Mission Statement:
La Center Middle School will provide for its family a safe place where nurturing, acceptance, understanding and respect go hand-in-hand with academic success and opportunities for personal growth.
Our School
La Center Middle School serves students in grades six through eight. Seen as a hub for the community, the facilities are consistently used after school, in the evenings, and on weekends by various local groups. Several local youth organizations meet at the school on a regular basis.

New Staff
David McIntosh joined the Middle School campus as Assistant Principal. He’s been a great addition to the team and all staff are happy to have him.

Angela Thompson joined the Middle School half way through the year teaching two class periods of Creative Arts.

Budget
Building resources are established and allocated according to the school board’s end policies.

Condition of the Building
A New Building to Call LCMS: Thank you to the community for their support of the bond that built our new building that opened just prior to our first day of school this year, Tuesday, September 7th, 2021. Built on a recently annexed 17 acre site, the new 85,000 square foot La Center Middle School is essentially two buildings with the main area for classrooms, learning, commons performance and administration making up the larger area. The gymnasium is about 11,100 square feet of the total. The building is a two story concrete and steel structure with a mechanical mezzanine. The exterior metal cladding and cement panel finishes are designed to last fifty years. Also constructed as required by the city, was a sanitary sewage lift station to serve the growing eastern edge of La Center ($1 million of the $37 million).

The new $37 million building was awarded to Robinson Construction in late 2019, and has been under construction since March of 2020. During peak construction, there were over 260 craft personnel working on the project. Originally designed to house 450 students, additional classrooms were added to create a capacity of 550 students. Our bond program has been managed by the Construction Services Group at ESD112 (Keith Bloom). Dave Holmes, retired superintendent, is overseeing the completion of the building as the Transitional Facility Manager. He has worked closely with Bill Hrdina, who has been the detail guy from the beginning of the process. A huge thank you to these three gentlemen for their tireless work and dedication to create a beautiful building, which will be a community asset for many generations to come.

La Center Middle School State Report Card Summary
- Enrollment - 402
- English Learners - 2.5%
- Low Income - 27.4%
- Highly Capable - 11.2%
- Homeless - 1.7%
- Section 504 - 4.0%
- Students with Disabilities - 14.9%
- Student Performance - Met grade level standards on state exams
  - English Language Arts - 44.8%
  - Math - 25.9%
  - Science - 31.6%
- How engaged are our students
- 89.1% have regular attendance (State 80.1%)
- 41.3% have high ELA growth (State 33.6%)
- 34.1% have high math growth (State 33.7%)

- About our teachers and classrooms
  - Number of teachers - 29
  - 70.8% have a Master’s Degree or higher (State 62%)
  - 19.1 average years of experience (State 12.9 years)
  - 13.9 students per teacher (State 17.0)

### STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS 2021-2022 *

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* from enrollment summary OSPI
20/21 Middle School Staff

Mr. Rosenkranz  Superintendent
Mrs. Landerholm  Principal
Mr. McIntosh  Asst. Principal
Mr. Cooke  Athletic Director
Mrs. Wilson  Head Secretary
Mrs. Cosmi  Asst. Secretary
Mrs. Austad  Math 6/7/8
Mr. Dan Bentson  Director of Technology
Mrs. Bocchi  Paraeducator
Mrs. Brightbill  Lang Arts/History 6/PE 6
Mrs. Brothers  Science 8/ Exploratory 6
Mr. Brothers  History 7
Mr. Cameron  Band
Mrs. Clegg  Psychologist
Mrs. Rolph  Library Technician
Mrs. Bailey  Paraeducator
Mr. Cook  Custodian
Mrs. Clegg  Psychologist
Mrs. Cooke  Librarian
Mrs. Cripe  Science 7
Mr. Ecklund  PE /Health
Mrs. Edwards  Paraeducator
Mrs. Flatt  ELL Instructor
Mrs. Fletcher  Playground Aide
Mrs. Foley  Paraeducator
Mr. Garduque  Custodian

Mrs. Gedenberg  Paraeducator
Mr. Grotte  Math 7
Mrs. Hollopeter  Language Arts
Mrs. Holmes  Math/Technology
Mrs. Kitchel  Paraeducator
Mrs. Lewis  Art
Ms. Manceau  Cafeteria
Mr. Manning  Language Arts/Acd. Prep
Ms. Mayfield  Custodian
Mr. Millay  Resource Room
Mrs. McBride  Resource Room
Mrs. Morrison  SLP
Mrs. Munger  Paraeducator
Ms. Ott  Lang Arts 7/8, Leadership
Mr. Pritchett  History 7/8
Mrs. Schneider  Sci.8, Electronics/Robotics
Mr. Holmes  Math 7/8
Ms. Shealy  Cafeteria
Ms. Slinkard  Choir/Drama
Mr. Thiessen  Counselor
Mr. Totten  Science 6
Ms. Torres  Paraeducator
Mr. Westerberg  Social Studies 6 / Art
Mrs. Whelchel  Lang Arts 6/Drawing
Mr. Wilfong  SLC
Mrs. Wirkkala  Cafeteria Head Cook
September 2021
Character Strong Theme: Flexibility

The first day: We ran a special schedule for the students for their very first day in our new middle school. The morning held rotations by grade levels and then the afternoons held shortened classes. Our first day of school rotations helped all students become familiar with the building & expectations and also gave them an opportunity to walk their own daily schedules so they’d know where their classes were. I think it really helped ease the transition to the new building, especially for the new students and all 6th graders. It’s so great to have the kids back in the building and they are also doing great at following the mask protocols required of us all. Thank you students!

ASB Executive Council Elected:
President: Seth Sanders
Vice President: Peyton Winston
Secretary: Bailey Johnson
Treasurer: Lucas Reich

Chromebook Distribution: On Monday September 20th all full time students received their school-issued Chromebook and charger, along with instructions on how to care and be responsible for their new device. Thank you to our technology department (Nicole Andrell & Kelly Sullivan in particular) and to Lynn Cooke for their teamwork to push this huge job forward.

October 2021
Character Strong Theme: Commitment

Fall Athletics - La Center Middle School was able to field a full set of teams this fall season. We had the following teams with the number of participants listed:
Football-39
Volleyball-36
Cross Country-16
Boys Golf-2

Fall State Testing - Testing was held for the missed state testing last spring due to Covid. All students were tested at the grade level below their current level. Middle school tested during the week of 10/25-10/29 in the mornings during class times.

Parent-Teacher Conferences - In the afternoons and on Thursday evening of 10/25-10/29, we had early release for students in order to hold parent conferences. This year, due to Covid restrictions, we scheduled conferences based on student need, and did not hold open-house as in the past. Monday - Thursday night we were able to schedule a total of 75 conferences, 25 for each grade level.
The Healthy Youth Survey was given to students on Wednesday, October 12th. Some of the results are listed below:

Someone in Community to Talk To - 72% (Statewide 66%)
Depression - 24% (Statewide 37%)
Opportunities for School Involvement - 95% (Statewide 92%)
Feel Safe During School - 89% (Statewide 81%)
Know How to Report Bullying - 86% (Statewide 74%)
School Tries to Stop Bullying - 60% (Statewide 47%)
Students Report Being Bullied - 22% (Statewide 33%)
Enjoyment of School - 52% (Statewide 44%)
Prescription Drug Use - 2% (Statewide 2%)
Alcohol Use - 1% (Statewide 4%)

November 2021
Character Strong Theme: Patience

Students Masking Up: For the most part, our students did well with wearing their masks properly throughout the day. Masks slip at times, so there are plenty of reminders that are given and for a few that repeatedly have this issue, we worked to problem solve together. Mr. Cooke did an outstanding job of navigating this difficult area and spoke to many students and staff to assist our consistency of expectations and follow through. As of the end of October, here’s what our data shows:
6th Grade Violations: 4
7th Grade Violations: 25
8th Grade Violations: 15
Number of students with only 1 violation: 28.

October 20, 2021 Orange Day to show support against bullying.
A Ribbon Cutting Ceremony was held to celebrate the new middle school and share it with the community on October 25, 2021.

Stuff the Bus food drive was held 11/8-19. Donations benefited SHARE house and Lewis River Mobile Food Bank just in time for Thanksgiving!

**Stuff the Bus Final Counts:**
Elementary School: 3,780  
Middle & High School: 3,380  
Over 7,000 lbs of food was donated to SHARE and Lewis River Mobile Food Bank! For perspective, Woodland Public Schools wrote up an article recently saying that they donated over 3,000 lbs. for their food drive. Great job La Center!

Fall state testing wrapped up on Friday November 21st, 2021. This was the make up window for missing last spring, so all students tested on the grade level below their current grade.

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**December 2021**  
Character Strong Theme: Humility

**Our All-School Blooket Winners were:**  
1.) Maddox Swank-6th grade  
2.) Tavear Grauer-7th grade  
3.) Lacie Smith-8th grade

**Blooket** is an exciting new take on the modern classroom review game. It aims to match action with education to create the ultimate learning experience! We held an all school Blooket and then took the winners from each homeroom to the final round where these three students won points for their superteam, and a prize.

**Spirit Days in December (You've gotta love middle school!):**  
Monday 12/13  Ugly sweater day  
Tuesday 12/14  Color wars (wear your superteam color)  
Wednesday 12/15  Holiday headgear  
Thursday 12/16  Fuzzy sock day  
Friday 12/17  Pajama day

**Choir Concert:**  
Thursday, December 16th, at 7:00 p.m., will be our first choir concert in our new building and our first choir concert in a very long time. I can hardly wait to hear what Mrs. Catchpole and her students have in store for us!

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**January 2022**  
Character Theme: Selflessness
Drama II Production January 13th, 2022
Putting our new stage to good use, our Drama II class performed two plays: Sir Dabney and Cinderella Hollywood. Under the direction of Meredith Ott, eighteen students played various roles, showed great poise, and even demonstrated flexibility when the stage lights shut down five minutes prior to their performance. Way to go Drama II! And a special thank you to Josh and Kris Soske who have both put countless hours into helping get our new drama space off the ground and running. Thank you Josh and Kris for the black flats, the lighting, and for caring so much about our students as well as the future of our program.

Middle School Assistant Principal
Dave McIntosh is our new middle school assistant principal. He is the first person to fulfill this role without wearing another major title, like special education director or athletic director. He is therefore capable of focusing his efforts on the needs of our middle school students and staff. It is so helpful to have him, and he has hit the ground running! He is quickly building relationships with students and staff, and eager to assist and learn about everything that comes his way. Thank you for the support!

February 2022
Character Strong Theme: Kindness

NBCT: A big shout out to our National Board Certified Teachers for NBCT Week. At the middle school, we have Andrea Austad, Todd Brothers, Sara Clegg, Lynn Cooke, Stephanie Holmes, Meredith Ott.

The founding mission of the National Board is to advance the quality of teaching and learning by:

- Maintaining high and rigorous standards for what accomplished teachers should know and be able to do;
- Providing a national voluntary system certifying teachers who meet these standards;
- Advocating related education reform to integrate National Board Certification in American education and to capitalize on the expertise of National Board Certified Teachers.

The process helps identify areas of strength and those for improvement. Analyzing their planning, teaching, student engagement, assessment, feedback, and parent communication is a transformational experience for those in the program.

Academic Achievement Data
4.0 GPA - 36 Students (8 - 6th grade, 1 - 7th grade, 17 - 8th grade)
Honor Roll (3.5 GPA and above) - 172 Students (49-6th grade, 60-7th grade, 63-8th grade)
Academic Improvement (.5 GPA and above increase) - 43 Students
Promotion Policy Met - 95.7% of Students (398/416 Students)
Not met by 4.3% of Students (18 Total - 7-6th grade, 5-7th grade, 6-8th grade)

Student Letters
Friday, February 11th, we had about 50 students write a personal letter to Governor Inslee, expressing their opinion about the current mask mandate for WA schools. They wrote these letters during a respectful and energetic protest regarding the same subject. Student letters were then mailed to the governor in Olympia.
March, 2022
Character Theme: Respect

Advocacy for Education-The 2022 Advocacy Conference and joint NASSP-NAESP Capitol Hill Day: Principal Lauri Landerholm was able to travel to Washington DC for an advocacy conference and day on the hill, advocating for the needs of public schools. As the Washington State advocacy representative, she joined hundreds of other principals throughout the country to visit our senators and legislative representatives through the efforts of NASSP/NAESP (National Association of Secondary/Elementary School Principals). This year meetings with 309 congressional offices from all 50 states and Washington, DC took place. For Washington State, 11 meetings took place with 2 Senators and 9 Representatives. The voice of our country's school leaders and our collective legislative agenda was heard by lawmakers.

April 2022
Character Strong Theme: Respect

Doernbecher Fundraising Week - April 18 - 22 was our annual fundraiser event. This year was a dollar war (in place of the copper/silver war) between our homeroom teams, and also links were shared with family/friends and placed on our website so others outside of school could contribute as well. Total funds raised will be shared next month.

Band Festival - Mr. Steve Robertson (pictured right) has been filling in as our middle and high school band director for the last month, while Mr. Cameron has been on active duty for his military obligations. Mr. Robertson is a long time successful educator and band director (44 years!) and graciously stepped up to keep our music program healthy and growing during Mr. Cameron's absence. We are very grateful and appreciative of his kind expertise shared and time devoted to our students. Thank you Mr. Robertson!

Congratulations to members of the Hawk Band program! They went to a regional band festival and represented our school at the highest level. With groups performing from nearly every middle school in Clark County, our band scored as follows:
Judge 1 - 68 points
Judge 2 - 70 points
Judge 3 - 90 points (Wow!)
Mr. Robertson said the band performed stronger at the band festival than their concert where they had a great performance the night before. It was a sensational performance for our music students! Congratulations!

Spring Parent-Teacher Conferences - In March, we held parent-teacher conferences in two different settings, offering both open conferences and scheduled conferences. We scheduled 18 conferences for each grade level (54 total) for specific students and also had open opportunities for all other parents to attend. Overall, this year's spring conferences were successful in providing important communication between parents and teachers regarding student success.

LCRMEA Choir Festival - Our 7th & 8th grade choir was able to participate in the music festival this year at the end of March, for the first time in two years. The kids were excited and nervous, but they performed beautifully receiving a 'superior' rating from both judges. Our own Mrs. Rhonda Catchpole not only directed her choir, but she also helped coordinate the festival itself. Thank you for stepping up to support the students in our region.
La Center Jazz Night - March 31st was a FREE performance of various musical ensembles and featured MS and HS jazz groups from around our area as well as professional ensembles, including a faculty ensemble from the University of Idaho and Vancouver's own VanPort Jazz Ensemble. There were some fantastic performances by some great musicians from out of town.

May 2022
Character Theme: Perseverance

State Testing Grades 6, 7, & 8 completed state testing in both math and ELA. Eighth grade students also completed the science state test. All testing was done during regular class periods, so we didn't need to run a special schedule. It went very well this spring.

Drama
Drama students will be performing their spring act called 'Crumpled Classic' on May 26, 2022 at 7:00 pm. The students have been working hard in preparation for their spring finale. Thank you to Meredith Ott for her
tireless work with her students, and to Josh Soske, for all of his diligent volunteer work to help get our stage lights working appropriately.

June 2022
Character Strong Theme: All

Two Teacher Retirements:

**Laurie Cripe** - Laurie was a middle school science teacher for La Center for 15 years. Prior to that, she was an elementary and middle school teacher for the Evergreen School District. She taught for 41.4 years total.

**DeWayne Pritchett** - DeWayne joined La Center in 1994 as a middle school teacher and assistant coach for track and football. He was with La Center for 28 years of teaching, he taught for 30 years total.

Thank you both for your service to the students of La Center Middle School.