

Logan Junior High
November Newsletter
By J.D. Orwig, Principal

Homework Requests At Logan Junior High

With the seasonal cold/flu time upon us, more and more absences are beginning to occur, which causes the need for students to focus even greater on assigned classroom work and to be timely in “catching up” with assigned classroom work when he/she returns from an illness. When parents/guardians call in the morning to report an absence, a request for homework is often made, and that request is noted in the daily staff announcements.

Occasionally, parents/guardians will express some frustration when they come to Logan and find no homework waiting for them. This is understandable, knowing that parents/guardians want their child/children keeping up with missed homework as best as possible. Let me explain a couple of the main reasons why there might not be any homework waiting at the end of the day, even after a homework request has been made...

1. As many of you know, LJHS is the first educational setting at PES District #115 where the students encounter a departmentalized setting versus a self-contained classroom setting. Simply put, the students travel from classroom to classroom, teacher to teacher as compared to having one classroom and one teacher to report to throughout the day. One of the reasons departmentalized settings do not happen until the later years in elementary education is because students simply are not mature enough to handle the different demands, structures, and expectations of different teachers throughout the day. Along with that, comes a different way in which the students are taught. Obviously, students are delivered instruction more in lecture format, with note-

taking being an expectation, etc. Therefore, as I often find myself explaining to parents on the phone, students often times need to have direct contact with the teacher in order to fully understand specific assignment expectations and responsibilities. If the teacher/s deem that as being a priority, then homework is held for the students until they return from an illness, and can get that direct explanation from a teacher.

2. In my years of working with the LJHS teachers as an administrator, I cannot recall one instance where flexibility was not granted for students returning from illness. Even though the handbook may speak to a certain amount of time allowed for make-up work, the teachers have always been willing to deviate from that on a case-by-case basis in order for the student to feel comfortable about making up work...

Even though our handbook suggests not calling for homework requests until a student has missed three consecutive days, we don't mind putting in a request at any time... We just want everyone to feel comfortable with what they might expect as far as the receipt of make-up work.

Upcoming Events...

- 11/10= Veteran's Day Assembly-9:00
- 11/11= PRIDE mtg.-3:00
- 11/11= Girls Basketball Recognition Night-5:30
- 11/12= P/T conferences-5:00-8 p.m.
- 11/13= P/T conferences-8:00-noon
- 11/17= Principal's Advisory Committee mtg.-6:00
- 11/23= 7th/8th Holiday Concert @ PHS-7:00
- 11/24= 5th/6th Holiday Concert @ PHS-7:00
- 11/25= 2:00 dismissal