



Dear Upper School Families,

I'm writing this after returning from an incredibly exciting evening in York where our boys' soccer team won their District semi-final game 1-0. Carson Hassel's diving header off of a Ryan Myers corner kick with under ten minutes remaining put the boys ahead. An unbelievable save by Paul Price in the waning minutes of the game prevented the equalizer and sealed the victory. It was a superb team effort with quality play across the board.

Almost as impressive were the number and the volume of LCDS fans at the game. The usually large parent group was joined by over fifty students and numerous faculty members. With no score and time ticking down, the Cougar Crew cheered on our team and made themselves heard. The volume and intensity increased after we scored. When the final whistle blew, our student fans rushed to our players on the field to celebrate. This victory gives our team two historic firsts: a place in the PIAA District III Championship as well as spot in the PIAA State tournament (note: LCDS joined the PIAA in 2001).

The players are to be congratulated for excellent play and impressive conduct. Kudos to our student fans for outstanding support of the team. This is the second exciting finish within a week where the team has had exceptional student support. I hope more students join in and continue to make the Cougar Crew a true "twelfth man" as the team makes a run into States!

Please know my excitement noted above is very Mission focused. We're seeing the hard work of the players and coaches on the team paying off so they can relish the "joy of accomplishment" and fans are demonstrating a "commitment to community" that we look to foster. I view the match this evening as just one example of the great things happening at LCDS and in Upper School.

Another exciting and community building day was last Friday. The Halloween Festival and Halloween Parade set a new standard for good, wholesome fun. The seniors had planned some great outfits and the kindergartners held up their end of the bargain...great costumes and smiles all around. For the festival we had more student created and run booths than in past years, a big crowd, and some good silliness to end the week. Thanks to Mike Simpson for organizing and managing the event...yes, that was him with the baby in one hand and a huge (and I mean huge) bucket of candy in the other.

One of the best parts of my job is getting to visit classes and seeing our students and faculty in their academic element. We have a remarkable and accomplished faculty that challenge, support, and foster an enthusiasm for learning in our able and motivated students. For example, in a recent English class a student-directed discussion on multiculturalism in the context of the text they'd been reading was vibrant and on topic for over twenty-five

minutes. In a mathematics class, students were high-fiving each other for determining the behavior of the graph of polynomial functions between the zeroes. In World Civilizations I, students were analyzing the difference between the literary style of the Hebrew Bible in comparison to the Ramayana, using Indian art as a backdrop, as they were about to start reading the latter text. Practice passages were then worked through and discussed as a class before small groups approached larger sections and developed presentations utilizing their iPads. Physics students used wireless motion detector probes to generate data, which was instantly and graphically recorded on their iPads, as they explored Newton's Second Law of Motion. French students were given the opportunity to immerse themselves in French-Canadian language and culture when they visited Montreal and Quebec City. In each case, thoughtful and thorough preparation by the teacher allowed for students to deepen their understanding while engaged in a meaningful and enjoyable educational experience.

Upcoming Dates of Note

Friday, Nov. 1

7:00 p.m. *A Streetcar Named Desire* – Fall Production (Steinman Theatre)

Saturday, Nov. 2

1:30 p.m. Boys' Soccer in District III Championship (Hershey Park Stadium)

7:00 p.m. *A Streetcar Named Desire* – Fall Production (Steinman Theatre)

Tuesday, Nov. 5

1:30 – 3:00 p.m. Grade 11 workshop on "The College Experience" (F&M)

Boys' Soccer in PIAA State Tournament – time/location tbd

Monday, Nov. 18

US/MS Winter Sports Begin

Tuesday, Nov. 26

Last day of Trimester 1

Tuesday, Dec. 3

8:10 a.m. Classes Resume

Week of Dec. 3

First Trimester Grades and Comments posted in MyBackPack (A notice will be sent)

I hope to see you at the play or one of the games.

Sincerely,



C. Eric Bondy
Head of Upper School
ext. 234

Lancaster Country Day School Mission Statement

The mission of Lancaster Country Day School is to encourage each student's growth within a challenging and supportive academic environment that inspires enthusiasm for learning, the joy of accomplishment, and commitment to community. LCDS fosters the individual's thinking skills, physical and emotional well-being, and creative expression with an emphasis on personal integrity, mutual respect, and social responsibility.