

## Work hard. Play harder: LHS Football gets a new start

By Haylee Randant

LaBelle High School's football program stays thriving under the influence of a new head coach.

Coach Davidson had this to say about being this year's LaBelle High School varsity football coach, "I'm excited for the challenge and for the opportunity... being able to come back and be the head coach in my own water is awesome and I'm excited to be able to give back."

"He's a good coach... He's going to get us to where we want to be." said Jaylon Gallegos junior varsity football player about Davidson being the new head coach. Dylan Eppers senior varsity football player also shared "I think we're going to do good with him this year."

Davidson shared his new tactics for this year's season, "just hard work and consistency"

Sophomore Trevor Vahle said

"it pushes us to be a better team." about how the workouts improve his playing skills, which may be one of Davidson's tactics.

Gallegos said "It makes us bigger and stronger, faster and athletic," about this year's football workouts.

Last year's seniors made up a lot of the football team, Davidson shared how he felt this year's football team is going to perform, "It definitely hurts losing a lot of starters and a lot of key players like that but I think they're improving...Our whole philosophy is to do your job...Our focus is taking everything one play at a time, one rep at a time, forgetting the play before, you know if you screw up just kind of get it out of your head, get back on the field and continue to get better each and every play."

With this kind of mindset

Davidson hopes to keep LHS football program at the top of its game.

The varsity football players show high hopes for the season by exclaiming, "I think we have a good team and we have really good potential" said Vahle.

"It's going to be a good season" stated Gallegos.

Eppers also stated he believes this year's season is going to go, "Pretty good, probably better than last year."

Davidson explained how his coaching can improve the LaBelle High School football program, "Our goal as a staff and me in general is just making these guys better young men."

Eppers said that the football class helps the team because, "We just get to work out together, and create a stronger team bond. Like a family."

"We're all like family because we're getting closer and closer together and we're learning how to work together," stated Gallegos.

The football players are not just teammates working towards a win, they are a family working towards a common goal.

Davidson wanted to share an important statement with LHS, "We appreciate all the support we get from the student body at games and just to continue to support us, you know, it's coming to the games, it brings student energy at the games. It's way better than parent energy and everyone else's energy there because that's what gets the kids riled up all up and ready to play."

So show some real cowboy spirit and cheer on the LaBelle Cowboys Football team tonight at 7PM vs. ECS.

## Power Time launches in September

By Maria Rodriguez

Stop! Power Time. LHS changes to a new schedule starting in September. Recently there was a change to the Power 8 schedule from last year being changed to Power Time

Mrs. Sprouse gave us some new information about this new schedule. She says, "Power Time will take place every other Wednesday during 4th period for 20 minutes. This will be an opportunity for students to get extra help, to work on Ripple Effects, to attend club meetings, etc."

She also went on to say that the changes were because "Power 8 was, many times, not used in a productive manner and trying to keep up with the attendance aspect was cumbersome. By not requiring a transition and using it less often but with target tasks, Power Time could be more productive". This reason can be clearly understood because not all students would take advantage of that time given to them last year.

Some students don't like the change that occurred to the schedule. Sophomore Miguel Pena said, "I feel really upset about it, really shocked, Power 8 was a good thing for those who needed time to do some work and for school to take that away from the students well whoa".

Some students have mixed emotions about the change like junior Lizbeth Mendoza, "The way I feel about Power 8 being changed to Power Time is, in my opinion I don't really like it since the classes are extended and they should have put the extra time in for lunch, but at the same time I do because we don't have to do this everyday."

Some students have speculated the reasons that this change happened. Miguel Pena said "I think it was changed because half the time maybe Power 8 wasn't being used for its right purposes, like students would go goof around and other things". Lizbeth Mendoza pointed out about the days that this schedule will be taking place "The reason why I think the change occurred is because the students weren't even using Power 8 for study hall they were using it for skipping or etc. and it would sometimes confuse our schedule when we had testing".

As Head of Discipline Mrs. Sprouse is hopeful that Power Time will work out for LHS, "I'm looking forward to seeing how this change works out. I feel like it could make Power Time a more useful tool, so let's see if I'm right."

Will power time work or will it not? Stay tuned for our next issue of The Cowboy Current to find out.



LHS Varsity football playing Lemon Bay on August 16, 2019.

## Power Time Schedule

- 1st Period: 7:30-8:23 (53 minutes)
- 2nd Period: 8:28-9:16 (48 minutes)
- 3rd Period: 9:21-10:09 (48 minutes)
- 4th Period: 10:14-11:02= Class Time (48 minutes)  
11:02-11:31=POWER TIME (29 minutes)
- Lunch A: 11:31-12:01 (30 minutes)
- 5th Period: 11:36-12:24 (48 minutes)
- Lunch B: 12:24-12:54 (30 minutes)
- 5th Period: 12:06-12:54 (48 minutes)
- 6th Period: 12:59-1:47 (48 minutes)
- 7th Period: 1:52-2:40 (48 minutes)

\*We will use this schedule EVERY OTHER Wednesday

# Do grades really matter? LaBelle High School receives a B

By Gissel Diaz

Finally at a B! Last year LHS finally became a "B" school after 9 years of being a "C" school based on the grades given out by the Florida Department of Education.

School grades are based on FSA & EOC score proficiency percentages, overall growth percentages and the number of certifications earned by students each year. All of the hard work the students did last year was enough to bump LHS's score from a "C" to a "B".

When asked about the grade bump, Dean of discipline, Mrs. Sprouse said, "The students should be proud of how well they did last year!"

To go more in depth of how schools are graded Assistant Principal, Mrs. Bass said "School grades are calculated using several different factors. Pass rate of 9th and 10th grade FSA ELA, pass rate of Algebra 1 EOC, pass rate of Geometry EOC, pass rate of Biology EOC, and pass rate of US History EOC. Also factored in is the number of CTE Certifications our students earn. Our graduation rate is another factor that is calculated in."

Pushing LHS into becoming an "A" school is possible "Even though we did so well last year, we can't stop there! We all have to keep working hard and give that extra push we need to get LHS to an "A" - we're only 5% points away!" said Dean Sprouse.

Assistant Principal, Mrs. Bass said, "The best way for LaBelle High School to become an "A" school is for students to take the FSA and EOC tests seriously and put in 100% effort when taking the test. Another help would be for students to earn the CTE Certifications."

Now that LHS is a "B" school it left some students shocked like Sophomore, Trinity Thielen, "I'm honestly pretty surprised, but proud of our class nonetheless."

Junior Hailey Partin also showed some surprise, "I am very surprised that it is a B school but it's way better than being an F, ...Most of the kids

that don't care about school already dropped out or are planning on it, but it's good to know our school is doing good grade wise."

Overall students have been positive about the school's grade. "I think that as a whole we can push harder to get better scores on our state tests. A B is good, but an A would be even better!" said freshman Emma Willis.

"Well I'm glad that our school has academically improved, I believe we wouldn't have improved without our teachers pushing us." Senior Cheila Trejo said.

"I think it's great that our school has improved and it makes me really happy that I can be a part of this school and be a student at LHS," senior Mariana Alvarado said.

"I think that our school should be rewarded, like money after all it was the students hard work." Said Sophomore Diana Cardena.

Not everyone seems to think that the B has much importance. "I don't like it because no matter what it's still school." Said Freshman, Jessica Martinez

With LHS is only 5% points away from an "A" it doesn't appear that students feel pressured to make LHS an "A" school. "No, instead of feeling pressured I feel as if it is a goal to reach," said Freshman Emma Willis.

"Not really because most students are already doing their best," sophomore, Angel Soto said. "I don't feel pressured at all. I do my best to get the grades that I get now, which are descent," said Hailey Partin.

"Not pressured, ... a little nervous that our school is so close to an A," said freshman Melissa Yzaguirre.

"If I'm being quite honest I don't because I can't control the grades that other students get. As long as I'm academically meeting my standards I'm at peace." Senior Cheila Trejo said.

"Kind of because I feel like the school might expect more from us and push us into doing better

than what we do now in order to become an A school," Senior Mariana Alvarado said.

Most students at LHS believe if every student tries their best and their hardest that we can push LHS into an "A." "Yes I do think that if we were to try we can push the B to an A," said senior Cheila Trejo.

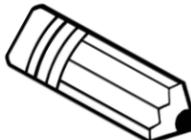
"Know that us students can still have fun and socialize, but don't forget to work your hardest in school," said junior Jason Steinke.

Of course there are students that disagree, "With all honesty, I don't think it is going to happen," said sophomore Trinity Thielen "No, because not everyone thinks the same and not everyone can do good in school even when they are trying their best," said freshman Jessica Martinez.

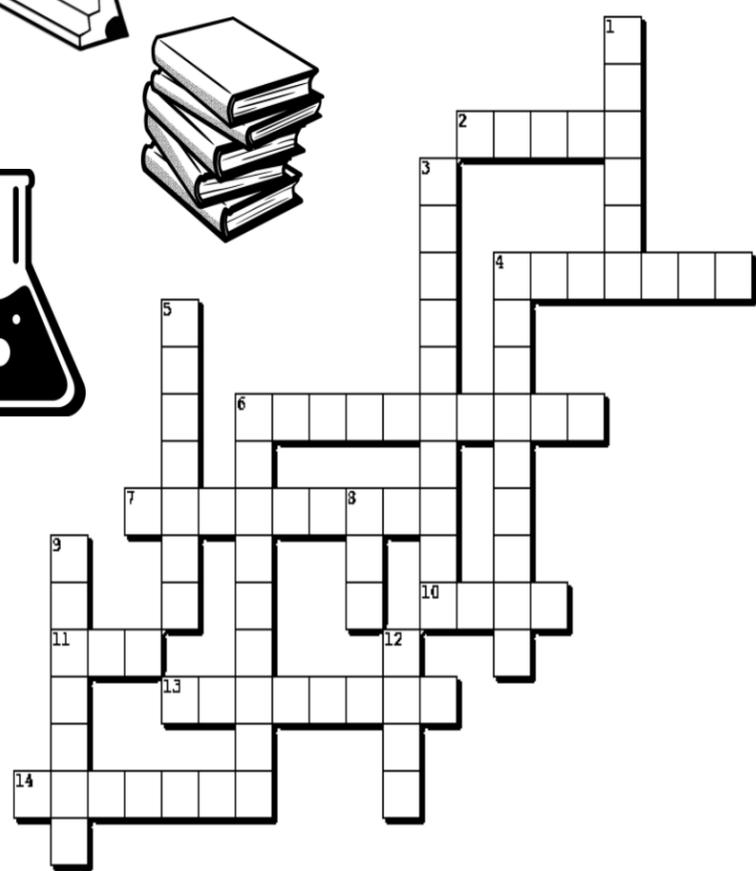
LHS administration has some advice for students hoping to help keep up the momentum and reach an A next year. "Good attendance is crucial to success! If you miss school frequently, then you probably aren't 100% sure about what's going on in your classes and not you're not going to be successful. Also, learn to advocate for yourself. If you are struggling with anything, in any area of your life, ASK FOR HELP! Nobody knows you better than you," said Dean Sprouse

"Advice I have for being successful is to always push yourself to do more than you think you can. Don't take the easy way out, challenge yourself and never settle for less than your best," said Assistant Principal Bass.

## Welcome Back to LHS!







**Across**

2. How many class periods do you have?
4. You learn about life in this class
6. Chalk is used to write on this
7. Where do students eat their lunch?
10. You sit at these in class
11. Where do you go for pep rallies?
13. You use this to write your notes in
14. Principal of LHS

**Down**

1. You use this to write with
3. Teachers write on this to teach the class
4. You eat this in the morning
5. Who is the assistant principal of LHS
6. You use chemicals in this class
8. Where do you go when you misbehave in class?
9. Math class that starts with an 'A'
12. You read these

## LAND OF THE LOST FRESHMEN

By Maria Reyes

