

very early start date. Additionally, many of our families don't have students at LPHS and do not prioritize the same start date. Each year, District 12 hosts the extended school year program for our special education co-op. The R early start date makes it difficult on our custodial crew to get the building prepared and provide teachers the opportunity to come in and get their classroom ready. We would like to gather input from our families as to the preferred start of the school year. We invite each family to complete this <u>survey</u> to share your thoughts. The survey will be open through Friday, September 13. Thank you in advance for your input! **Parent Boot Camp** It was great to see many of you at our first Parent Boot Camp! I enjoyed seeing familiar faces and meeting many new families to the district. What was most meaningful was hearing how much your children love their teachers and are enjoying school! Thank you for sharing your stories and your hopes for your children with me. **Attendance Awareness Month** September is Attendance Awareness Month. This is the perfect time of year to create and maintain strong attendance habits. We do not promote perfect attendance as we want learners to stay home when they are ill. Chronic absenteeism occurs when a learner misses 10 percent, or 18 days, during the school year. This would equate to an average of two days per month. This is a significant amount of lost learning time and, when the pattern is repeated over multiple years, can have a permanent negative impact on learning. At the elementary level, students who are chronically absent are less likely to be reading on grade level by the end of third grade. If you are struggling to establish positive attendance habits with your learner, please reach out to the school for support. Safety Threat Report You may have noticed that there is a link to a Safety Threat Report at the top of the newsletter. A link can also be found on our District 12 home page. The form may be used to report any safety concern you or your learner has. The form is specific to each school. Once it is submitted, our school and district administrators receive a notification and will address the issue. I'm looking forward to seeing families at PTO's Rock the Block this Thursday, September 5, beginning at 5:30 p.m. at Spring Hills School. This is a family event for the entire district. Sincerely, Dr. Mary Henderson Superintendent #YouBelongInD12 **Mary Henderson** Mary is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters osene **KO26116 KO26116**

