

Monday Message

Jan. 22, 2024



Dear all,

It was a rough start with frozen pipe floods (in CSL/SUB, SAC and Clark Hall) resulting in relocated offices, classes and dining facilities. Even so, the semester has launched, enrollment across a number of programs is showing stability and even gains; classes are underway; and our new and improved single-source [campus calendar](#) is live. The campus calendar will allow us not only to keep track of what is happening when and where, but provide us with the ability to avoid (and/or at least minimize) overlapping events and activity scheduling. Ideally, this will increase our ability to attend and support each other and our campus community. This is a BIG win!

Empowered with calendaring information, I am challenging each of us to commit to two things this semester: (1) Enter all campus events and activities, room reservations, etc. into 25Live (this is what will enable the campus calendar to function); and (2) Starting this month (January), attend at least one campus community event or activity external to your unit/department/division each month.

Finally, monthly over the course of the semester I will share readings via our [LC State Intranet](#). This week you'll find a file folder in the intranet's file tab titled, "President Pemberton Monday Message Readings." In that folder you'll see subfolders for each month of the spring semester. I invite you to begin your reading journey with the Idaho Office of the State Board of Education (OSBE) "FactBook" publication (January subfolder). It is full of interesting and relevant Idaho education information. In early February, you'll encounter a quiz in the Monday Message derived from that reading. Then in mid February, another reading opportunity, with an early March follow-up quiz, etc. Folks who answer the quiz correctly will be entered into drawings to win two tickets to sit in the President's seats at the Avista NAIA World Series! Looking forward to a great semester, and... Go Warriors!

Cynthia Pemberton, Ed.D.
President

Events

Keep up on events and activities through the new [Campus Calendar](#).

- **Jan. 23 – Tuesday @ Two** – President Pemberton will host Tuesday @ Two at 2 p.m., Jan. 23, in the P1FCU Activity Center Conference Room (ACC 211). The dates and locations of future meetings are listed below. Stop by and join the conversation.
 - Feb. 13, Sacajawea Hall, Room 144
 - March 5, Mechanical Technical Building, Room 203
 - April 2, College Place first floor lounge area
 - April 30, Schweitzer Career & Technical Education Center, Room 302

Announcements

- **Information Technology:** Power BI is a powerful tool that enables users to create visual reports using data connections to Colleague. Through the use of Power BI Workspaces, reports will be accessible to share within divisions, departments, and the organization allowing for near real-time analytics and data-driven decision-making. Read more about LC State's Power BI rollout on the [IT Intranet](#) page and join the [Power BI Teams](#) for access to guides and training material.
- **Mileage Rate:** The Idaho State Board of Examiners has approved an increase to the Idaho State mileage rate from 65.5 to 67.0 cents a mile, to be effective starting Feb. 1, to match the federal rate.
- **Nominations Open:** Every year, the Alumni Association recognizes outstanding alumni and friends of LC State who have shown dedication to both their community and the college. Anyone

from the public can nominate candidates for these awards through the [LC State Alumni and Friends Page](#) by clicking on the Awards & Recognition tab. It's important to note that alumni and friends who are nominated can reside anywhere; these awards are not limited to the Lewis-Clark Valley. Please considering nominating a worthy candidate for one of these awards. Questions can be directed to alumni@lcsc.edu.

- **Parking Permits:** Parking permits for spring semester can be purchased at www.lcsc.edu/public-safety/parking-services and picked up at MLH 110. Ticketing will begin Jan. 23.
- **Peer Mentor Applications:** The First Year Experience Program is currently seeking peer mentor recommendations for the fall 2024 semester. A peer mentor is a current student who has successfully completed at least one semester at LC and helps new freshmen build a foundation for personal success at LC State. Peer mentors are friendly, reliable, supportive, and are able to demonstrate leadership qualities inside and outside the classroom. Mentors serve roughly 25 mentees 5-6 hours a week during orientation class, support programs (Orientation Day, Discovery Day, Homecoming, study nights, etc.), outreach and in-person meetings. Please email your student recommendation(s) (full name and email if possible) for peer mentoring to fye@lcsc.edu by Friday, Feb. 2.
- **Performance Evaluations:** You can find the Performance Evaluation forms for Professional and Classified staff on the [HR Website](#). A few reminders:
 - All **Performance Evaluations are due Jan. 31**. If you have any questions about completing evaluations, please contact HRS. If you are going to put an employee on a Performance Improvement Plan, please contact HR first.
 - Completed evaluations must be emailed to HRS by Jan. 31.
- **Retirement Plan Changes:** The Idaho State Board of Education Retirement Plan Committee has recently completed a multi-year, comprehensive review of the Idaho Optional Retirement Plan (ORP). ORP is comprised of TIAA-CREF and Corebridge (Valic). As a result of that plan review, it was recommended and approved at the Dec. 13, 2023, State Board of Education meeting, that Fidelity will become the sole provider of the administrative services for the ORP effective in December 2024. More information will be provided by the Office of the State Board of Education as we transition, along with important dates, next steps, and other relevant details. A set of frequently asked questions has been posted to the [State Board of Education website](#). These FAQs will be updated throughout this transition. Additionally, it is anticipated that all faculty and staff enrolled in either TIAA-CREF or Corebridge (Valic) will receive a direct communication coordinated by the Idaho State Board of Education regarding this change towards the end of January. We will provide additional information as it is received. In the meantime, please contact HRS with any questions.
- **Sodexo and Jitterz are Open:** Sodexo Food Service will temporarily serve food in the WCC while SUB/CSL building repair is underway. Additional seating is available in the SUB/CSL. Jitterz Coffee shop, game rooms, solarium seating, and campus bookstore are available for use in the lower level of the SUB/CSL. The south half of the upper level of the SUB/CSL is open and available. All building services (FYE, Career & Employment Services, Information Desk/Campus Card Services) have been temporarily relocated/condensed to the upper level area that was not affected. If you have questions, please contact the Information Desk at 208-792-2716.
- **SUB Fest 2024:** It's a new year and there are lots of opportunities to get involved! Students, staff and faculty are invited to join us Jan. 23 from 5 p.m.-7 p.m. in the WCC to learn more about campus clubs/organizations and opportunities to get involved at LC State!
- **Thank You:** Freezing temperatures on Sunday, Jan. 14, led to burst fire suppression water pipes in the Student Union Building/Center for Student Leadership and in Sacajawea Hall. We would like to give a special thank you to all those who responded the night of and the following day to help with the incident including cleanup, 24-hour fire watch, arranging for contractors to assist, rescheduling classes, moving food services, building checks for several days, etc. It was a monumental effort by our dedicated LC State team to prepare for students to return to classes and utilize food service. Notable individuals are Redgy Erb, Angie McClain, Justice Stocks, Tate Smith, Kevin Blackshear, Dustin Guenther, John Lansing, Logan Fischer, Larry Warren, Dylan Moore, Tate Carroll, Don Garrison and Krista Harwick. We really appreciate your service to LC State to get through this challenging situation!

- **Where are the Warriors?** Every week, LC State recruiters are traveling to high schools, junior colleges, fairs, corrections facilities, etc., spreading the word about all LC State has to offer. Here's a quick look at [Where the Warriors are this Week](#).
- **Song for the Week:** "[Don't Stop](#)" by Fleetwood Mac

