

Teacher of the Year Spotlight

Ms. Courtney Johnson



“My inspiration is simple – a smile. While simple in delivery, it shares with me so much feedback. That smile may come from a student that just figured out how to read a multisyllabic word or complete a word problem with multiple steps. It could be a colleague that I was working with who was having difficulty navigating their way through using Canvas or Teams and they finally created an assignment or link to a meeting with their students on their own and a smile appears on their face.

That smiles makes my heart happy. That smile says so much – a sense of accomplishment, excitement, an ‘aha moment’, appreciation, and so much more. It is these moments that I cherish and what continues to inspire and motivate me to do what I love to encourage and educate others.”

Team P.R.I.D.E.: Personal Responsibility in
Displaying ExSEllence

Lyons Creek Middle School Paw Print

Quarter I: 2020-2021

Principal’s Message



“If you are positive, you’ll see opportunities instead of obstacles.”
~ Confucius

Lyons Family,

This quarter has been one of the most unique, challenging school openings many of us have experienced. Yet, our team has met those obstacles with such positivity, flexibility, and collaboration. We have worked together and supported one another to embrace the growth in this opportunity. Thank you for your tireless efforts to remain committed to excellence for our students, parents, staff and our community!

~ Principal Wynter

School-Related Employee of the Year Spotlight

Ms. Lisa Shehan



“My motivation for working in a school is for the kids. Although I am not a classroom teacher, I have many opportunities to teach students important life lessons. Often times, teachers send their students to me for help. Instead of fixing it for them, I take the time to teach them how to troubleshoot and take the extra time to explain the necessary steps to solve the problem. This is important because I have the chance to show them that their perseverance pays off, and to not give up when faced with challenges. I also make sure to show them that working hard as a team can be fun! I enjoy the challenges I face daily and the successful outcomes of my hard work.”

Reimagining Middle Grades: Social-Emotional Learning Highlights



Pass the Ball -A student holds their hands up in the shape of a ball and shares something about themselves. They can share their emotions, what they ate for dinner, their favorite vacation, name a best friend or just say the name of another student and throw the ball to their classmate. The game motivates students and gets them ready for the day.

Emotional Check-in



Emotional Check-ins, whether verbal or in the chat, can be a great way to connect on a social-emotional level, then follow-up with those who may need a one-on-one conversation.



Mindfulness activity of soft belly breathing as students repeat the following:

“I am beautiful.

I was created to be a success.

I am determined and I am sure.

I can do all I need to do & more.”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JLqUipWRWk&feature=youtu.be>

Kudos to Colleagues

From Mr. Laspina:

Kudos to Ms. Wright for your amazing help. Your tutorials are excellent!

Kudos to the ESE Department for communicating with us regularly to help accommodate students.

From Mr. Kozell:

A big shout out to Ms. Tanya Mays for all that you do to continue to do each and every day for the Reading Department! Your continuous support and stamina have been outstanding each step of the way. We greatly appreciate you!

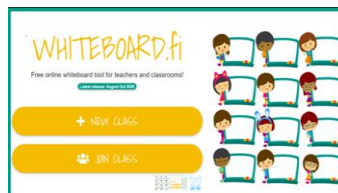
From Mr. Yesner:

Kudos to the 6th Grade Social Studies Department! Babcock, Maya, Cahill, Betancourt, Golding, and I have worked so well together & supported each other every step of the way. Thanks for being such a great TEAM!

From Ms. Wright:

Kudos to my Elective Team! You have all done a tremendous job and I wouldn't choose any other team to work with!

Reimagining Middle Grades: Best Practice Highlights



Interactive Whiteboards with Whiteboard Fi- Teachers create a class and have students join. Each student in the class will receive a digital whiteboard.

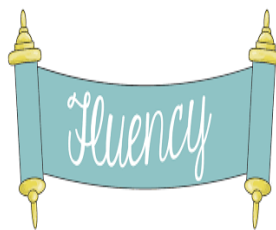
Teachers can see all students' whiteboards, which permits them the opportunity to follow progress and catch errors in real time. Students can only see their own whiteboard and the teacher's, which makes them more comfortable sharing.



Microsoft Whiteboard- Teachers and students can brainstorm and grow ideas on lessons, projects, and more. Teachers can flip the room by students contributing notes, images, diagrams, etc.



Brain Pop- Allows for assignment monitoring in real time. The teacher is able to provide encouragement and feedback throughout the lesson.



Fluency drills in iReady- Improves students' reading prosody and flow at a gradual, independent rate. Students have the option to submit an audio response in CANVAS to practice fluency.