



# LAKER NEWS & NOTES

*Nourishing the Human Spirit - Mind, Body and Soul - through Jesus Christ*



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## School Mass Schedules:

**Elementary:** 9:15, Tues. & Thurs.

**High School:** 8:00, Mon.

**Middle-High School:** 8:00, Wed.

**Middle School:** 8:00, Fri.

Guests are welcome to join the staff and students for Mass throughout the school year.

## From Executive Director John Berlin

Below is an excerpt from the final strategic planning document. Our thanks go out to the committee members who worked on the creation of this plan over the past year.

The development of the Strategic Plan began with a meeting of members of various stakeholders of Lake Michigan Catholic Schools: our pastors, executive director, principal, faculty, alumni, parents, parishioners, commission and foundation members.

The results of surveys completed by parents, staff, and the Strategic Planning Committee were reviewed and categorized into various elements from the responses. These areas included: Catholic Identity, Campus Life, Curriculum/Academics, Faculty and Staff, Administration, Governance, Finances, Enrollment, and Marketing and Development.

As a general rule, the school has an excellent reputation with strong emphasis on its Catholic Identity and academic success as shown by high test scores. As the Committee reviewed the strengths, weakness, traditions, and critical issues facing the school, four areas of growth surfaced. They are to:

- Increase enrollment
- Effectively market the school
- Strengthen the financial viability of the school
- Increase communication and strengthen the development efforts at the school.

The Strategic Planning Committee developed Action Plans which include time lines and financial projections in each of the areas listed to provide for the continued growth and strengthening of the school.

As we enter into the implementation phase of this body of work, please pray for our schools that they may continue to grow and prosper.



## Welcome One ~ Welcome All

The League of Redheaded Lakers  
welcome our favorite redhead,  
Mrs. Peggy Gallagher, who is back  
and "making a joyful noise"  
at the LMCES Mass.

# Laker Splashes: Fall Sports Honors

## VARSITY X-COUNTRY: RAC Champs RED ARROW & ACADEMIC HONORS

### BOYS' 1st TEAM ALL-CONFERENCE:

Lucas Copi  
Frank Moen  
Jacob Kohler  
Ben Spencer

### GIRLS' 1st TEAM ALL-CONFERENCE:

Taylor Juza  
Alisse Havlicek  
Meghan Landeck  
Janine Golob  
Ella Deaton  
Monique Allen

### BOYS' CONFERENCE HONORABLE MENTION:

Patrick Brunner

### GIRLS' CONFERENCE HONORABLE MENTION:

Hannah Seger

### BOYS' STATE QUALIFIERS:

Lucas Copi (34th at State)  
Jacob Kohler (97th at State)

### GIRLS' STATE QUALIFIERS (23rd at State):

Taylor Juza  
Alisse Havlicek  
Monique Allen  
Janine Golob  
Ella Deaton  
Meghan Landeck  
Asha Gilmore

### ACADEMIC ALL-STATE:

Lucas Copi: 12th Place  
Jacob Kohler: 17th Place  
Girls' Team: 3rd Place Team

## VARSITY VOLLEYBALL RED ARROW HONORS

### 1st TEAM ALL CONFERENCE:

Jessica Camburn (Junior Libero)

### SECOND TEAM ALL-CONFERENCE:

Annie Barta (Senior Middle Hitter)

### HONORABLE MENTION:

Hayley Herzog (Junior Outside Hitter)

### 2010 COACHES' AWARD:

Abby Sassano (Senior Middle Hitter)

# Mid-Winter Professional Development

Every other year, Band Director Joe Jarvie and his students pack their bags and instrument cases and head to Disney World, with many families following the band and the sun to Florida. This performance opportunity permits the scheduling of a short mid-winter break school-wide. Though families appreciate this non-peak travel time, LMC school administrators are using the days to great advantage for intensive and uninterrupted professional development.

While families enjoy the super-sized weekend, starting on Wednesday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, staff and faculty will spend the 3-day break concentrating on a number of key projects, including:

- Overview presentation of the new Strategic Plan
- Introductory training in SmartBoard technology
- Power standard identification & use of Kent County ISD resources
- Advanced SmartBoard training & classroom application
- Middle-High school PLC Vertical Curriculum Team collaboration
- Elementary PLC Vertical & Horizontal Curriculum Team collaboration

A common thread that runs among the topics is the smooth transition to the adoption and instruction of the Common Core, a set of national curriculum standards—understanding them and determining the best ways to teach them effectively, which by necessity means using available technology at optimal levels. Having spent the fall professional development days immersed in the Common Core will make this particular 1-day session highly productive.

Busy as the agenda may be, our Catholic faith remains the centerpiece of our existence as a school. In that spirit, Thursday, February 10<sup>th</sup> will find faculty and staff on a retreat organized by LMC Theology instructor **Jeff Ghering** and featuring **Msgr. William "Fitz" Fitzgerald**. Throughout our day at St. Bernard Catholic Church, Msgr. Fitz will help us focus on our roles as *Catholic school educators*—that we are truly Christian, Catholic catechists in every aspect of daily instruction.



# Now Is the Winter of Our Discontent Made Glorious by...

## Watching Kids Act, Improvise, Sing & Dance!

Not to imply any comparisons to Richard III's "management style," after casting and staging three consecutive productions between September and March, Laker Drama advisors **Marty and Wendy Golob** might be a bit battle-weary, guiding over a hundred students for about a hundred days all told.

The choice of plays, two for the Middle-High School Drama Club and one for Little Laker Drama, are finalized in the prior school year. To no one's surprise, Marty and Wendy come up with new ideas that allow theater novices to find their niche, while still providing fresh and challenging experiences for the veterans.

The Middle-High School Drama Club ventured into new territory in December with **A Night of One-Acts & Improv**. Though working within a general framework, the 33 performers had to rely on wit and adaptability as they performed essentially a different show each night that drew some "amateurs" from the audience.



Laker Drama veterans  
Patrick Pjesky, Ella Deaton  
& Jordan Hatfield take part in  
some improv give and take

As middle school teachers,  
Dan Schuchardt (Science) and  
Helen Koch (Social Studies)  
had better be on their game



Following the intentional unpredictability of improv, Little Laker Drama brings **A Twist of the Tongue** to the stage on **February 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>**. A cast and crew of 54 elementary students will tell the tale of a festering feud, recently renewed, between two spectacular spellers, now grown, and their adversarial antics at their alma mater, the Bitter Batter School. Aided by 24 middle-high school students in direction, music and vocals, and choreography, it will be an eminently entertaining elementary extravaganza.

In keeping with the spring musical tradition, the Middle-High School Drama group revisits the works of Charles Dickens in a mystery-within-a-play-within-a-musical, **The Mystery of Edwin Drood**, on **March 17-19, and March 24-26**. Euphemistically, author Dickens took his "final bow" before completing the original story, which allows for some latitude, both charming and humorous, in staging the unfinished play, including putting the audience to a vote on the mystery's solution.

Be sure to join us for the final two parts of the Laker theatrical trifecta, and the dénouement of one more mystery—*will the Golobs still be standing?*

## Laker Splashes: Fall Sports Honors

**VARSITY FOOTBALL: RAC Champs**

**RED ARROW & ACADEMIC HONORS**

**TEAM ACADEMIC ALL-STATE: #1 in Division 8  
#2 All Divisions**

**INDIVIDUAL ACADEMIC ALL-STATE: Nick Barden**

**OFFENSIVE MVP: Joey Frazee**

**DEFENSIVE MVP: Jimmy Koenig**

**1st TEAM ALL-CONFERENCE:**

Joey Frazee  
Shane Gallagher  
Austin Juza  
Jimmy Koenig  
Eric Schultz  
Jack Hardman

**2nd TEAM ALL-CONFERENCE:**

Jacob Kuehn  
Devin Gallagher

**HONORABLE MENTION ALL-CONFERENCE:**

Brandon Robinson  
Tyler Shultz

**RAC COACH of the YEAR:**

Jerome Learman (LMC) & Steve Forker (NB)

**JOHN WALLENFANG AWARD: Nick Barden**

Senior **Joey Frazee** also earned **Honorable Mention AP All-State Running Back** and the **South Bend Tribune's All-Area Football Team - Running Back** recognition. Teammate **Jimmy Koenig** earned the **South Bend Tribune All-Area Football Team - Linebacker** selection.

**VARSITY BOYS' SOCCER: 15-8**

**RED ARROW HONORS**

**ALL-CONFERENCE FIRST TEAM:**

Connor Roden  
Trey Smithers  
Anthony Sarno  
Lukas Visin

**ALL-CONFERENCE HONORABLE MENTION:**

Kevin Cichon  
Nicola Cariello  
Andy Buchele

**RAC COACH of the YEAR: Shawn Beach**

**ALL-DISTRICT:**

Trey Smithers  
Anthony Sarno  
Connor Roden  
Lukas Visin  
Andy Buchele  
Gianmarco Cariello

**ALL-REGIONAL:**

Trey Smithers

**ALL-STATE 3rd TEAM:**

Trey Smithers



*Did You Know...*

The TCACSF conducts an annual fund appeal each year in which 90% of the proceeds are committed to providing financial assistance to students of LMC Schools? The remaining 10% is invested in a permanent endowment to grow financial resources for the future.

*Did You Know...*

A gift to the TCACSF at the Berrien Community Foundation between now and year-end can result in a state tax credit worth up to 50% of the value of the gift ranging from \$200 for single donors, \$400 for married donors and \$10,000 for businesses.

*Did You Know...*

A portion of your estate can be tithed to the TCACSF as a means of continued support of LMC students and staff. We are happy to work with family attorneys and financial planners to make arrangements.

*Please send your contribution to:*

TCACSF  
P.O. Box 32  
St. Joseph, MI 49085

*To learn more, contact:*

Twin-City Area  
Catholic School Fund  
Email: [tcacsf@comcast.net](mailto:tcacsf@comcast.net)  
Phone: (269) 861-3108

## “Stars of the Silver S.C.E.N.E.”

### Annual Fund-Raising Auction Celebrates Its 25th Year!

A quarter century after the first S.C.E.N.E. Auction was held on a very warm July evening in 1986, the event enters its 25th year. This year’s auction will take place on the nights of **April 29th and 30th** at the IMH Memorial Gym located at Lake Michigan Catholic Elementary.

The acronym S.C.E.N.E. sums up the event’s mission:

*Strong Catholic Education Needs Everyone*

and the proceeds of the annual event truly serve everyone in the school system, providing critical operating support, and aiding extra-curricular activities and supplemental programs. Since its inception, nearly a million dollars have been raised with the sole purpose of maintaining Catholic education in our parishes and surrounding communities.

The success of the S.C.E.N.E. Auctions can be attributed to a force of dedicated volunteers who generously pool their time and share their varied talents, and to the tremendous support of the donors and friends of Lake Michigan Catholic throughout the region. New donors of products or services are always welcome, and will benefit from the enthusiastic patronage of our guests who value the commitment to Catholic education.

Friendships have been forged through the years of attendance at the S.C.E.N.E. Auctions—so much so that Friday’s casual evening, and Saturday’s semi-formal dinner and auction have become anticipated yearly meet-ups for friends, neighbors and alumni. This 25th year would be a wonderful time to establish a new tradition by attending the S.C.E.N.E. Auction on April 29th or 30th...or both!



### On-Line Fund-Raising Guide Available

Opportunities abound for friends of Lake Michigan Catholic Schools to support Catholic education by participating in many corporate giving and purchasing programs. An updated fund-raising guide has been published, and is available on-line at [www.lmclakers.org](http://www.lmclakers.org). Located under the “**Information**” heading, click the “**Fund-Raising**” link to display all current programs with embedded links as well as downloadable forms and all of the instructions from one convenient place.

Please share the link to our fund-raising programs with friends, neighbors and relatives. Most of the fund-raising programs require no additional outlay beyond your regular shopping expenditures, and many others simply require sending receipts or proofs of purchase to school.

Thank you for your past and continuing support. Any questions regarding the fund-raising events and programs at Lake Michigan Catholic Schools should be directed to **Chris Glendening, Development Coordinator, at 269-757-4391**, or by e-mail at [cglendening@lmclakers.org](mailto:cglendening@lmclakers.org).