

# HOT News

Lincoln Middle School

Higher Order Thinking



December 15, 2010

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## What's HOT at Lincoln...

From all of us at Lincoln, have a wonderful winter vacation and a Happy New Year! Don't forget, school resumes on January 3, 2011! See you in the next year!



Mrs. Gazda (left)

Mrs. Cammarata (right)



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## LMS Welcomes New Staff!

*Each edition a new staff member to Lincoln will be highlighted here.*

Lincoln Middle School warmly welcomes Mrs. Patricia Gazda to our teaching staff. Mrs. Gazda has worked in New Haven, Hartford and Meriden. This is her 6th year here in Meriden. She has taught third, Kindergarten and First grade. Ironically, her first long-term sub job before she worked full time was in middle school Language Arts. Before teaching, she worked in public relations, promotions and corporate writing. She enjoys gardening, running, hiking, waterskiing and almost anything outdoors. Last year, Mrs. Gazda started the Kids Marathon Running Club at John Barry school and culminated the season with a regional race at Cheshire High School. It was a fabulous experience and she would love to perhaps continue a similar club here with 6th graders. Mrs. Gazda absolutely loves the 6th grade age group and she is very happy she made the move to Lincoln.

Lincoln Middle School would also like to warmly welcome Mrs. Sue Cammarata to our staff. Mrs. Cammarata is our LMS Nurse who handles the daily medical needs of all our students. She is a lifelong Meriden resident and has been a nurse for 12 years. She received her BSN from Southern Connecticut State University and spent the majority of her career at Midstate as a medical nurse.

### Please Mark Your Calendar

- Dec. 24-31 **NO SCHOOL**  
Winter Vacation
- January 3 **SCHOOL RESUMES**
- January 3 (week of) Writing Assessments Grades 6-8
- January 17 **NO SCHOOL**  
Martin Luther King Jr., day
- January 21 Marking Period 2 **ENDS**

# HOT Happenings....

## *Accelerated Reader Reading Hour*

In an effort to allow students a greater opportunity to meet their Accelerated Reader term goal, we are offering a weekly after school "Accelerated Reader Reading Hour." Beginning on January 5, 2011, your child can stay after school every Wednesday in order to have a quiet place to read and/or take Accelerated Reader quizzes as needed. If your child would like to participate he/she would report to the Media Center every Wednesday from 2:15-3:15. After school transportation arrangements must be provided by a parent/guardian. Accelerated Reader is a large portion of your child's Language Arts grade and we would like to encourage all students to take advantage of this after school program.

For more information, please have your child see their Language Arts Teacher to sign up.

## Martin Luther King Jr. Essay Contest

Each year, 8th grade students in the Meriden School District participate in the Martin Luther King Jr. essay contest. Students are given a topic and then write a 300-500 word essay. All our 8th grade students at Lincoln worked very hard on their essays and we are extremely proud of their hard work! The contest winners will read their essays at the annual Martin Luther King Jr. breakfast held in January at Maloney High School. The top two essay contest winners for Lincoln were Tessa Pedevallano and Meghan Tomassetti. Great job girls!!

## Students Experience the Magic of King Tut



Students on Team Spirit and the Transition Support Class had the opportunity to view the wonders of King Tutankhamen and the world of ancient Egypt. The exhibit was located at the famous Times Square in New York City. A big thank you to Mrs. Boyer and Ms. Carr for all their planning to make this trip a reality.



## Teacher Spotlight—November



At a recent staff meeting we recognized Ms. Raechel Gulick as the LMS Teacher of the Month for December. Ms. Gulick is a 7th grade Science teacher on Team 7-1. She is one of the outstanding members of LMS who make up the faculty.



***Parents: Please ask your child to check the lost and found at school for any missing clothing items or books.***



# Technology News

Technology classes at Lincoln are primarily hands-on, project oriented classes designed to allow students to explore many areas of technology. During term one, students planned and produced a podcast using an audio editing application, Adobe Soundbooth. Students wrote and recorded scripts, uploaded sound effects and music, and edited their sound files. Currently, students are involved in using online resources to locate, evaluate, and collect information on various topics in order to produce a digital story using Microsoft Photo Story 3 for Windows. Technology classes at LMS continue to ensure that every student is computer literate and capable of independent learning and meeting with success in today's world.



## Straight A's for Term One

### Congratulations!

6<sup>th</sup> grade:

Jayquan Concepcion; Jessica Despres; Mackenzi Gudrian; Adrian Janko; Shellece Johnson; Bryan Keene; Kendra Lanoue; William Ludemann; Nicholas Martone; Lindsey Mercurio; Kyle Mitchell; Dominic Modica; Kelly Pathania; Giana Pedevillano; Kiarra Perez; Aislinn Quinn; Jack Rich; MaKenna Schlauch; Paul Serio; Drew Siebert; Emily Wozniak

7<sup>th</sup> grade:

Megan Daniel; Hayley Dudley; Maria Duffy; Melony Edwards; Sydney Fogarty; Catria Gadwah-Meaden;

Nicholas Galasso; Anyssa Gardner; Michael Grodzicki; Robert Gullo; Alexa Hernandez; Sebastian Krzos; Mae Lancaster; Rachel Maskowsky; Karissa Massicott; Anna Meassick; Marierose Michaud; Morgan Milloy; Ameila Mirabello; Matthew Mordarski; Sierra Pettway; Jayna Quilty; Kyle Robinson; Vincent Rodriguez; Allison Salafia; Stephanie Soto; Leanna Vargas; Teanna Wagoner

8<sup>th</sup> grade:

Julia Annino; Shawn Barillaro; Drew Bernier; Elizabeth Hanaczewski; Madison Hicks; Daniel Little; Emily Lowit; Joseph Ludemann; Tessa Pedevillano; Hayley Remillard; Emmely Rogers; Emily Stratton; Meghan Tomassetti

## HOT TOPIC for December

### Getting (and staying) Organized is your ticket to SUCCESS!

Many middle school students have a difficult time staying organized. Here are some tips to help you get started:

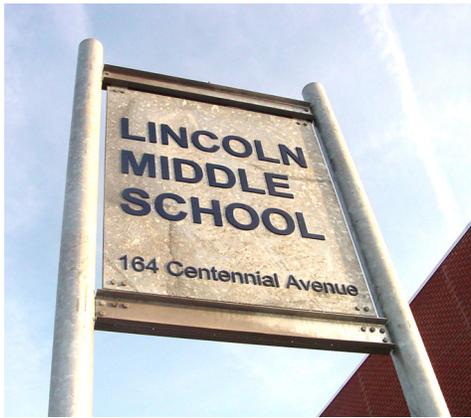
- Make Reminders—Use a different section in your notebook for each class. On the front of each section write the name and room number of the class and the teacher's name. Or, use separate notebooks.
- Use your Planner—Use it to keep track of when things are due. Take it to every class. Write down when you have meetings or practices too.
- Be sure you understand your assignments—If you have a question, ASK! Other students may have the same question.
- Keep your locker neat—A messy locker can slow you down and make you late for class. Stopping to talk to

friends at your locker can too. Try to keep conversations brief.

- Make time for Homework—Set up a time each day, find a quiet place to work and do not take phone calls from friends.
- Break big projects into smaller ones—it can make the workload easier to manage.
- Prepare the night before—it will save time in the morning. Check your assignment book. Make sure you finish assignments that are due the next day. Pack your schoolbag after you finish your homework. Get your clothes ready before you go to bed.

Being organized is key to your success!





## Lincoln Middle School

*Learning in and through the arts!*

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## The Lincoln Middle School Mission

*Lincoln Middle School supports the mission of the Meriden Public Schools: success for all students. The LMS community places a special focus and emphasis upon the arts and media curriculum. We believe each child should have a well-rounded educational experience that will allow learning through the exploration of arts and media. The arts and media curriculum offers special opportunities to fulfill the human need for self-expression.*

*Students are motivated and challenged through an academic program that engages their imaginations in dance, dramatic arts, musical arts, visual arts, broadcasting and video, and creative writing. Incorporating the arts in education promotes the learning of life skills and develops critical thinking. The arts generate the excitement that motivates student involvement in the school community. Participation in the arts, with its multicultural foundation, offers a wide range of human experiences fostering respect for others, building self-confidence, nurturing self-esteem, and developing self-discipline.*

**FLASH!!!** *The following television and radio stations will broadcast any delays or cancellations due to weather or other unforeseen events:*

**Channel 3, Channel 8, Channel 30**

**840AM, 960AM, 1080AM, 1360AM, 1470AM**

**92.5FM, 95.7FM, 96.5FM, 93.7FM, 100.5FM, 101.3FM, 102.9FM**

## H.O.T. Schools Philosophy

**Strong Arts**—In H.O.T. Schools, the arts are rigorous academic subjects, each with its own sequential curriculum conveying knowledge not learned through other academic disciplines.

**Arts integration**—H.O.T. Schools integrate the arts across disciplines, creating arts-rich environments that motivate students to make connections between and among subject areas and ideas.

**Democratic Practice**—H.O.T. Schools cultivate a democratic school culture that emphasizes individual leadership and encourages all members of the school community to contribute.

H.O.T. Schools strategically link learning in the arts to learning across the curriculum. H.O.T. school arts teachers and classroom teachers work collaboratively to structure

interdisciplinary curricula that promote deep learning of subject matter, higher-order thinking, creativity, adaptability, and teamwork.

The H.O.T. Approach to teaching and learning is comprehensive. It considers the whole child, teacher, artist, administrator, and school community. Professional development supports teacher growth and parental involvement, and leads to personal renewal. The strong presence of teaching artists and parents is a distinctive feature of the H.O.T. Approach.

H.O.T. Schools has developed its whole-school change approach by weaving best practices in arts in education with the needs and experiences of urban, suburban, and rural school communities. Through careful planning, application, reflection, and redirection, the H.O.T. Approach to teaching and

learning has emerged to enhance the growth and development of each participating school.

