

Monday Message

Aug. 9, 2021



President's Message

Dear all,

At Lewis-Clark State College we know individualized interpersonal interaction between the instructor and student is vital, we know connecting learning to life is the core of the educational experience we provide, and we know our small, warm, and friendly campus is a big reason why students choose, stay, and succeed at LC State. With this in mind, and given the recent surge of the coronavirus delta variant, I want to make clear that while we are fully committed to maintaining an on-campus and in-person learning experience this fall, we are equally committed to our collective and community health and safety. I've heard our students. I've heard our faculty and staff. We want to be together, and we want to deliver and experience transformative education.

Yes, the coronavirus delta variant is another formidable challenge, but the good news is that Warriors are accustomed to meeting and overcoming challenges. We kept our doors open and in-person classes rolling throughout the 20-21 academic year (when many others closed), and we expect to achieve the same thing this year. To do so, it will again take perseverance, creativity, care for one another, communication, and teamwork.

Our Coronavirus Tactical Team, led by Senior Vice President/Vice President for Student Affairs Andy Hanson, is convening regularly and developing proactive strategies to help us launch and maintain the academic year as safely and responsibly as possible. After consultation with representatives from the Governor's Office, the state's Division of Human Resources, the Department of Health and Welfare, the Office of the State Board of Education (OSBE), the State Board of Education (SBOE), and our own Public Health - Idaho North Central District, key elements of our strategy will be:

- **An updated operations matrix inclusive of indoor space masking requirements** – to be finalized and posted on our [coronavirus resource page](#) before the end of the week. Which means, masking will happen dependent upon CDC guidance, state, and local Public Health recommendations, SBOE input, and campus and community vaccination and infection metrics.
- **Weekly campus-wide COVID-19 surveillance testing of students and employees.** Such tests, conducted as we bring folks onto campus and launch the semester, will help us gauge infection levels and inform decisions for success this fall. Note: Our plan/strategy has been vetted with the state and is not contrary to the Governor's executive order.

Here's how weekly testing will work: Test kits (VAULT testing kits) supplied by the State of Idaho Department of Health and Welfare will be distributed to students and employees (at no cost to them) beginning the week of Aug. 23; with **surveillance testing** continuing throughout **at least** the first 4-6 weeks of the semester. These quick and easy **saliva tests** can be self-administered with the results reported to the individual and Idaho Public Health.

Those who have been fully vaccinated or infected in the last 60 days **will be able to opt-out of testing, if they so choose, by providing verification.** Dual credit students and others who are not taking live or hybrid classes on campus or in Coeur d'Alene, people who have religious or medical exemptions, and people who have had their first vaccination dose within three weeks of the testing date will also be able to opt out. Details will be provided and disseminated via email and our [coronavirus resource page](#) in the coming days as we make arrangements for campus-based testing sites set up weekly to help support folks as they get a feel for the routine of the saliva-based test protocol; multiple test drop-off sites; and finalize opt-out verification submission logistics.

I want to remind everyone that our best path for success and safety is to get vaccinated. Beginning this Friday, as you can see in the events section below, Public Health will be holding a vaccination clinic on campus on Aug. 13 ([register here](#)), with additional weekly on-campus clinics scheduled with both Public Health and CHAS Health. A full schedule is posted to our [coronavirus resource page](#). We are doing all we can to make vaccination convenient and accessible.

If you haven't been vaccinated already, I simply cannot stress enough how important it is that you do so. Simply put, the virus will spread and mutate as long as there are viable hosts. The pressure on our local, regional, state and national healthcare system is escalating – which means not only are we closing in on resource limits for COVID-related healthcare, but reducing resource availability for all other healthcare needs. As a further incentive, students who provide proof of vaccination (not later than Oct. 1, 2021) will have \$100 “Warrior Bucks” loaded onto their Warrior ID cards, and will be entered into a drawing to receive one of two in-state tuition scholarships awarded for the spring semester. More details are forthcoming on this as well.

I thank you all for your continued commitment to LC State, each other, and the success of our students.

Stay tuned and stay strong, Warriors.

Cynthia Pemberton, Ed.D.
President

Events

- **Aug. 10 – Tuesday at Two** – President Pemberton's Tuesdays at Two continue through Zoom (<https://lcsc.zoom.us/j/861031866>). All are welcome to join the conversation.
- **Aug. 11 – Transfer/Adult Learner New Student Orientation**
- **Aug. 13 – Vaccination Clinic** – Idaho Public Health will be holding a vaccination clinic and administering the Pfizer vaccine on campus on Friday, Aug. 13. The clinic will be held in Activity Center West, Room 122 (the dance lab). [Register for an appointment](#).
- **Aug. 17 – CDA New Student Orientation**
- **Aug. 18 – Move-in Day for Residence Halls**
- **Aug. 18 – Faculty return; divisions conduct retreats/meetings**
- **Aug. 19 – All-Campus Meeting** – The fall semester All-Campus Meeting will be held Thursday, Aug. 19, from 3-4 p.m. at the Silverthorne Theatre. The meeting will also be streamed live via Zoom. [Zoom link](#).
- **Aug. 19 – Faculty Association Meeting** – The fall semester Faculty Association Meeting will be held directly after the All-Campus Meeting on Thursday, Aug. 19, from 4-5 p.m. at the Silverthorne Theatre. The meeting will also be streamed live via Zoom. Details to come.
- **Aug. 19 – President's Reception** – President Pemberton invites faculty and staff to a reception in the President's backyard from 5-6 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 19, following the Faculty Association Meeting.
- **Aug. 20 – CHAS portable vaccination clinic near Fountain Area** – From 1:30-4 p.m. (no registration required)
- **Aug. 20 – Convocation & New Student Orientation** – Convocation inside the Activity Center will be from 8:30-9 a.m. and orientation activities will run throughout the day. For details visit: www.lcsc.edu/orientation/first-year-student-agenda
- **Aug. 20 – Reception for President, Provost, and Dean Scholars**
- **Aug. 20 – Foundation Scholars Reception**
- **Aug. 21 – Movie on the Library Lawn: Jumanji - The Next Level** – Begins at 7:45 p.m.
- **Aug. 23 – First Day of Fall Semester**

- **Aug. 25 – Welcome Fair**
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Announcements

- **Coronavirus Updates & Risk Level:** For the latest coronavirus updates and information visit www.lcsc.edu/coronavirus. In accordance with its [Operational Levels](#), LC State's current risk level is: Minimal.
 - **Cases Update:** Currently there is **one** active case and **no** students in isolation in campus housing.
 - **Vaccine Availability:** Public Health - Idaho North Central District has opened vaccine availability to all ages. To schedule an appointment visit www.idahoprepmo.com or call 208-799-3100.
 - **LC State Protocols:** Ongoing protocol decisions will continue to be guided by science and safety, with summer modifications (see [Summer 2021 Outlook](#)) in effect May 17-Aug. 6 (aligned with summer hours). **Fall updates will be released soon.**
 - **Vaccination Challenge:** LC State is proud to partner with the White House and colleges and universities across Idaho and the country to support the [COVID-19 College Vaccination Challenge](#). The Challenge invites colleges/universities to make sure members of their campus communities know where to go to get a vaccine; and to lead and pave the way by helping to make vaccination options and opportunities readily available (e.g., our spring vaccine clinics, coordinated in partnership with Public Health, and scheduled in time for vaccination to be complete prior to the end of school, as well as soon to be announced fall on-campus vaccine clinics, are an example of our efforts to help put the pandemic in the past).
- **Training Day Feedback:** LC State held its Annual Compliance Training Day on July 28 and Human Resources would love your feedback. Please take approximately three minutes to [complete this survey](#) to assist in making any necessary changes for next year.
- **Guest Speaker:** On Wednesday, Aug. 18, from 9-10:30 a.m., all campus faculty and staff are invited by the offices of the President, Vice President for Academic Affairs, and the School of Professional Studies to attend the virtual presentation by keynote speaker, Donna Cardillo. Cardillo (RN, CSP, FAAN) is known as "The Inspiration Nurse." The original "Dear Donna" columnist at Nurse.com, Cardillo's accomplished career combines over 25 years of clinical, managerial, and business experience, not to mention a stint as a professional singer. Cardillo is the author of four books including the award-winning "Falling Together: How to Find Balance, Joy, and Meaningful Change When Your Life Seems to be Falling Apart" and is a certified meditation teacher, labyrinth facilitator, Reiki Master, and certified forest therapy guide. Please connect via Zoom at <https://lcsc.zoom.us/j/84078022090>.
- **Student Engagement Calendar:** The [student engagement calendar](#) for the first week of school is now available at online. The website is set up to refresh each Sunday so students don't get overwhelmed with options. All events will be posted on the Do More app as well. Incoming freshmen, transfer, and returning students will receive a [flyer listing all events \(PDF\)](#) by mail as well as a postcard next week with a QR code linking to the scheduled events. The events are designed to help all students connect quicker with resources, make the transition to college easier, get excited and engaged with groups and orgs, or just genuinely have a great college experience. Please help us spread the word about events with students, faculty, and staff.

- **Warrior Alert Test:** LC State will conduct a test of its Warrior Alert emergency notification system on Wednesday, Aug. 11, at 11 a.m. All students and employees, upon admission and/or employment, are automatically enrolled to receive alerts through the Warrior Alert system via telephone and email. Any students who do not receive the test alert should contact the registrar's office, and employees who do not receive it should contact HR to verify/correct what contact information is on file. For more information about how you can prepare for an emergency, review the information and resources on the [Emergency Planning and Procedures](#) website.
- **Athletics Staff Changes:**
 - George Laughlin, former assistant volleyball coach, is now the director of facilities
 - Drew Choules is the new assistant volleyball coach and AAU manager
 - CJ Johnson is the new men's basketball assistant coach and intramurals coordinators
 - Ryan LaPlante is the new assistant tennis coach and Tennis Center manager
 - Matt Breach is the new assistant athletic director
- **Mental Health Resource:** A reminder that there's a new mental health resource available for all LC State students, faculty and staff. Therapy Assisted Online (TAO) includes over 150 brief, effective, self-help educational sessions covering over 50 common topics and skills related to mental health, wellness, and substance use issues. TAO includes interactive sessions, mindfulness exercises and practice tools all aimed at helping you achieve your goals. [Learn more and register for an account online](#). Contact the Student Counseling Center at counseling@lcsc.edu or 208-792-2211 if you have questions.
- **Writing Style Guide:** To support consistency in the college's internal and external written communications, the Communications & Marketing office has published a [Writing Style Guide](#). Please use this as a resource for all written college materials, including news releases, newsletters, promotions, websites, and social media.
- **HR Updates:**
 - [Weekly Flyer | August Newsletter](#)
 - Championship Round of Cornhole and Concerts ([Bracket](#)): Wednesday, Aug. 11, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. with Rewind Rock Band, Mariana's Tamales, and Lil' Manz Donuts.
 - July WOW Award recipient: Bailey Pointer in CAMP/TRIO Talent Search

