From the Principal’s Desk

We are off to a terrific start for the 2013-14 school year. As usual, it did take buses and our car line some time to run smoothly, but we are there! Just a few car line reminders:

* **Move all the way to the end of the sidewalk**
* **Follow all teacher directives, especially those with STOP signs**
* **Have your child’s backpack and lunch box ready when exiting your car**
* **Do not get out of your car, teachers will assist your children**
* **Absolutely no cell phone usage**
* **Grades 4-5 and siblings use inside line, can drop off at the gym doors**
* **Grades K-2 and younger siblings use outside line and cross over inside line**
* **Children should practice independently buckling and releasing their safety belts**

Dismissal is running about 18-20 minutes, our goal is to dismiss everyone within a 15 minute time frame. Adherence to the above will help expedite our dismissal process.

Our Character Education program is in full swing as well. Our all-school, kick-off assembly on Friday, 9/13, was a huge success. Mrs. Beadle read All the Colors of the Rainbow about tolerance and understanding differences and taught the children the Character Education song she composed. The students also recited a Character Education pledge promising to be persons of character who think and act responsibly and respectfully while incorporating “The Golden Rule” into their daily lives. Our K-2 theme continues to be “Bucket Filling.” This theme provides a perfect visual for our youngest learners when discussing character building.

The 3-5 students attended their own Character Education assembly where their new theme, “Get a Grip,” was introduced. The goal of “Get a Grip” is to instill in our older learners the importance of self-control and self-discipline in daily interactions. All pillars of Character Education will be discussed through interactive, cross grade level class meetings. Our first Character Education activities included creating classroom posters using “Wordle” and the creation of “The Being”, which emphasizes and highlights how students in each classroom want to be treated and conversely how they do not want to be treated. Our plan this year is to have frequent conversations about behavioral and attitudinal expectations at LCS. In the past, our students have continued to raise the bar of character development as they interact with peers and adults with compassion, sensitivity, understanding and empathy.

We look forward to seeing many of you at our four Parent Academy workshops. This year all workshops are scheduled on Wednesdays at 8:45-9:30 a.m. in the Library. As per last year’s parent survey, the following topics will be offered**, 1. Oct. 16, Internet Safety and Your Child, Mr. Matt Hall, district Science and Technology Supervisor and Mr. Phil Peluso, LCS Computer Teacher and Tech Support 2. Nov. 13, Demystifying MAP and NJASK Tests, Mrs. Kristin Fox, district Social Studies Supervisor 3. Jan. 15, The New Language Arts Curriculum, Mr. David Hunscher, district Language Arts Supervisor and 4. Apr. 16, The Go Math Program, Mrs. Kristen Wolff, district Math Supervisor.**