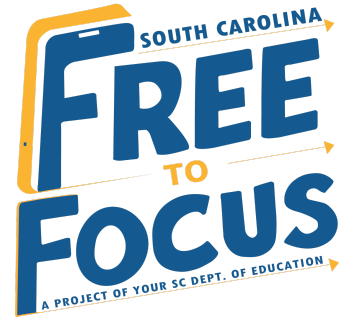




LAW January 2025 Newsletter

What's Happening in LAW?

Free to Focus: I am sure you have all seen the new Free to Focus initiative by the South Carolina Department of Education. Here is the link to see the actual law: [FREE TO FOCUS](#)



Parents as we start the second semester, please go over the policy with your children to ensure that they understand the consequences of having these devices **VISIBLE** during the school day. **First offense** results in a redirect, with confiscation of the device to be returned to the student at the end of the day. **Second offense** results in confiscation of the device and a call home to parents alerting them to the infraction with the device being returned to the student at the end of the day. **Third offense** results in confiscation of the device and the parent or their non-student designee will have to come pick up the device. **Fourth and all subsequent infractions** will result in confiscation of the device with the parent or their non-student designee having to come pick up the device. Plus the student will receive a referral for refusal to obey/defiance which results in an In School Suspension. As a reminder, any LAW student that is suspended for any reason is automatically placed on probation and subsequent suspensions would result in removal from the program. Make sure your children understand that the teachers must do as advised by school board policy and their administrative teams at the school and district level. When a device is seen, whether in use or not, they have been instructed to follow school board policy. It is unfair to school staff for the students to ask them to do otherwise, so make sure each day that all phones, apple watches, headphones, etc are off and safely secured in bookbags.

Focus on the positives! Not having the phone be a distraction, prepares students for testing, reduction in cyber bullying, promotes actual conversation and dialogue with peers, reduction in depression and anxiety, improves mental health, and so much more.

See page 3 for a list of direct extensions for LAW staff, while we want to minimize distractions we understand that you may need to get a message to your child. If you do, call us!



Extended Tuesday Changes: As mentioned early in the year, the extended Tuesday schedules often change due to travel conflicts. Well many conflicts have arisen and necessary changes have been made.

- **The 6th Grade trip for the USC Stadium Tour has been rescheduled due to bus conflicts to Thursday, January 23rd. There will be no extended Tuesday on January 14th!**
- **The 7th Grade trip to Saluda Shoals has been rescheduled due to bus conflicts to Thursday, January 30th. There will be no extended Tuesday on January 14th!**
- **The 8th Grade trip to the State Museum/Planetarium has been rescheduled due to bus conflicts to Thursday, January 23rd. There will be no extended Tuesday on January 14th!**
- **The 8th Grade trip for Media Magic at the Nick has been rescheduled due to bus conflicts to Thursday, February 20th. There will be no extended Tuesday on January 28th!**
- **The 8th Grade trip to Charleston has been rescheduled due to bus conflicts to Tuesday, March 18th. There will be no extended Tuesday on March 25th!**

Here are the up to date Extended Tuesday schedules:

[6th Grade Extended Days](#) [7th Grade Extended Days](#) [8th Grade Extended Days](#)

Junior Scholars: A big time shout out to 23 of our 8th grade LAW students that took the PSAT this past October and scored high enough to be recognized as a Junior Scholar. To achieve this extraordinary honor students must score 550 or higher on the Evidence-Based Reading and Writing subtests of the PSAT and/or 530 or higher on the Math subtest of the PSAT. LAW students recognized as Junior Scholars are: **Fiona Adams, Langley Aslin, Darash Batta, Reese Becl, Alistair Cherry, Tori Coetzee, Caleb Crimminger, Freya DaCrema, Tripp Derrick, Elijah Floyd, Kaliyah Jackson, Darron Johnson Jr., Isabella Johnson, Saanvi Kalva, Isadore Lourie, Arely Joachin Mendez, Price Mooney, AListiar Ninancuro-Thornton, Skyler Patterson, Gerttrude Swan, James Weesinger, Shvant Yadav.**

Did You Know! There are more bacterial cells in your body than human cells. The average human is around 56% bacteria. This was [discovered in a 2016 study](#) and is far less than the earlier estimates of 90%. As bacteria are so light, however, by weight, each person is over 99.7% human.

Leadership

ACADEMY

AT WRIGHT

Scholarship Donations: Equal access for students for the field studies that LAW offers is an important component of what we do. We strive to give all students access to experiences to enhance their learning and make memories. However, those events have a cost, scholarships allow students that may not be able to afford them the opportunity to attend. LAW is accepting TAX DEDUCTIBLE scholarship donations. To make a donation, just notify Mr. Reeves with your intent. Send the money via check and a receipt will be returned. Any amount helps!



Important Dates and Reminders:

January 13, 2025 - Basketball versus Dent Middle
January 14-16, 2025 - Benchmark Testing
January 15, 2025 - Report Cards issued
January 15, 2025 - Basketball at Dent Middle
January 16, 2025 - Multilingual Family Night at Wright
January 20, 2025 - MLK Holiday (No School)
January 22, 2025 - Basketball at Summit Middle
January 23, 2025 - Wolfpack Excellence Ceremony
January 30, 2025 - Junior Scholar's Breakfast



Website and Social Media: Important information can be found in multiple place including

LAW's Website: <https://sites.google.com/richland2.org/law/home>

LAW's Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/E-L-Wright-LAW-Magnet-236853276710311/>

LAW's Twitter Feed: <https://twitter.com/AcademyWright>

Please take some time to like, follow, post, or just scroll through these resources.

Direct Phone Extensions: Call 803-736-8740 then enter the extension number.

6th - Mrs. Williams (78349), Dr. Orpilla (78348), Mrs. Whitehead (78352), Ms. Jenkins (78355), Mrs. Bolden (78356)

7th - Ms. Jaynes (78351), Mrs. Whitehead (78352), Dr. Orpilla (78348), Mr. Padigela (78425), Ms. Wilson (78358), MR. Robles (78354)

8th - Ms. Jordan (78248), Ms. King (78251), Mr. Padigela (78425), Ms. Zamuco (78247), Mr. Slade (78249)

Have something or somebody you want to acknowledge in future Newsletters? Email kreeves@richland2.org



Mr. Reeves can be reached at extension 78346.

Save the Date - Job Shadowing: Coming this February 7th is E.L. Wright's yearly job shadowing day. As part of our focus on college and career development, LAW encourages any student that is able to participate by shadowing a parent, close relative, neighbor, or family friend at their job on the 7th. Please sign up using the link below. If you have any questions, please contact Monica Loving, EL Wright Career Specialist, at mloving@richland2.org or 803-736-8740, ext.78810

[2025 Job Shadow Participation Form](#)
[Richland Two Elementary Shadow Request Form](#)



We're looking for you! Are you or your business interested in becoming a LAW partner? The Leadership Academy at Wright is looking for community members that are willing to give their time, resources, and possibly a financial donation to help our young leaders. There is no commitment needed, just fill out and return the [Google Doc](#) to express your interest and we will be in touch. We plan to announce every partner in our Newsletter, Website, and Social Media Outlets. [Business Partnership Interest](#)

Welcome to our newest business and community partners -

Forest Acres Wellness, Camp Gravatt, Families Helping Families of the Midlands, Excel Physical Therapy, and Youth Volunteer Corps..

When in need or the market, please consider these fine business and community members.



Have something or somebody you want to

Email kreeves@richland2.org