



The Hurricane Parent Newsletter  
L.W. Higgins High School  
504-341-2273  
February 2021



The Mission of L. W. Higgins High School is to advance the character development of all learners by providing a rigorous education in a safe and culturally diverse environment.

We strive to eradicate achievement gaps in order to motivate students to become life-long learners, civically engaged, and college & career ready, so they can reach their full potential.

We have one principle: Excellence is the only option!

### **From the Desk of the Principal**

Parents, we are off to a good start for this semester. Attendance has been a problem for this school year. Hybrid and virtual students must be on the google meet with their cameras on. However, we are getting complaints that children are on the computer with the cameras off and we are still marking them absent. This is not a true statement. Even when the cameras are off, we can still see who has reported to class. I encourage parents and students to check the portal to check attendance as well as grades. This is how you can track your child's progress.

Report Cards will be available on February 4 for virtual and hybrid students. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to the teacher and counselor.

We know that this has been a challenging year. However, we will continue to push for academic growth for all of our students. We have WorkKeys testing for Seniors coming up from February 8-10. Seniors must check with Ms. Scott's classroom to get room location. ACT testing is coming up in March. Junior and senior must take the assessment. More information will be forth coming.

I can be contacted by email at any time. [Faith.joseph@jpschools.org](mailto:Faith.joseph@jpschools.org)

### **Counselor's Corner Update:**

#### **ASVAB Testing**

11th and 12th graders ONLY

February 11th and 12th

Please sign up by completing the [Google Form](#) in your COUNSELOR's Google Classroom.

### **Diploma Selection**

Louisiana Board of Elementary and Secondary Education offers **two diploma** pathways to our public school students:

**TOPS University Pathway** and **Jumpstart TOPS Tech Career Diploma**. Each student must make a selection by the end of their second year of high school.

### **Compulsory Attendance**

• **Children between the ages of seven and eighteen must be enrolled in a public or private school.**

ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS: Louisiana Truancy Law R.S. 17:233

Compulsory Attendance Days: High school students shall be in attendance a minimum of 83.5 days, or the equivalent, per semester or 167 days per school year for schools not operating on a semester basis. High school students who accrue more than 5 absences in a whole credit course and/or more than 2.5 absences in a half-credit course will not be eligible to earn Carnegie credit for the course.

### EXCUSED ABSENCES

Absences due to a personal illness or serious illness in the family may be excused. **Four days** in each course per semester may be excused by submitting a **parent note** if total days missed do not exceed 5 days in a whole credit course or 2.5 days in a 1/2 credit course.

### STUDENT PROGRESS CENTER

Both students and parents can monitor grades and attendance throughout the school year at

<https://jpsis.jpschools.org/progress/>

Student login: Student's lunch number

Password: Student's date of birth (MMDDYYYY)

### CREDIT RECOVERY:

If your student has failed a class/classes please direct him/her to contact their respective guidance counselor via **telephone**, **email**, or **message through the counselor's google classroom** to discuss recovery options.

## FRESHMEN

A-G	Mrs. Donna Mashia	<a href="mailto:donna.mashia@jpschools.org">donna.mashia@jpschools.org</a>	504.762.8312
H-P	Mrs. Jasmine Scott	<a href="mailto:jasmine.scott@jpschools.org">jasmine.scott@jpschools.org</a>	504.762.8313
Q-Z	Mrs. C. Stewart-Davis	<a href="mailto:carmen.stewart-davis@jpschools.org">carmen.stewart-davis@jpschools.org</a>	504.762.8311

All 9th grade families must complete the student's Individual Graduation Plan that was not completed in the 8th grade due to the pandemic. Please click on the appropriate link below to begin the process.

- English Version: <https://ccla9thcopy.paperform.co>
- Spanish Version: <https://ccla9thgradees.paperform.co>

If you have questions from the activity, please email the Career Compass Coach, Courtney Mathews at [cmathews@careercompassla.org](mailto:cmathews@careercompassla.org)

## SOPHOMORES

10th Grade Donna Mashia [donna.mashia@jpschools.org](mailto:donna.mashia@jpschools.org) 504.762.8312

\*Mandatory Select Your Diploma: Students please remind your parents to make an appointment with your counselor by clicking this link [Parent Appointment Google Meet Link 9.1.20.](#)

## JUNIORS

11th Grade Carmen Stewart-Davis [carmen.stewart-davis@jpschools.org](mailto:carmen.stewart-davis@jpschools.org) 504.762.8311

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:** Students who did not meet with the counselor to select a diploma pathway during the 2019-2020 school year will need to do so by January 4, 2021.

**ACT** - Every student must take the ACT test prior to graduation. Register online at [act.org/bts](http://act.org/bts)

Students who qualify for FREE or REDUCED LUNCH are entitled to FOUR(4) Fee Waiver Requests to cover registration and late fees. Please see the counselor for waiver(s).

### Upcoming ACT Test Dates

Test Date	Registration Deadline
February 6, 2021	January 8, 2021
April 17, 2021	March 12, 2021
June 7, 2021	May 7, 2021
July 17, 2021	June 18, 2021

## SENIORS

12th Grade Mrs. Jasmine Scott [jasmine.scott@jpschools.org](mailto:jasmine.scott@jpschools.org) 504.762.8313

ACT Waivers are available for seniors who qualify for FREE or Reduced Lunch. Please see your counselor. College application fee waivers are also available as well.

Remember to complete the 2021-2022 Free Application for Federal Student Aid. You will have to create a FSA ID for you and your parents/guardian first. Then, proceed to complete the application. All of this vital information is posted in our google classroom.

Lastly, please forward your counselor your FAFSA completion email. This documentation of completion is a STATE graduation requirement.

Please make sure that you've joined( invite your parents as well) the L.W. Higgins Seniors 2021 google classroom to receive important information about graduation requirements, senior fees and all things related to seniors.

## **OPERATIONS SPOTLIGHT:**

**Masks** are to be worn on campus at all times, UNLESS you are eating lunch. Masks are to be worn on school buses as well. Social distancing, sanitizing and following the flow of traffic are still being enforced.

**Dress Code Policy** is in effect. Hoodies, pullovers and baseball caps are not to be worn. All restricted items will be confiscated and returned at the end of the day.

Please make sure you have read the district's **Interim Virtual Policy** and returned the Acknowledgement form to school or completed the Google form on the Higgins Website.

**Violence Prevention Class** (4 hours on an assigned Saturday): \$75. Students assigned to this class must attend before they will be readmitted to school for fighting. The class is 8AM-12PM.

**Bullying** will not be tolerated. To report bullying anonymously, place a note in the Bullying box in the front office to begin the investigation process.

### **Reminders:**

Faculty and staff are mandated reporters.

Safety and Security of our students, faculty and staff will always be important.

Learning environments outside of school should be free of major distractions and disturbances.

Students are not to leave campus unless they have been checked out by someone on the emergency card.

Outside food and food delivery services (McDonald's, Popeye's, door dash, Uber Eats, etc) are not allowed nor accepted on campus.

If you are aware of a situation that will require us to intervene, please contact your child's Dean:

9<sup>th</sup> Grade: A-G: Hayes

9<sup>th</sup> Grade: H-P: T. Johnson

9<sup>th</sup> Grade: Q-Z: Rayford

10<sup>th</sup> Grade: ALL: G. Rayford

11<sup>th</sup> Grade: ALL: T. Johnson

12<sup>th</sup> Grade: ALL: D. Hayes

## **Curriculum:**

ELPT testing will take place February 1, 2021 through March 12, 2021.

*As a reminder:*

- ❖ Grades can be viewed in the Student Progress Center.
- ❖ Students must be logged in to the live Google Meet for each class in order to be marked present.
- ❖ Completing assignments in Google Classroom does not constitute being present in class.

# TECHNOLOGY:

We will be switching out the computers for the students that had Digital Media I last semester and that are in Digital Media II this semester for the first time this year.

**Laptops cannot leave the United States and Chromebooks cannot be used till the battery runs out. If this happens then we need to do a refresh on the battery.**

# STUDENT SERVICES:

- Each student is required to submit an emergency card at the beginning of the school year. If you have not completed an emergency card for the 2020-2021 school year, please do so immediately. The school must be able to contact you in the event of an emergency. The emergency cards are located in the front office. Please have your child pick one up.
- If you have moved or have changed your phone number, please inform the school.
- Earbuds and headphones are prohibited on campus. Parents, please ensure that your child does not have these items in their possession while on campus. In addition, cellphones must be turned off and not visible during the school day.
- Each grade level is assigned a specific uniform color. All students must wear the uniform assigned to their grade level. Students are not permitted to switch back and forth between uniform shirts. In addition, students are not permitted to wear
- "Hooded" jackets. All jackets must have a zipper or buttons that run the entire length of the jacket.
- Parents, if your child is experiencing a conflict with another student, please notify the school immediately. In addition, please encourage your child to report any issue he or she may be having with another student. We are working diligently to maintain a safe campus for all students. As part of our effort to reduce the number of student to student conflict on campus, we have reinstated our Peer Mediation Program. This program allows students to confidentially report a conflict they are experiencing and work towards a peaceful resolution.
- Parents, car pick up is on Hurricane Pathway. Please do not enter the gates.
- Student drivers must pick up a parking permit from Operations. The cost is \$20. If your child is parking in the apartment area, his/her cars will be towed away.

## Dates to Remember

February 1<sup>st</sup>- March 12 ELPT Testing

February 4 Report Cards

February 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> ASVAB Testing

February 15-19 Mardi Gras Holiday

## Boys Basketball

**February 5 Higgins v Grace King @ Higgins 7:00 PM**

**February 9 Higgins v Chalmette @ Higgins 6:30 PM**

**February 12 Higgins v East Jefferson @ East Jefferson 6:00 PM**

**February 19 Higgins v John Ehret @ Higgins 7:00 PM**

## LADY CANES Basketball

**February 4 Higgins v East Jefferson @ East Jefferson 5:00 PM**

## DISTRICT GAMES IN BOLD

**The Newsletter will also be on the L.W. Higgins School website [higgins.jpschools.org](http://higgins.jpschools.org)**



