

# Monday Message

Aug. 2, 2021



## President's Message

Dear all,

Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic we have been guided by science and safety as we, together, worked to navigate incredibly challenging times. I want you to know that I recognize and very much appreciate how difficult, frustrating and even maddening it has been. You and we have been nothing short of extraordinary in terms of resilience, persistence and dogged-commitment to our mission, our students and our community.

I want to thank those who have gotten vaccinated and urge folks that can to get vaccinated (I recognize that there will be some medical and/or religious exemptions). Ongoing research confirms that the COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective, and represent our best chance to move beyond the pandemic. In order for viruses to spread and mutate they need hosts. The large percentage of unvaccinated individuals in our community, state and nation mean there are a lot of readily available hosts for the virus to infect. While evidence is showing that breakthrough infections can and do occur among vaccinated individuals the incidence remains low, and the [CDC guidance](#) still makes clear that those fully vaccinated can participate in many of the activities they did before the pandemic. As a reminder, vaccines are available from Public Health as well as most local pharmacies. There is no cost to get a COVID-19 vaccine; and all State of Idaho employees who complete a COVID-19 vaccination by Aug. 31 are eligible to receive four hours of paid COVID-19 administrative leave. Note: We are working with Public Health to bring vaccination clinic opportunities to campus. Two dates have been confirmed so far (Aug. 13 and Sept. 3). Details, including location and registration information will be forthcoming.

The highly contagious Delta variant of COVID-19 is spreading and is present in our community. Because of this, and the virus mutation that the Delta variant represents, the CDC's updated guidance recommends face coverings (for vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals) indoors in public if you are in an area of substantial or high transmission (which we in Nez Perce county are). With this in mind, **to maximize protection from the Delta variant and prevent spreading it, LC State is strongly advising all members of the campus community – regardless of vaccination status – to wear a face covering in indoor spaces where others are present.**

Our administrative team continues to consult multiple information sources, partner with Public Health, our sister institutions, and State Agency leaders, and will be reviewing and revising our fall protocols. We are still planning a live in-person, near-normal campus experience. We will maintain the COVID-19 hotline and dashboard, as well as isolation and quarantine dorm space, and expect folks to self-screen and stay home if they are sick. Given the fluidity of the circumstances I ask that you remain both personally vigilant in terms of your own health and safety behaviors, and patient as we work to solidify and disseminate updated protocol information.

Stay tuned and stay strong, Warriors.

Cynthia Pemberton, Ed.D.  
President

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## Events

- **Aug. 3 – 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. 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. Details are forthcoming.
  - **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. 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](http://www.lcsc.edu/orientation/first-year-student-agenda)
  - **Aug. 23 – First Day of Fall Semester**
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## Announcements

- **Coronavirus Updates & Risk Level:** For the latest coronavirus updates and information visit [www.lcsc.edu/coronavirus](http://www.lcsc.edu/coronavirus). In accordance with its [Operational Levels](#), LC State’s current risk level is: Minimal.
  - **Cases Update:** Currently there are **no** active cases 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](http://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 in early to mid-August.**
  - **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).
- **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](mailto: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:**
  - Summer hours will be in effect May 17-Aug. 6. See intranet for details.

