



Town Hall Meeting

January 26, 2023

January Town Hall Agenda

- Handwriting without Tears
- Lottery and Pre K enrollment
- Upcoming Parent Survey
- Report Card Envelopes
- Chromebook Use Policy
- Feedback and Q & A





Literacy Team

Handwriting without Tears

Handwriting without Tears

LEARNING Without Tears

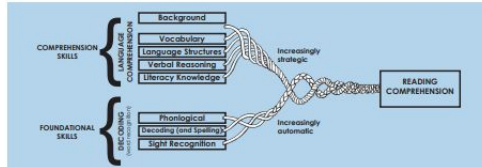
HOW HANDWRITING WITHOUT TEARS® ALIGNS TO THE SCIENCE OF READING

Handwriting is one of the foundational skills that leads students toward automatic word recognition.

It falls in the bottom, skills portion of Scarborough's rope. As students form letters, they are solidifying the alphabetic principle. They need to be able to retrieve the symbol for the sound automatically, so as students practice in Handwriting Without Tears (HWT), they are learning to transfer that knowledge.

In HWT, students learn to write their names and write letters beyond their names, skills which are markers of emergent literacy skills, and lead to reading. As students develop skills in HWT, their working memory is freed up to focus on the sounds and meanings of words. This ultimately prepares students to be readers.

- Writing by hand teaches letter formation, letter recognition, knowledge of print, and sound/letter correspondences (Puranik et al., 2011; Puranik & Al Otaiba, 2012).
- It is important to know the shapes of individual letters to read, and handwriting aids in that recognition (Adams, 1990).
- The fine motor act of producing a word by hand results in these tactile sensations in the brain that link letters into a simple written word. (Berninger, et al. 2009).
- Steve Graham's research showed that 90% of first-through third-grade teachers surveyed thought that handwriting was important but only 12% felt that they had adequate preparation to teach handwriting. (Cutter & Graham, 2008) Case-Smith found the same result from teachers. In addition, Case-Smith research found that literacy scores were significantly higher for students with good handwriting than those with poor handwriting (Cornhill & Case-Smith, 1994).



(Scarborough, 2001)

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LEARNING Without Tears



- Students who have explicit instruction in handwriting improve at writing and the ease with which they can document their ideas in print (Graham, 2020).
- Writing by hand occupies 30-60% of a child's school day (Blewett, 1992; Simmer, 1998; Feder and Majemer, 2007; Scazon, 2007) and correlates with self-esteem and future academic success as literate individuals.
- Children with deficient handwriting, which are 10-30% of children (Karlodoff and Stefansson, 2002), take longer to complete writing tasks such as homework. This adds to the difficulty of schoolwork and may result in oppositional attitudes toward writing assignments. These negative attitudes can generate problems both of school and at home (Jacine et al., 2008).
- Crucially, handwriting performance also links with other language related skills. There is a key tie between reading and learning to write. Studies have shown that learning to write can improve letter perception (Longcamp et al., 2005), pseudoletter learning (Richards et al., 2011), and word reading (Berninger et al., 2004, 2006; James and Engelhardt, 2012).
- Children with learning disabilities such as developmental dyslexia, a specific reading impairment that is believed to have phonological deficits at its core, often display writing difficulties (O'Hare and Khalid, 2002; Gimenez et al, 2014).

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Handwriting without Tears Purchase Plan

Grade Level	SY2022-2033	SY2023-2024	SY2024-2025	SY2025-2026	SY2026-2027
Kindergarten	3 Letters & Numbers for me Kits 3 Individual Student manipulative Packs - 1 set of 10 per homeroom	Letter & Numbers for Me student editions	Letter & Numbers for Me student editions	Letter & Numbers for Me student editions	Letter & Numbers for Me student editions
1st Grade	3 My Printing Book Kits 3 Individual Student manipulative Packs - 1 set of 10 per homeroom	My Printing Book student editions	My Printing Book student editions	My Printing Book student editions	My Printing Book student editions
2nd Grade	2 Printing Power Kits + 6 extra student editions	Printing Power student editions 2 Cursive Kickoff Kits plus extra student editions	Printing Power student editions Cursive Kickoff student editions	Printing Power student editions Cursive Kickoff student editions	Printing Power student editions Cursive Kickoff student editions
3rd Grade	2 Cursive Kickoff Kits	2 Cursive Handwriting Kits plus extra student editions	Cursive Handwriting student editions	Cursive Handwriting student editions	Cursive Handwriting student editions
4th Grade	~	1 Cursive Handwriting Kit plus extra student editions	1 Cursive Success Kit plus extra student editions	Cursive Success student editions	Cursive Success student editions
5th Grade	~	~	1 Cursive Success Kit plus extra student editions	Can Do Cursive student editions and 1 teacher edition	Can Do Cursive student editions
Special Ed	Individual Student Manipulative Packs - 1 set of 10 (student editions will come from their homerooms)				
Est cost	\$4,833.90				

2023-2024 Lottery

- **Open enrollment ends February 10th at 3:00 PM**
- **Lottery applications can be dropped off in person daily from 12:00-3:00 PM or emailed to Ltcslottery2023@libertytechcharter.org**
- **Lottery Priority Order**
 - **Siblings of Current Students (EXCEPT Pre-K)**
 - **Students of a member of the Governing Board**
 - **Students of a full-time LTCS Employee**
- **Lottery Event: Thursday, February 16th at 5:00 PM**
- **23-24 Available Spots**
 - **Kindergarten - 51 spots**
 - **1st grade - 3 spots**
 - **All other grades might have available spots based on students returning. An Intent to Return form for students will be sent out in April.**

Pre K Enrollment

- Pre K enrollment is on a first come, first served basis
- Enrollment day for the 2023/24 school year is on Tuesday, March 7th from 9:00-11:00 AM
- Parents should arrive and take a number. We will have an enrollment team ready help!
- Once we have enrolled 22 students, subsequent students will be placed on a waitlist in order
- Open to all GA students who are 4 or will turn 4 by Sept. 1, 2023
- Pre K enrollment is separate from LTCS lottery
- Pre K students must enter LTCS lottery for kindergarten

LTCS Parent Survey

Survey Activity

👤 Parent Survey for Schools
Last response: Oct. 19, 3:15 PM

Overall Score: 3.86

(105 respondents)

Network Average: 4.04 ⓘ



Survey closed on: **10/29/2021**

Recent Activity:

Section	Gender	Race	Ethnicity	Grade
Purpose and Direction				3.94
Governance and Leadership				3.89
Teaching and Assessing for Learning				3.89
Resources and Support Systems				3.89
Using Results for Continuous Improvement				3.80

LTCS Parent Survey Fall 2022

Survey Activity

👤 Parent Survey for Schools
Last response: Sep. 29, 3:22 PM

Overall Score: 4.15

(75 respondents)

Network Average: 4.04 ⓘ



Survey closed on: **12/12/2022**

Section	Gender	Race	Ethnicity	Grade
Purpose and Direction				4.27
Governance and Leadership				4.15
Teaching and Assessing for Learning				4.20
Resources and Support Systems				4.22
Using Results for Continuous Improvement				4.18

LTCS Report Card Envelopes

- After hearing from parents, we will begin printing progress reports and report cards
- Personalized envelopes containing progress reports and report cards will be sent home
- Parents may keep the grade/progress report
- Sign the envelope to indicate you have seen the report
- Return the envelope to your child's teacher



LIBERTY TECH CHARTER SCHOOL
119 Price Rd, Brooks, GA 30205

Report Card

(Student)

(Grade)

(Homeroom Teacher)

This Report Card offers an opportunity for better understanding of your child's current achievement

I would suggest that you review this report with your child since it is his/her work that is reflected in the report. If you have any questions or comments, please contact either your child's teacher or their Dean.

Please sign and date this envelope on the appropriate line below and have your child return the envelope to his/her homeroom teacher. Keep the enclosed copy of the report card for your records.

FIRST TRIMESTER

Progress report: _____
(Parent/Guardian Signature) (Date)

Report Card: _____
(Parent/Guardian Signature) (Date)

SECOND TRIMESTER

Progress report: _____
(Parent/Guardian Signature) (Date)

Report Card: _____
(Parent/Guardian Signature) (Date)

THIRD TRIMESTER

Progress report: _____
(Parent/Guardian Signature) (Date)

Report Card: _____
(Parent/Guardian Signature) (Date)

Chromebook/Technology Use Policy

If a student uses their google account on a personal device and searches for inappropriate material, you will be contacted because administration will be alerted to such activities.

If a student does not follow our policy of keeping their cellphone in their bookbag, it will be confiscated and you will be asked to pick up the phone from the front office.

[Chromebook Acceptable Use Policy](#)

If a student is using their Chromebook to search/create inappropriate material or bully/harass another student, depending on their severity or frequency of infractions, administration may deem it necessary to revoke a student's privilege to a Chromebook. Additionally, any student who attempts to access the account or device of a fellow student will have their Chromebook privileges revoked immediately.



- **Feedback?**
 - **What is going well?**
 - **Where are broken windows?**



- **Feedback?**
 - **Q & A**



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