tasks

Successful for Students

- Google Slides/Presentations
- Live teacher lessons
- Online videos
- Digital worksheets with examples

Parent/Guardian Recommendations

- More time for assignment completion
- Coordination between teachers of when major assignments, quizzes, and tests occur
- More class breaks
- Contacting parent/guardian if student has a pattern of not participating appropriately or is missing assignments

Concerns From the September Meeting



- Students feel like they are being assigned more work than they received when they attended school in person, and that it's "busy work." All assignments are based on NC State Standards and are not busy work. There is not an increased amount of work, though it seems that way because ALL of it is now completed at home and often not during the lesson. Teachers would typically be able to observe in the classroom environment the notes and other items they must now require students to submit.
- Flexibility with assignment due dates has improved, but more **consistent** flexibility is needed from ALL teachers - Teachers will begin using a calendar to share their test and project dates to assist with scheduling. The same calendar was used last year. However, some overlapping will occur due to our students having 7 academic year-long classes.
- Some parents are concerned that their student is hard to read/isn't forthcoming with information; more communication from teachers would help; can more intimate parent/teacher conferences be set up? LSA is a small community. Please reach out to staff for support.
- How can students meet other students? Student clubs are starting and there is a large variety. Students should check the school-wide Google Classroom for club meetings and SGA events (for example, the Halloween Drive-In is coming up in October)!
- Trying to keep up with online classes is a struggle for some students. Counselors are available to assist students with organizing their work. Visit the school website and click on Staff Directory on the left for emails and student assignment: Winters@longleafschool.com (12th grade); Stephenson@longleafschool.com for last names A-J; Tripp@longleafschool.com for last names K-Z.

These are concerns that were mentioned in other sessions of the Sept community meeting.

Reach out to staff for support: email the teachers, email the counselors. Their info is on the school website.

Schoolwide Google Classroom also has help videos like How to use note-taking app Kami.

Questions From the September Meeting



Will another Online Learning Survey go out now that everyone has had a good amount of time with remote learning? **A survey can be sent out at each interim period.**

Out of the survey taken in Sept, how many responses were from returning sophomores, juniors, and seniors? Remember that only **21% of families** responded to the survey! **10th - 25% , 11th - 20%, 12th - 15%**

Will Longleaf waive the community service requirement for this year if things do not open back up? **Student Services has shared alternative community service opportunities with students. There may be more opportunities/ideas added throughout the year. I have attached a slide with this document at the end of my presentation, as well as a volunteer opportunity for Oct 23.**

Can Team leaders get emails of parents in our region so that we can reach out to them? **Parents have to willingly provide their personal information. You can write your email in the chat or send me an email. Keep in mind you can also contact any of the Team leaders using our webpage on the school's site: longleafschool.com, click on the **Parents** tab and select **Community Team Leaders**. PDFs of past presentations will be available there as well.**

How can a parent go about setting up special accommodations or learning plans such as IEPs or 504s? **Hanna Hjalmeby is the Director of Exceptional Services. More info is listed on the **Parents** tab under **Exceptional Children**.**

Here are answers to questions that came up at other sessions of the Sept Community Team meeting.

Questions, continued

Junior and Senior students - may be concerned about when/how to apply for college, or about AP tests and ACT/SAT prep/testing. LSA counselors schedule college planning meetings with Juniors and Seniors. Two years ago LSA invested in a system called Naviance, which allows Ms Winters to supervise the college application process. Students can log into Naviance via the school website: longleafschool.com, choose the **Students** tab, and select **College Information**.

Students can use their link, email, or Google Chat to contact Ms Winters for appointments or questions: Winters@longleafschool.com.

In Sept, college admissions officers began visiting LSA virtually during Advisory Time (which is currently the long lunch break).

Each Sept a College Admission and Financial Aid Information Night is held (was held Sept 24 via Zoom this year).

Junior college planning begins 2nd semester (Jan 20), but students can set up appointments anytime with their counselor: Stephenson@longleafschool.com for last names A-J; Tripp@longleafschool.com for last names K-Z.

For questions about AP testing, Ms Stephenson is the AP Coordinator: Stephenson@longleafschool.com.

LSA does not offer ACT/SAT prep, but counselors can share suggestions for test prep materials.

Testing dates	Juniors' PSAT:	Tues, Jan 26
	Juniors' SAT:	Tues, Feb 23
	Sophomores' PreACT:	Week of Mar 15
	AP Testing:	In May

Ms Winters, the dean of students and 12th grade counselor, presented information to all Seniors in English class in early September. Her presentation is available under the Students tab (choose College Information). Students can also access Naviance here. All Seniors planning to apply to college should have already met with Ms Winters. Students can email or Google Chat with her for appointments or questions now. Google Chat is accessible through the little grid icon on the top right when your student is in his or her email. And yes, my 10th grader figured that out for me because I didn't know the difference between Hangouts and Google Chat.

In Sept, college admissions officers began visiting LSA virtually during Advisory Time (which is the current long lunch break).

College Admission and Financial Aid Information Night is an annual event held each September. This year it was held via Zoom on Sept 24.

Junior college planning begins in 2nd semester (Jan 20) but students can set up appointments with their counselor any time. Counselor info is on the school website under the Students tab, then Student Services. There is also a presentation introducing each of the counselors if you are interested in knowing more about each of them.

Info for standardized testing is as follows: If you have questions about AP testing, contact Ms Stephenson, who is the AP Testing Coordinator. LSA does not offer...

Takeaways

Please participate in school functions and meetings, and by answering school and teacher surveys, emails, and other communications.

Do not hesitate to contact your student's teacher or counselor for advice, or if you have questions. Emails are available on the school website, on the left where it says [Staff Directory](#).

Utilize the school website for information, such as links to Coffee with Counselors, Community Team meetings, and [Board](#) meetings. Teachers' tutoring hours can be found under the [Academics](#) tab (choose [2020-21 Tutoring Hours](#)). Also check out the [Students](#) and [Parents](#) tabs to see what is available.

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2020-2021 Revised Community Service Requirements/Ideas

Community Service is the act of helping others in a time of need. The situation in which we find ourselves provides us with an opportunity to show how we respond in the LSA Way: A creative, rigorous, authentic community of learners. If you have not met your community service requirement to participate in our graduation ceremony, it will take rigor (putting in the effort), authenticity (realizing this is a time where community service is as crucial as ever) and creativity (the easy routes are not currently available).

We have come up with projects you can undertake for your service. We will reduce everyone's community service hours requirement by 3 hours. Counselors are available to consult with students who need hours individually on how to plan their project and how many hours their project(s) will cover.

Here are some examples for you to consider:

1) Encouraging emails or videos (playing music, singing, dancing, etc) to local people or professionals who are affected by the Coronavirus pandemic. You cannot simply use the same message over and over and not personalize it. Students will document the amount of time spent researching and contacting the agency and preparing/sending the messages. Researching and making contact with the agency will take time. You'll need to make personal contact by phone and provide Mrs. Winters' contact information to verify this is a school project. Examples of agencies to consider:

Nursing Home

Senior Living Community

Hospital Departments (Patients, Staff)

Police and Fire Departments

Other Emergency Agencies such as the Red Cross

If the agency has a protocol in place for receiving paper copies of letters, notes or pictures, this may earn more time.

2) Adopting an elementary or middle school class and supporting the teacher by reading to the class, tutoring or other teacher requests.

4) Complete yard work, painting or other outdoor projects for neighbors or family in need due to a disability or due to a difficult situation resulting from COVID-19. Our typical policy is that community service must be completed through a non-profit organization. However, these are not typical times. People are facing different challenges. We are not encouraging students going into crowds or groups of any kind. But, you may call or email a neighbor or family member and ask what projects you can do for them. A picture is required for documentation.

5) Make Face Masks to Donate - be sure you follow guidelines [How to Donate Face Masks](https://www.vumc.org/coronavirus/how-donate-hand-sewn-face-masks) (<https://www.vumc.org/coronavirus/how-donate-hand-sewn-face-masks>)

6) Make Blankets to donate to hospitals, nursing homes or shelters or make socks for shelters. Contact an organization first to determine what they generally need.

7) Visit people via video chat in Nursing Homes, Senior Centers or who live alone. Ask them to tell you about their lives and what the Pandemic reminds them of. Ask them about their families and friends. The staff are probably getting adept at using these tools.

8) For the same groups, offer to organize and host a Bingo Night, TikTok party or other fun activity with them virtually.

9) Research and plan a community project (you don't have to implement it, but it should be something that could be implemented and is needed). For instance, a community garden, a butterfly garden, a Honey Bee project, etc. Contact your local town agency to find out about needs in your area.

10) Come up with your own idea and submit it to your counselor. Here's a list of examples that might help you come up with your own idea that you can create from home! [Community Service Projects](https://blog.prepscholar.com/129-examples-of-community-service-projects) (<https://blog.prepscholar.com/129-examples-of-community-service-projects>)

The community service form can be found on the school website under the Students tab. Click on Community Service. The completed form can be scanned or photographed and emailed to your student's counselor.

NOTE IN THE POCKET

CLOTHING SORT AT HOME

volunteer from the comfort of your home. Sort the clothing items into the following categories and label the outside of the bag.



Spring/Summer Clothing

Plain or positive graphic short sleeve shirts. Lightweight jackets. Shorts and pants.



Fall/Winter Clothing

Long sleeve shirts and sweaters. Winter coats, hats, gloves and scarves. Long pants.



Recycle Clothing

Items that have stains, tears or rips, used socks or underwear. Note in the Pocket partners with a textile manufacturer to recycle these items.



Shoes

Shoes of all sizes and types. Please place shoes in a bag separate from clothing.

We are now accepting clothing donations **BY APPOINTMENT ONLY**.

Visit noteinthepocket.org/covid-19-donations/ to sign-up for a donation drop-off appointment

Questions? Contact us at info@noteinthepocket.org.
www.noteinthepocket.org

More info about Note in the Pocket:
<https://vimeo.com/178372136>

Oct 23 Service Event:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0e44a9a92ba2fa7-note>

Info about Teen Ambassadors Program:
<https://noteinthepocket.org/ambassadors-program/>

LSA parent organizer Erica Stuckey's info:
Cell phone: 919-827-3771
Email: ericadstuckey@gmail.com

A new Longleaf parent, Erica Stuckey, is a social worker who has a close relationship with a local charitable organization called Note in the Pocket. They collect and distribute clothing and coats for Wake County students in need. Erica has set up a volunteer opportunity for LSA students on the next teacher workday, Friday, Oct 23. This slide shows you the link for your student to sign up for a socially-distanced sorting shift, as well as info about Note in the Pocket in general and about their teen Ambassadors' Program, which is a great opportunity for students to continue volunteering with the organization. This year it is all virtual. If you would like to contact Erica for more information, her contact info is here as well.

I watched the video about Note in the Pocket. I just went through my kids' clothing to change out seasons and I ended up weeding out a lot of things that are too small or that the kids just don't wear. I was planning to go to consignment, but watching that video changed my mind. Doing what I would do anyway - sorting through my kids' seasonal clothing - I have found I have a lot of items that will benefit other families. It didn't cost me any money, just some of my time and I feel like I can make a difference. I think that's especially important this year, not just for the recipients but also for those of us who find ourselves at home and wondering how to be useful.

Announcements and Celebrations

Please share anything you would like announced to the entire school community in the next newsletter/communication.



Email me!

laura.chapman@longleafschool.com

Next meeting is Tuesday, Nov 17, at 6:30!

And that brings us to the final part of our October meeting. If anyone has an announcement to share with the Longleaf community, please email that to me. You can also email any discussion topics you'd like to see in future meetings, or any suggestions you have about the meetings. Don't forget that my next meeting is Tuesday, Nov 17, at 6:30. Thank you so much for attending and offering your comments and suggestions.

Before I let you go, let me post the link to the service opportunity this Friday in the Chat so you can click on it and open the sign-up.