Dear JC/LISD Academy Families,

I cannot believe this is our final newsletter of the year. You should have seen the look on my face when Mrs. Case greeted me with a May newsletter reminder. This month has absolutely snuck up on me. I thought we were still in April! It is such a rewarding time of the year as we get to see everything coming back to life with new flowers, green grass, warm weather, and of course outside chores. These last few weeks are also filled with lots of new experiences, college like schedules, interdisciplinary studies, end of the year testing, accelerated college classes, and other exciting end of the year activities. The staff also prepares to review applications and interview candidates for the 2015-2016 school year, collaborate to re-design the curriculum for next year, reflect upon the current school year, and ready our school for a new group of students. All of this in 16 school days!

With end of the year celebrations in mind, I must take a moment to thank our graduates Rebekah Kahle, Lauren Litogot, Bronwyn Evans, Benjamin Milholin, Kyle Oconnor, Annabelle Nolasco, Tamara Gerten, Morgan McCloud, and Trevor Elkins. I feel very fortunate to have been blessed with such a wonderful group of “seniors”. Each student has exhibited tremendous leadership and character throughout the years and their commitment to learning has opened many doors for other students following in their path. We look forward to celebrating the accomplishments and legacy of this year’s graduating class on May 28, 2015, at 7:30 pm in the LISD TECH Center classrooms. As you see our graduates around, please take the time to thank them for their contributions to the school and also wish them well as they move on to the next phase of their life’s journey.

Please Note:
- The 2015-2016 Academy calendar is enclosed in this newsletter. Please take a moment to look over important dates. Be sure to mark your calendars now for a mandatory orientation for all returning students. These are scheduled for Tuesday, September 1 and Thursday, September 3. The primary goal for these days is to provide a positive ice breaking experience with new and returning students, and to review academic expectations for the year. **Specific details will be sent home over the summer.**
- The scheduling process for next year is under way; schedules will be sent home as soon as this is completed.

Finally, I want to personally thank each of you for a wonderful school year. It is a privilege and an honor serving you and your students. I have enjoyed getting to know you and your families and have appreciated the input, ideas, and concerns as we’ve worked together to best serve your students. It is rewarding and a source of pride to look back at the significant progress accomplished this year.

Thank you!

With deep appreciation and respect,
Jonathan
Team Building Field Trip to Somerset Beach Campground.

On May 29, 2015 first year students and a small amount of other Middle College students will be taking a field trip to Somerset Beach Campground in Somerset, Michigan. The purpose of this outing is to provide another challenge level of team building exercises.

Students should be at the LISD TECH Center by 8:00 a.m. Transportation will be provided. Students will depart at 2:30 p.m. and return to the LISD TECH Center at 3:15 p.m. **If there is a weather related issue parents will be notified via instant alert.**

While at camp students will primarily be working in 3 different groups. Groups include participation in a team building activity, zip lining, boat riding or GEO caching. Each of the groups will be supervised by JC/LISD Academy staff.

Team building activities will be more physically and mentally challenging than students have experienced in previous groups.

From these experiences students will have an opportunity to continue improving skills in communication, problem-solving, trusting, cooperation and perseverance. Students will also have fun together and build on relationships.

**Permissions letters will be sent home with students must be returned by Tuesday May 26, 2015** Please also note on the day of the trip students should be prepared in the following ways:

- Students need to bring own lunches and snacks/drinks
- Should wear athletic footwear/hiking shoes (NO open-toed shoes)
- Layer clothing for temperature comfort/rain gear if applicable
- No dangling jewelry (including watches, ear rings, necklaces etc.)
- May also bring sunscreen and bug spray

Please feel free to contact Mr. Cripe (266-6985) if you should have questions about this field trip.
It is always a good idea to look ahead to predict skills needed to be a successful employee. I thought I would share some projections from the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE). The NACE survey asked employers to rate the skills they most value in new hires. Companies want candidates who can think critically, solve problems, work in a team, maintain a professional demeanor and demonstrate a strong work ethic.

Here is the ranking in order of importance:

- Critical Thinking/Problem Solving
- Teamwork
- Professionalism/Work Ethic
- Oral/Written Communication
- Information Technology Application
- Leadership

It seems as though the JC/LISD Academy is on the right track for preparing students through Transition and Leadership courses. JC/LISD Academy is fortunate to be on the cutting edge when it comes designing a curriculum that meets the needs of future employers.

Employers who participated in the NACE survey indicated the top academic disciplines they target for their college hires. At the top of the list: engineering degrees. Some 72% of companies said they want to hire students set to graduate in that discipline. Sixty eight percent are looking for business majors and 58% want computer science majors.

I would strongly encourage students to actively pursue job shadowing opportunities and engage in career exploration. Summer is a great time to visit potential transfer universities and participate in a job shadow. Let me know if I can be of any assistance mary.tommelein@lisd.us.

Have a great summer and congrats on a terrific school year.

Mary Tommelein

Amaya Bailey, Jessica Dashner and Seryna Martindale participated in two forensics scrimmages this semester. Jessica took first place in storytelling during the first scrimmage and third place overall in storytelling at the final match during the second scrimmage.
World History

Students will be learning about the tensions between the United States and the Soviet Union during the Cold War. As part of this unit students will be analyzing the role other nations played during this event. We will also be studying conflicts that arose during this time period including the Korean War, Chinese Civil War, Arms Race, as well as the formations of NATO and the Warsaw Pact. The final exam will be comprehensive and will include information studied throughout the semester.

Civics

We will continue to study the role of the constitution in our everyday lives along with the rights and responsibilities of citizenship. Currently we are studying the Amendments to the constitution. We are working on 27 amendments in 27 days. We will focus on specific rights of the constitution such as suffrage, specific freedoms, and equality. The final exam will be comprehensive and include content covered from Unit 1 to present.

US History

Currently we are finishing our unit on World War II. Students will begin investigating the prosperity of the 1950s after World War II. We will also analyze the policy of containment and the role it played during the Cold War with the Soviet Union. The Civil Rights movements of the 1960s and 1970s will be studied focusing on the civil rights of African Americans, Native Americans, women, and Latino populations. The final exam will be comprehensive and will include information studied throughout the semester.

English

In English, we are finishing up a unit on fear as it is portrayed in literature. During this unit, students did an impressive job participating in a dramatic reading of *The Crucible*, and they are now composing literary analysis essays on the play. As we approach the end of the semester, we will revisit our major writing pieces, make revisions, and complete the final writing portfolio. Students should be very proud of how much they have grown as readers and writers this year, and the portfolio will be a celebration of that growth.

Algebra 2

In April, students in Algebra 2 spent time practicing their critical thinking and problem solving skills to prepare for the COMPASS math test. We are now moving into our final unit on radical functions. Soon it will be time to review the material from the semester (including concepts related to polynomials, factoring, quadratic functions, rational functions, and radical functions) to prepare for the final exam.

Biology

For Biology, students are finishing up with biotech/genetics and Evolution. The pictures show a blood typing lab where students had to identify a criminal based on crime scene and suspect blood samples. Various chemicals were used in place of real blood.

Chemistry

Chemistry finished the year off with Acids and Bases. Students learned several concepts behind these reactions and have done several fun labs using color changing indicators. Students also learned some new lab techniques while doing this unit.
## Calendar of Events
### May - June 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, May 18, 2015</td>
<td>Spring Term Begins</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, May 25, 2015</td>
<td>Memorial Day</td>
<td>No School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, May 28, 2015</td>
<td>Commencement</td>
<td>LISD TECH Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, June 4, 2015</td>
<td>End of the year celebration</td>
<td>Stay Tuned for Details</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, June 4, 2105</td>
<td>Last day of School</td>
<td></td>
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### LISD Nondiscrimination Statement

The Lenawee Intermediate School District (LISD) does not discriminate in any of its educational programs and services, activities, or employment practices, on the basis of sex, race, color, national origin / ancestry, religion, height, weight, marital status, age, limited English-speaking ability, sexual orientation, or disability. Direct inquiries to: Executive Director of Staff Resources, Lenawee Intermediate School District, 4107 N. Adrian Hwy., Adrian, MI 49221, (517) 265-2119. Persons with hearing impairments, please call the Michigan Relay Center at (800) 649-3777 (TDD).