

# The Lion's Roar

McAvinnue's Community Newsletter: Week Of January 24th

## MCAVINNUE'S PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Hello McAvinnue Community!

I hope that everyone is doing well and staying as warm and cozy as possible. What a chilly ending to our short week! While the weather was on the cold side, we are starting to see an major improvement with our student attendance this week as the Holiday Break COVID-19 surge seems to be slowing down. We are still seeing positive COVID-19 cases at McAvinnue as a result of our weekly pooled testing, Test & Stay Program, and home testing...but, the overall numbers are definitely improving.



Speaking of the colder weather, please make sure that your child is dressed to match the predicted weather forecast each day. It is the season for heavy winter coats, hats, and gloves. We still try to have our students get some fresh air each day unless the weather is severe or limits that availability of our outdoor spaces.

Our students will be participating in numerous assessments over the next few weeks of school. It is important that you communicate the need to try their very best as this will allow us to see how we need to adjust our instruction. These mid year assessments are critical measures to see how well our students are doing including areas that we need to spend more time on if they are not displaying expected progress. If you have any questions about these assessments, please reach out to your child's teacher for more information.

With the increase of cases connected to the Omicron variant, we will continue to have multiple new COVID-19 positive cases at McAvinnue on a weekly basis. This will certainly be the pattern at all schools across the Commonwealth...especially at the elementary level where the vaccination opportunity is relatively new and the rate of vaccination is lower. As always, our top priority will continue to be health and safety of students at faculty. We continue to maintain diligence around mask wearing, social distancing when appropriate, following up on individuals with COVID-19 symptoms, and weekly pooled testing. If your child hasn't been participating in the weekly pooled testing, now is a great time to consider signing up using the link below. You can also consent on "Test & Stay" which allows your child to remain in school if they are deemed a "close contact" as long as they are not exhibiting any symptoms of COVID-19.

<https://www.cic-health.com/consent/ma?district=Lowell>

Here are a few items that you need to be aware of. Please mark your calendars for the following events and activities at McAvinnue this week:

- **Monday, January 24th: McAvinnue's Weekly COVID-19 Pooled Testing: Students & Faculty**
- **Monday, January 24th: iReady Math 2nd Diagnostic Assessment Window Opens**
- **Wednesday, January 26th: McAvinnue's PTG Meeting - Virtual @ 6:00 PM**
- **Monday, January 31st: iReady ELA Diagnostic Window Opens**

You will find additional details for the events and activities list above in this edition of McAvinnue's "Lion's Roar" Community Newsletter.

As usual, we are looking forward to another amazing week at the "best school that we all know"!

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the Main Office at McAvinnue or send Mr. Domina a message a [mdomina@lowell.k12.ma.us](mailto:mdomina@lowell.k12.ma.us).

## Join McAvinnue's Parent Teacher Group (PTG)!

We are looking to rebrand McAvinnue Parent Teacher Group (PTG) and we need your help to get thing off the ground this school year!

One of the strengths of McAvinnue over the years has been its parent and family support! From attending amazing events, donating funds for various school activities, and your recent partnership with our teachers last school year when things were less than normal for everyone. Your support for McAvinnue is at an all time high!



We want to use this energy to reform McAvinnue's Parent Teacher Group....also known as McAvinnue's PTG!

Come out on **Wednesday, January 26th at 6:00 PM** to learn more about the PTG and to begin to plan for another awesome year for our students at McAvinnue. All parents and caregivers are welcome to attend!

This event will be "virtual" and conducted using the Zoom Meeting platform. Please see the meeting invitation below.

# McAvinnue's Parent Teacher Group (PTG) Meeting

When

Wednesday, Jan. 26th, 6pm

Where

This is an online event.

More information

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://lowell-k12-ma-us.zoom.us/j/83127607519?pwd=WlQ2Rk4zSkc3cFd1N0FVOW1qc3c2Zz09>

Meeting ID: 831 2760 7519

Passcode: 953672



Here are important dates to remember during the month of January and February:

- **Monday, January 24th:** McAvinnue's Weekly COVID-19 Pooled Testing: Students & Faculty
- **Monday, January 24th:** iReady Math 2nd Diagnostic Assessment Window Opens
- **Wednesday, January 26th:** McAvinnue's PTG Meeting - Virtual @ 6:00 PM
- **Monday, January 31st:** iReady ELA Diagnostic Window Opens
- **Tuesday, February 1st:** Start Of "Black History Month"
- **Wednesday, February 9th:** Early Release Day - Student Dismissal @ 1:30 PM
- **Monday, February 14th:** Valentine's Day
- **Friday, February 18th:** iReady 2nd Diagnostic Assessment Window Closes
- **Monday, February 21st - Friday, February 25th:** Winter Break - No School

## iReady 2nd Diagnostic Assessment Windows

The 2nd iReady Diagnostic window opens this week. The follow windows will be open district-wide:

- **Math - Monday, January 24th**
- **ELA - Monday, January 31st**

The district has strongly encouraged all schools to test during the assigned weeks. However, they have left the window open until Friday, February 18th to accommodate absences related to COVID-19. Your child's teacher will inform you on the days that they plan to assess your child.



Please reach out to your child's teacher if you have any questions or concerns.

## McAvinnue's "Virtual" Morning Announcements Are Back!

Back by popular demand from our students and faculty... We have recently included McAvinnue's "Virtual" Morning Announcements as part of our universal "Morning Meeting" block at 9:30 AM - 9:45 AM.



A new edition of McAvinnue's "Virtual" Morning Announcements will be presented to our students on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday each week. We will continue to use Tuesday and Thursday each week to be used for "Open Circle"...our Social Emotional Learning (SEL) program that focuses on community building, prosocial decision making, and appropriate responses to daily stressors both within the school and home settings.

This will continue to be a great way to bring our school together each day focusing on the same message to get the energy, commitment, and engage up before we launch into another great day at "the best school we all know".

You can check out each edition of McAvinnue's Morning Announcements on our YouTube channel using the link below.

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7hxiBuRjqjgASl\\_RLMleQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7hxiBuRjqjgASl_RLMleQ)



January Breakfast & Lunch Menu



## January 2022 Elementary Breakfast Menu

<b>3</b> <b>Benefit Bar</b> Served with, Juice, Apple and Milk	<b>4</b> <b>Assorted Cereal w/ Graham Cracker</b> Served with, Orange, and Milk	<b>5</b> <b>Mini French Toast</b> Served with, Juice, Pear and Milk	<b>6</b> <b>Apple Frudel</b> Served with, Banana and Milk	<b>7</b> <b>Cinni Mini</b> Served with, Apple and Milk
<b>10</b> <b>Chocolate Chip Muffin w/ Graham Cracker</b> Served with, Apple, and Milk	<b>11</b> <b>Cereal Bar</b> Served with, Orange, and Milk	<b>12</b> <b>Cinni Mini</b> Served with, Juice, Pear and Milk	<b>13</b> <b>Apple Frudel</b> Served with, Banana and Milk	<b>14</b> <b>Cereal Bar</b> Served with, Banana and Milk
<b>17</b> <b>MLK Jr. Day</b> <b>No School</b>	<b>18</b> <b>Nutrigrain and Graham Cracker</b> Served with, Orange, and Milk	<b>19</b> <b>Benefit Bar</b> Served with, Juice, Pear and Milk	<b>20</b> <b>Stuffed bagels</b> Served with, Banana and Milk	<b>21</b> <b>Mini Pancakes</b> Served with, Banana and Milk
<b>24</b> <b>Cherry Frudel</b> Served with, Juice, Apple and Milk	<b>25</b> <b>Assorted Cereal w/ Graham Cracker</b> Served with, Orange, and Milk	<b>26</b> <b>Cereal bar and Graham Cracker</b> Served with, Juice, Pear and Milk	<b>27</b> <b>Apple Cinnamon Muffin Graham Cracker</b> Served with, Banana and Milk	<b>28</b> <b>Nutrigrain Bar and Cheese Stick</b> Served with, Apple and Milk
<b>31</b> <b>Bagel with Cream Cheese</b> Served with, Juice, Apple and Milk	<b>1</b> <b>Banana Muffin with Cheese Stick</b> Served with, Orange, and Milk	<b>2</b> <b>Mini Waffles</b> Served with, Juice, Pear and Milk	<b>3</b> <b>Apple Bosco Stick</b> Served with, Banana and Milk	<b>4</b> <b>Cinnamon Donut</b> Served with, Apple and Milk

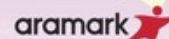
Check out <https://lowellk12ma.nutrislice.com/> for Menu's, Nutrition Education & Monthly Promotions!

**All students eat at no cost!**  
**\*Menus are subject to change\***

Offered Daily:  
 1% White Milk  
 Skim Milk

Fresh Fruit

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Food & Nutrition Office: 978-674-2049

JANUARY 2022 ELEMENTARY LUNCH MENU				
<p>Harvest of the Month for January is Apples. Did you know Apples are full of Vitamin C and other nutrients to keep you healthy. Don't forget to eat your apple peel that is where most of the fiber is to help keep you full! Don't forget to Breakfast is free!</p>				
<p>In accordance with federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this production is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call toll free (866) 632-9992 (Voice). Individuals who are hearing impaired or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339 or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.</p>				
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<p>3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Whole Wheat Pancakes with Turkey Sausage</li> <li>- Make Your Own Pizza Platter</li> <li>- Chicken Salad Sandwich with Lettuce &amp; Tomato LG</li> <li>- Served with Milk, Apple and Spinach Salad</li> </ul>	<p>4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Crispy Orange Chicken with Broccoli over Brown Rice</li> <li>- Greek Chicken Salad with Whole Grain Flatbread LG</li> <li>- Ham &amp; Cheese Sub w/Lettuce &amp; Tomato LG</li> <li>- Served with Milk, Orange and Broccoli</li> </ul>	<p>5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Baked Potato with Cheese &amp; Ham with Whole Grain Roll</li> <li>- Chicken Salad with Lettuce &amp; Tomato on Whole Grain Bread LG</li> <li>- Chef Salad with Egg and Whole Grain Flatbread LG</li> <li>- Served with Milk, Bananas and Red Pepper Strips</li> </ul>	<p>6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Chicken Alfredo with Broccoli</li> <li>- Ham &amp; Cheese Sub with Lettuce &amp; Tomato on whole grain Bread LG</li> <li>- Crispy Chicken Caesar w/Flatbread LG</li> <li>- Served with Milk, Orange Slices and Corn</li> </ul>	<p>7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cheese Pizza V</li> <li>- Pepperoni Pizza</li> <li>- Chef Salad with Egg &amp; Whole Grain Flat Bread LG V</li> <li>- Ham and Cheese Sandwich Sub with Lettuce and Tomato V</li> <li>- Served with Milk, Apple and Little Leaf Side Salad LG</li> </ul>
<p>10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- French Toast Sticks with Turkey Sausage</li> <li>- Turkey &amp; Cheese with Lettuce &amp; Tomato on whole grain Bread LG</li> <li>- Chicken Caesar on Whole Grain Wrap LG</li> <li>- Yogurt Platter V</li> <li>- Served with Milk, Apple &amp; Tator Tots and Carrots</li> </ul>	<p>11</p> <p>Limited Time Offer: Mediterranean Grain Bowl</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Chicken Ranch Salad with Whole Grain Flatbread LG</li> <li>- Turkey and Cheese with Lettuce &amp; Tomato on whole grain Bread LG</li> <li>- Served with Milk Fresh Fruit &amp; Roasted Vegetables (Broccoli &amp; Carrots)</li> </ul>	<p>12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Chicken Pemm Pasta with Roasted Vegetables</li> <li>- Protrol Power Pack with Yogurt V</li> <li>- Chicken Salad Sandwich with Lettuce on Whole Grain Bread LG</li> <li>- Served with Milk, Orange &amp; Red Pepper Strips</li> </ul>	<p>13</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Beef Nachos with Kickin Beans &amp; Corn</li> <li>- Chicken Ranch Salad with Whole Grain Flatbread LG</li> <li>- Chicken Shawarma Wrap with Hummus with Lettuce &amp; Tomato on Whole Grain Bread LG</li> <li>- Served with Milk, Apples and Celery Sticks &amp; Black Beans</li> </ul>	<p>14</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cheese Pizza V</li> <li>- Pepperoni Pizza</li> <li>- Popcorn Chicken Salad with Whole Grain Flatbread LG</li> <li>- Honey Mustard Chicken Wrap with Lettuce &amp; Tomato on Whole Grain Bread LG</li> <li>- Served with Milk, Banana and Side Salad</li> </ul>
<p>17</p> <p><b>MLK JR. DAY</b></p> <p><b>NO SCHOOL</b></p>	<p>18</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cheeseburger with Lettuce and Tomato</li> <li>- Ham Chef Salad with Whole Grain Flatbread LG</li> <li>- Chicken Salad Sandwich with Lettuce &amp; Tomato on Whole Grain Bread LG</li> <li>- Served with Milk, Orange Slices and Roasted Corn</li> </ul>	<p>19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Breakfast For Lunch with Local Baked Apples- <b>HOT!</b></li> <li>- Bagel Platter with Cheese &amp; Yogurt V</li> <li>- Tuna Salad Sandwich with Lettuce on Whole Grain Bread LG</li> <li>- Served with Milk, Bananas and Broccoli</li> </ul>	<p>20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Beef Tacos with Lettuce and Cheese</li> <li>- Popcorn Chicken Salad with Whole Grain Flatbread LG</li> <li>- Ham &amp; Cheese Sandwich with Lettuce &amp; Tomato LG</li> <li>- Served with Milk, Seasonal Fruit Cup, Kickin Bean</li> </ul>	<p>21</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cheese Pizza V</li> <li>- Pepperoni Pizza</li> <li>- Turkey &amp; Cheese with Lettuce &amp; Tomato on Whole Grain Bread LG</li> <li>- Egg Chef Salad with Whole Grain Flatbread LG</li> <li>- Served with Milk, Apple and Local Garden Salad LG</li> </ul>
<p>24</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Macaroni and Cheese</li> <li>- Hummus Platter with Vegetables and WG Flat Bread</li> <li>- Chicken Salad with Lettuce Tomato on Whole Grain Bread LG</li> <li>- Served with Broccoli, Apple and Milk</li> </ul>	<p>25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cheeseburger on a Whole Grain Bun</li> <li>- Chicken Salad with Lettuce Tomato on Whole Grain Bread LG</li> <li>- Chicken Caesar with Whole Grain Flatbread LG</li> <li>- Served with Milk, Orange Slices and Bean Salad</li> </ul>	<p>26</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Chicken Nuggets with Whole Grain Dinner Roll</li> <li>- Chicken Salad with Lettuce Tomato on Whole Grain Bread LG</li> <li>- Turkey Cobb Salad with Whole Grain Flatbread LG</li> <li>- Served with Milk, Bananas and Carrots</li> </ul>	<p>27</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Whole Grain Pasta with Meat Sauce</li> <li>- Fruit &amp; Yogurt Power Pack V</li> <li>- Santa Fe Turkey Wrap with Lettuce &amp; Tomato LG</li> <li>- Served with Milk, Fresh Strawberries and Side Salad</li> </ul>	<p>28</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cheese Pizza V</li> <li>- Pepperoni Pizza</li> <li>- Chicken Caesar Salad with Whole Grain Flatbread LG</li> <li>- Italian Sub with Lettuce &amp; Tomato on Whole Grain Bread LG</li> <li>- Served with Milk, Apple and Local Garden Salad LG</li> </ul>
<p>31</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Crispy Chicken Sandwich w/Lettuce &amp; Tomato LG</li> <li>- Turkey &amp; Cheese Sandwich w/Lettuce &amp; Tomato LG V</li> <li>- Protrol &amp; Yogurt Power Pack V</li> <li>- Served with Milk, Apple and Local Salad with Tomato Wedges</li> </ul>				

## REMINDER: Masks Are Required When Riding School Bus

Please remember that all students must wear their masks on the school bus unless they have a medical exemption. It has been brought to our attention that there has been a large number of bus incident reports for students who are not wearing their masks on the bus throughout Lowell.



Bus drivers do not always have masks that they can give to kids, so please send your student to the bus stop with a mask. If they do not have one or refuse to wear one on the bus, their bus riding privileges can be suspended.

If you do not have masks at home for your student, please let us know and we can make sure they have some to wear on the bus.

Please keep in mind that if your child refused to consistently wear a mask on the bus, they are subject to have their bus riding privileges suspended or completely removed.

## Emergency Contact Form: 2021-2022

Still need to fill out your emergency contact form for the 2021-2022 academic school year?



We have made it really easy for you to complete this important task. You can access the online form below. When you complete this form, it is immediately sent to McAvinnue and we will print it out for our records.

You don't need to come to the school to complete this form...you can do it right on your phone, tablet, or computer!

If you have any questions, please reach out to Mrs. De La Luz at [adelaluz@lowell.k12.ma.us](mailto:adelaluz@lowell.k12.ma.us) or contact the Main Office at McAvinnue for support!



Emergency Form 2021-2022  
Formulario de Emergencia 2021-  
2022 Formulário de Emergência  
2021-2022



[Sign in to Google](#) to save your progress. [Learn more](#)



There continues to be a 25% off deal occurring now on all items! This is a major discount if you are interested in purchasing McAvinnue merchandise.

To access our current online store for McAvinnue spirit gear, please click the link below.



[Click To Access Prep Sportswear Spirit Gear](#)

## McAvinnue's Yoga Pose Of The Week: "Tree" Continued...

Due to the short week that just concluded, we will continue to practice the "Tree" pose for this up and coming week. This pose will allow us to work on improving our balance through deliberate concentration that will increase our ability to focus throughout our day! We will practice the "Tree" pose daily during our "Virtual" Morning Announcements during this up and coming week on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.



You can get an early head start and practice this technique before we launch into another exciting week!

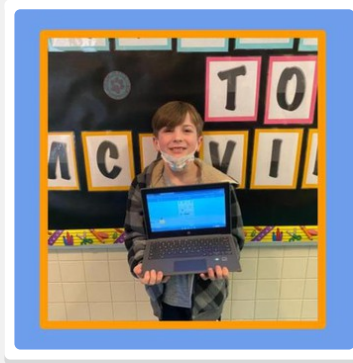


## McAvinnue's Week In Review



### "Good News" In Room 208!

Kindergarten students spent some time early this past week learning about the impact of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and his message of equality for all!



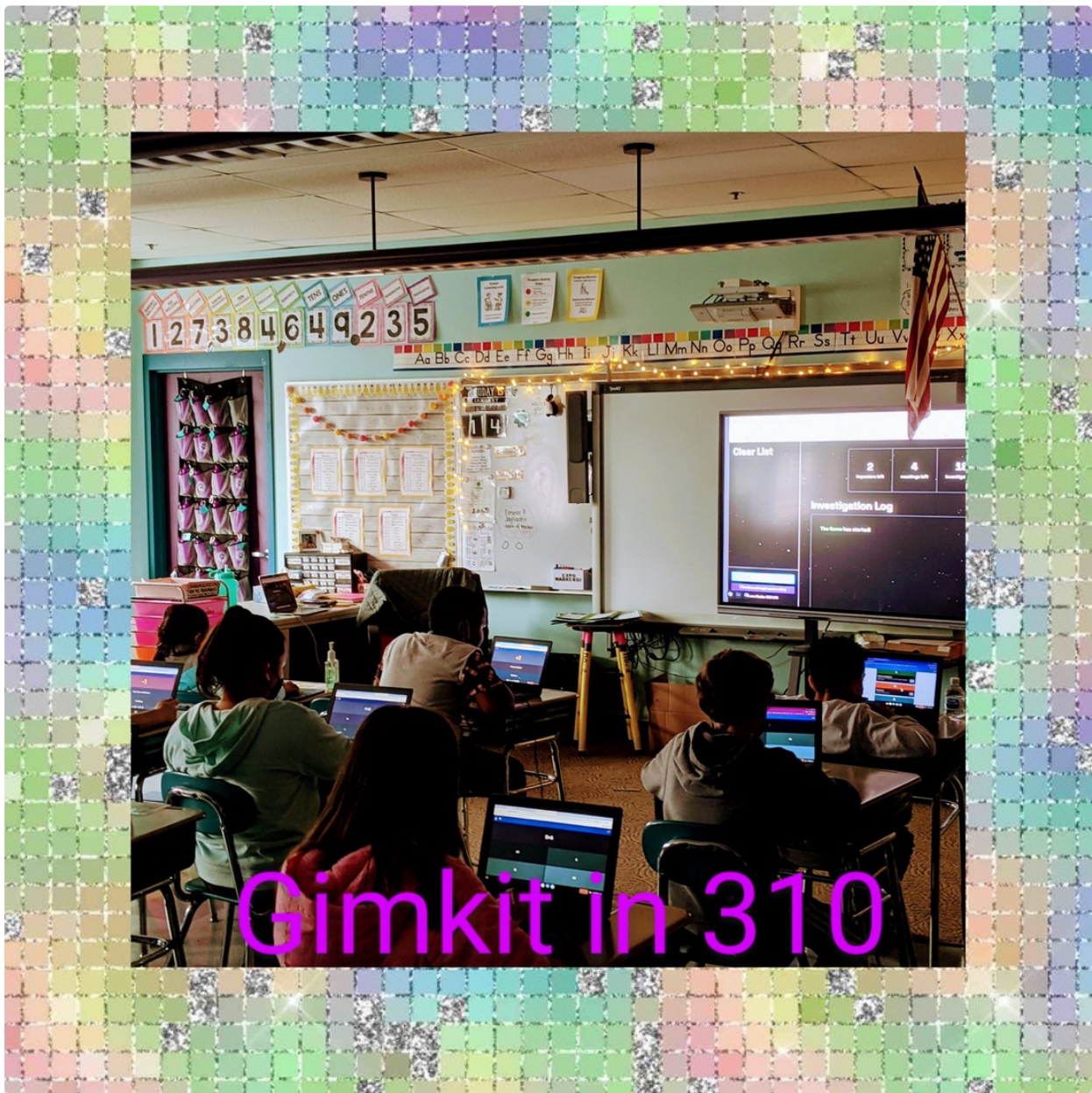
### "Amazing News" In Room 301!

Jacob was the next student at McAvinnue to complete all of the expected journey objectives in his grade level! He worked really hard and was proud of his accomplishment...simply fantastic!



### "Creative News" In Room 206!

Kindergarten students got really creative during recess time this week and made their version of McAvinnue that even included a "M" on our tower! We love it!



# Gimkit in 310

## "Fun News" In Room 310!

Grade 4 students had some fun practicing their multiplication facts using a cool and interactive platform called "Gimkit". They had a ton of fun and while improving their math skills!

ST Math Weekly Update: January 14th - 21st



## TOP 5 FOR Puzzle INCREASES



1	<u>Room 104</u>	↑	<u>52 puzzles</u>
2	<u>Room 304</u>	↑	<u>49 puzzles</u>
3	<u>Room 207</u>	↑	<u>45 puzzles</u>
4	<u>Room 301</u>	↑	<u>44 puzzles</u>
5	<u>Room 309</u>	↑	<u>36 puzzles</u>



**Total Puzzles Completed This School Year: 375,025**

### ST Math "Winter Waddle" National Challenge

We are participating in the "Winter Waddle" ST Math National Challenge for the next few weeks. The goal is to complete an average of 50 puzzles per student for the week.

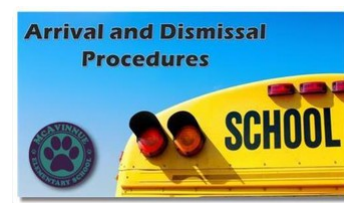
We did it! McAvinnue completed an average of 52 puzzles per student for this past week! Amazing accomplishment for our hard working kiddos!



## Drop-Off & Pick-Up Logistics

### Drop-Off Logistics

- Arrival begins at 9:10 AM each day. The late bell rings at 9:25 AM.
- Please pull up to the 4th Avenue side of the building when dropping off your child.
- As you approach the 4th Avenue sidewalk, a faculty member will greet and support getting your child safely out of the vehicle.
- This area is a drop off area ONLY. You will not be permitted to park in this location.
- Please be sure to drive all the way down to the end of the sidewalk so we can fit as many vehicles in this location as possible.
- Ensure your child is ready to go and do not get out of the car so we can keep traffic moving.
- Students accessing our CSA program will be dismissed out the 4th Avenue door near the rear of the school building by the exit driveway.
- Large bus students will enter using the back door located in the rear of the school building.
- Small bus and van transportation students will use the 4th Avenue door near the rear of the school building by the exit driveway.



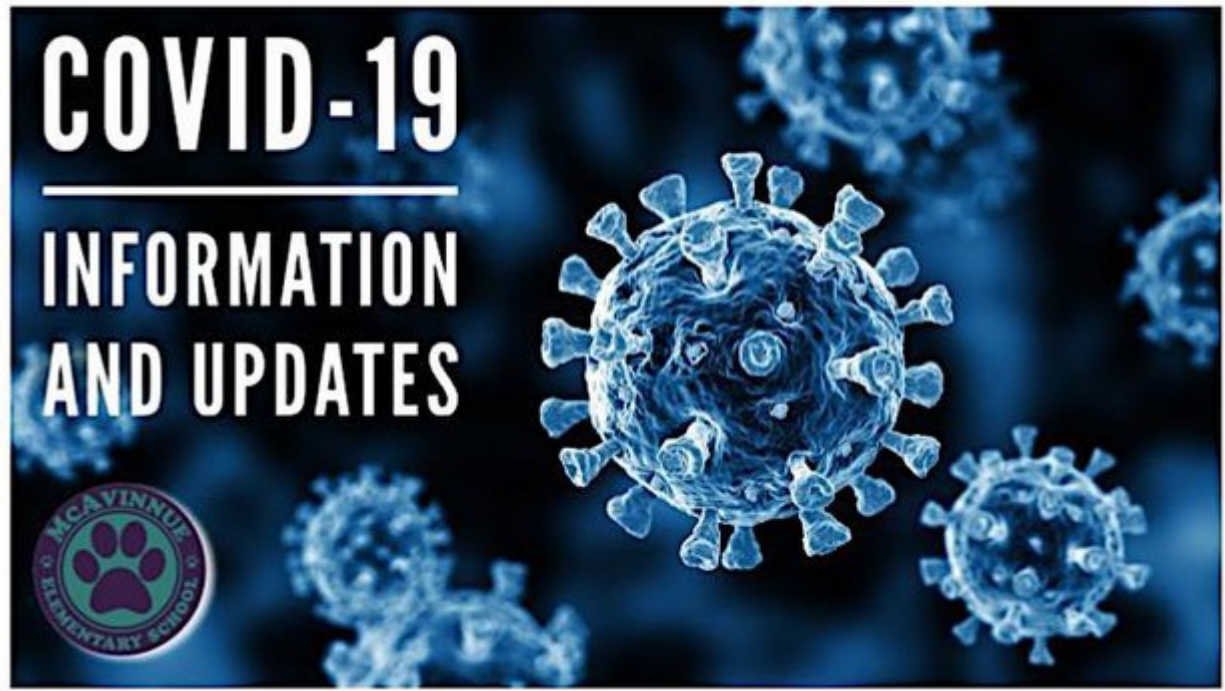
### Morning Lining Up Locations

- Grade 1, 3, and 4 students will use the Main Door to enter the school building.
- Grade 2 will use the 4th Avenue doorway near the front of the school to enter the building.
- PreK & Kindergarten will use the Early Childhood door to enter the building. This door is located to the right of McAvinnue's Reading Garden and to the left of the Main Door.

### Pick-Up Logistics

- Grade 1 will be dismissed out the Main Door.
- Grades 2, 3, and 4 will be dismissed out the 4th Avenue door near the front of the school.
- Kindergarten students will be dismissed out the Early Childhood door. This door is located to the right of McAvinnue's Reading Garden and to the left of the Main Door.
- Students accessing our CSA program will be dismissed out the 4th Avenue door near the rear of the school building by the exit driveway.
- PreK students will be dismissed out the 4th Avenue door near the rear of the school building by the exit driveway. Please contact Ms. Annie for the specific dismissal time.

## Updated COVID-19 Information & Updates



Here is a bulleted list of basic COVID 19 protocol information to help you make some decisions for this school year. Please remember the Lowell Public School District has no remote option for this school year.

- All student and staff members entering our building are required to wear masks indoors. We will provide mask breaks throughout the day. Strict mask protocols seem to minimize the spread of COVID. If a student is unable to wear a mask due to a documented disability please reach out to Mr. Domina at [mdomina@lowell.k12.ma.us](mailto:mdomina@lowell.k12.ma.us). Please try to find a mask that fits your child properly. We have some at schools for emergencies, but families should provide the masks.
- Students are required to wear masks on buses.
- We will try to reach 3 feet in social distancing in each classroom, but this is unlikely. If a class size reaches above 21 students, we will be within 3 feet of each other. Social distancing is not required in schools at this point.
- We will be eating in the cafeteria for lunch each day for most of our students. Students will be within 3 feet of each other in this environment and only have their masks off while they are consuming food and beverage.
- We will sanitize hands throughout the day. Students entering or leaving a class or the building are required to use hand sanitizer.
- In-school pool testing will continue for this school year. It is not required, but families can sign their children up using this link. <https://www.lowell.k12.ma.us/pooltesting>
- Please see the video to show how the testing works. <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1MSQ7h3tRyRCg-Sz4IT6iNbNsyMI7VTj7/view>



# MASKS ARE REQUIRED

in all indoor public spaces in Lowell  
beginning Thursday, December 16.

Read the full Board of Health order:  
[lowellma.gov/masks](https://lowellma.gov/masks)



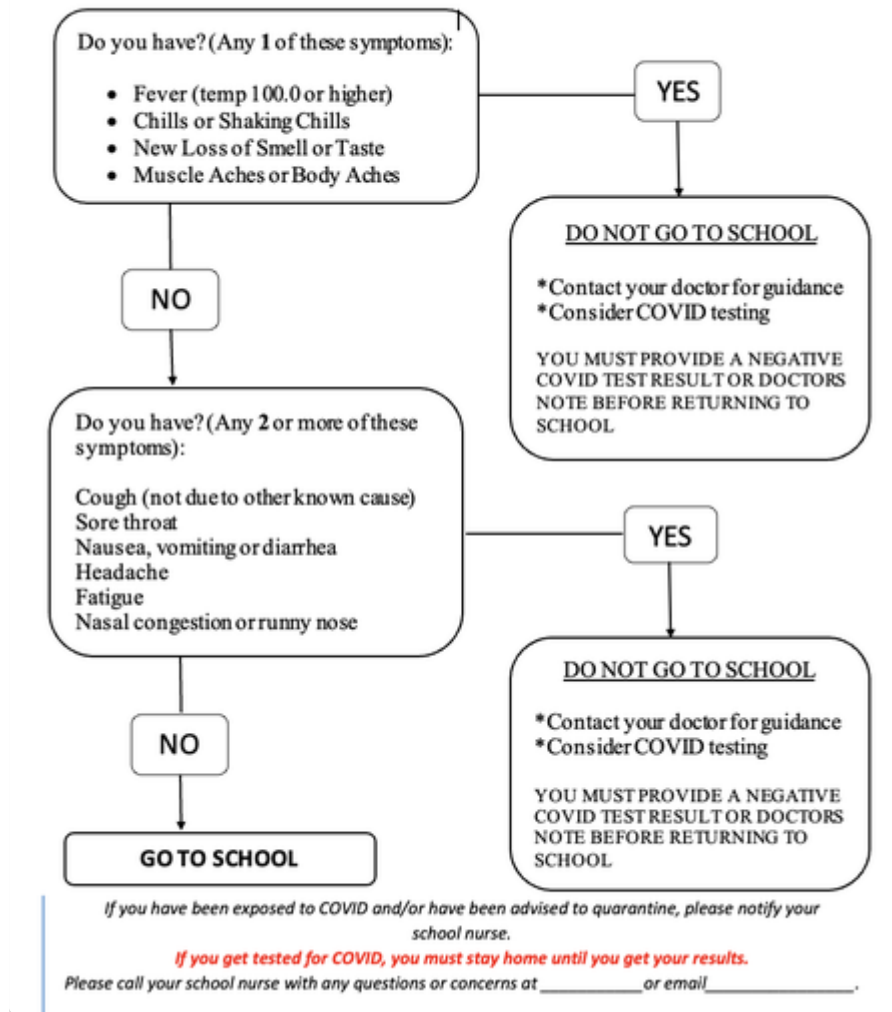
**CITY of LOWELL**  
[lowellma.gov/covid](https://lowellma.gov/covid)

## Can I Go To School? Updated Lowell Health Department COVID-19 Guidance

The Lowell Health Department has updated the flow chart guidance for parents, a copy of which is shared with you below.

**Please do not send any children to school if you are waiting for the result of a COVID test or if your child has/had symptoms. Students will need a negative COVID test in order to return to school.**

## Can I go to school?



## Free Weekly COVID-19 Screenings

**COVID-19 Testing For Schools**

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has partnered with CIC Health to provide free COVID-19 testing to students, teachers, and staff.

[Consent Now](#) [Learn More](#)

Free weekly COVID-19 screenings will continue this fall at all Lowell Public Schools... and we will now offer FREE rapid testing for any symptomatic students. No more making appointments, driving to the testing site, and waiting days for your results!

You MUST complete the consent form to have your child participate in ANY of the free COVID-19 testing at McAvinnue. To consent for "Test & Stay" if your child is a close contact at school and is not



showing any COVID-19 symptoms, you can sign up using the link below.

**McAvinnue will now be testing students and faculty on WEDNESDAY each week!**

To access the consent form, click the button below.

[Click Here To Access The Consent Form](#)

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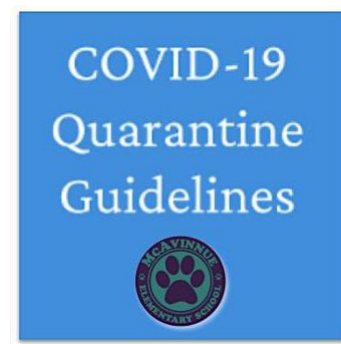
#McAvinnuePride

## **Enhanced COVID-19 Testing Offerings**

<b>Symptomatic Testing</b>	<b>"Test and Stay"</b> <i>Close contact testing</i>	<b>Routine COVID Safety Checks</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>For when individuals present symptoms while at school;</b> individuals should not go to school if experiencing symptoms while at home.</li><li>• Samples are collected at school using <b>the BinaxNOW rapid antigen test.</b></li><li>• Those testing <b>negative with isolated/mild symptoms can stay</b> in school.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• For when individuals are in close contact with a COVID-19 positive individual while at school.</li><li>• Samples are collected at school <b>using the Binax NOW rapid antigen test.</b></li><li>• Tests are <b>administered daily for at least five days</b> from the date of exposure.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Routine Pooled Testing and <u>School-Based Follow-Up Testing</u>:</b> samples are collected at school; if a pool is positive, follow-up testing at school with <b>either BinaxNOW and/or individual PCR testing as necessary.</b></li><li>• <b>Routine Pooled Testing and <u>Lab-Based Follow-Up Testing</u>:</b> samples are collected; if a pool is positive, <b>individual follow-up testing occurs at the lab</b>, without a second sample collection.</li></ul>

## Updated COVID-19 Quarantine Guidelines for Families

On December 30, 2021, the CDC and DESE updated their COVID-19 Quarantine and Isolation protocols. We will begin following those guidelines. Here is a summary of some of the changes:



For individuals who TEST POSITIVE for COVID-19:

- The new CDC guidelines have reduced the quarantine to 5 days if you do not have symptoms. After the 5 day quarantine period an individual may return to school if they have been symptom free for 24 hours without medication. Please contact Nurse Lindsey to create a plan for return if you get a positive COVID-19 test.

For individuals who are identified as CLOSE CONTACTS to someone who tests positive for COVID-19:

- Students who have been identified as close contacts who are asymptomatic and fully vaccinated are exempt from testing and quarantine response protocols. Fully vaccinated is defined as two weeks after receiving the 2nd dose of their vaccine. **If your student is fully vaccinated, please send a copy of their vaccine card to Nurse Robin**

- Parents still have the option for their student to participate in the Test and Stay program allowing them to remain in school if they are a close contact. The duration of the Test and Stay program has been reduced from testing for 7 days from the date of exposure to testing for 5 days from the date of exposure.
- If a student does not participate in Test and Stay and is a close contact, they would self-isolate for 5 days from the last date of exposure to the individual who tested positive and could return to school on day 6 if they remain asymptomatic and have a negative COVID test.

Please let Nurse Robin or I know if you have any questions about the new protocols. You can access the full memo by downloading it below.



COVID-19 Quarantining Procedures 1.19.22 (1).pdf

Download

167.9 KB

## McAvinnue's Student Bus Information

Need to know your student's school bus information? All you have to do is click below, put in their LASID (Lunch Number or the number they use to log into their computer), and you will have access to it.



If you need your student's LASID, please contact the front office at (978) 937-2871 or email [mdomina@lowell.k12.ma.us](mailto:mdomina@lowell.k12.ma.us).

If you have questions about your student's transportation, please don't hesitate to reach out using the methods above for support.

[Click Here For The LPSD "Bus Lookup Tool"](#)

You will need to have your child's LASID or lunch number to access the most up to date bus information for your child. Please keep in mind that this number is also used to log into your child's borrowed device.

## UPDATED: LPSD School Calendar 2021-2022 School Year

Please click the link below for the recently approved LPSD School Calendar for the 2021-2022 school year.



There has been a "NO SCHOOL" date added on Tuesday, September 21st due to the local Primary Election in Lowell.



## Community Connections & Opportunities



### CTI HEAD START EARLY LEARNING PROGRAMS

Community Teamwork has a number of Early Learning Programs for kids and parents. Starting with their Home Base Program assisting families as early as Prenatal Mothers, to their School Age Program that serves children up to 13 years of age and their Early Head Start and Head Start Center Based Programs that serve all those in between.



For more information contact the people listed on the flyer below or call CTI at (978) 654-5100.



Community Teamwork  
126 Phoenix Ave.  
Lowell, MA 01852  
978-654-5100



### Early Learning Program Options

Home Based: Lorna Syesta – [lsyesta@commteam.org](mailto:lsyesta@commteam.org)

- ❖ Serving pregnant woman and children up to 3 years
- ❖ Weekly home visits, playgroups & supports for healthy pregnancy to build nurturing parent-child relationships

Center Based Full Day: Linda Broady – [lbroad@commteam.org](mailto:lbroad@commteam.org)

- ❖ Ages 6 weeks-5 years
- ❖ Part Day options available for Preschool age children
- ❖ Individualized curriculum in nurturing, safe environments
- ❖ Free breakfast, lunch and snack

Family Child Care: Lynn Eriksen - [leriksen@commteam.org](mailto:leriksen@commteam.org)

- ❖ Lower ratio of children to educator
- ❖ Comfortable home environment
- ❖ One teacher from entry to Kindergarten
- ❖ Strong social-emotional benefits

School Age: Billy Ma – [wma@commteam.org](mailto:wma@commteam.org)

- ❖ Ages 5-13 years
- ❖ Before & After School and Full Day Programming for Vacations & Summer
- ❖ Safe place for children to make friends, play games, practice sports, receive educational guidance and engage in a variety of creative projects

All programs assist families with accessing additional services in their community and can offer supportive services for children with mild/severe disabilities.

\*For more information about our Early Learning Programs, please contact the names above.

\*If you would like to apply for any of our programs, scan either QR Code and fill out our application.



Aplicacion  
En Español



English  
Application

## Community Resources & Daycare Options for Families

Looking for before or after school daycare options for your child? Here is a short list of options and information for your consideration.

[Here is a list of daycare options in Lowell:](#)

- **Community Team Work (CTI)** (978) 454-5100
  - Families who are already enrolled in a CTI program...
    - Call or text school-age coordinators to request a slot
      - Billy 978-995-0028, [wma@commteam.org](mailto:wma@commteam.org)
      - Karen 978-729-7216, [kshannon@commteam.org](mailto:kshannon@commteam.org)
  - Families who are not enrolled in a CTI program
    - If you've filled out a CTI application in the past...
      - Contact Karen (978) 729-7216, [kshannon@commteam.org](mailto:kshannon@commteam.org) to see if where you are on the waitlist (if there is a waitlist)
    - If you've never filled out a CTI application...
      - Fill out an application at 17 Kirk St., 126 Phoenix Ave
      - Or call the main CTI number (978) 454-5100 to request an email version of the application.
- **YMCA:** (978) 454-7825; 1 YMCA Dr in Lowell
  - Karen Espinola is the school-age director

- Fill out a application online or at the YMCA to request a slot
- Debbie Doben is the preschool director if your child is preschool age
- **Family Childcare:** Call programs to see if they have openings near you
  - Bethel Family Childcare (978) 458-6577
  - Clarendon Family Childcare (978) 454-3026
  - Child Development and Learning (CDE) (978) 275-2843
  - ACRE Family Childcare (978) 937-5899
  - CTI: See above contact information
- **Girls Inc:** (978) 458-6529, 220; Worthen St. in Lowell
  - Accept girls ages 5-14 years old
  - Accept Child Care Circuit vouchers, DCF vouchers, and private pay (income-based, sliding scale)
  - Call Pam Lerocque (Director of Finance & Administration) to check on openings
- **Boys and Girls Club:** (978) 458-4526; 657 Middlesex St in Lowell
  - School-age openings for after-school
  - Teens who are working with the Department of Children and Families can call BGC or DCF to see if they're eligible

## Greater Boston Food Bank

The Greater Boston Food Bank is back again in Lowell for this school year! Mark your calendars with the dates below in you are interested and in need of support.



The Food Bank is located at the STEM Academy (Rogers School) at 43 Highland Street.

The next opportunity is **Tuesday, February 8th from 3:45 PM - 4:30 PM!**

**Please note the changes related to the COVID surge that is highlighted in "yellow".**

You can also see the schedule for the Greater Boston Food Bank for this school year below!

# Service Change



# SCHOOL PANTRY

Due to the current COVID-19 surge, Lowell Public Schools will be hosting a **drive-up distribution of shelf-stable goods for January 2022 service.**



## WHERE:

STEM Academy at the Rogers School  
43 Highland Street

Front of the Building  
Gymnasium Entrance

## TIME:

3:45 PM - 4:30 PM

## DATES (2021-2022 School Year):

September 14  
October 12  
November 9  
December 14  
January 11  
February 8  
March 8  
April 12  
May 10  
June 14

All Food Bank clients are required to wear a mask to ensure the safety of our volunteers.

## QUESTIONS? CONTACT:

Carolyn Rocheleau-Feeney  
[crocheleau@lowell.k12.ma.us](mailto:crocheleau@lowell.k12.ma.us)

Registration can be completed at the School Pantry.

**Please bring reusable grocery bags, baskets, or a cart to carry your food.**



## Local Food Support

Do you need support with food options for your family. No need to worry...there are many local groups that can offer support for you during your time of need.

Click the link below for a list of local food pantries that are willing to help.



You can also reach out to Mrs. De La Luz, McAvinnue's Social Worker, for support navigating these and other options.



## McAvinnue's Family Read-A-Loud

### "Sneezy The Snowman"

\* Kids Book Read Aloud: SNEEZY THE SNOWMAN by Maureen Wright and Stephen Gilpin



### McAvinnue's School Website

Check out our school website where you can find a wealth of information including school news, calendars, and other events.

Please visit our website at: <https://www.lowell.k12.ma.us/mcavinnue>



### Follow McAvinnue On Social Media

You can follow McAvinnue on social media at the following sites! We update things daily and this is a great way to stay in touch with all of the amazing things that are happening inside and out of "the best school we all know"!

FaceBook: <https://www.facebook.com/McAvinnueElementarySchool>



Twitter:

<https://twitter.com/McAvinnueLPS>

Instagram:

<http://instagram.com/mcavinnueelementarylps>

YouTube:

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7hxiBuRjqjgfASL\\_RLMleQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7hxiBuRjqjgfASL_RLMleQ)







## Our Vision

 Facebook  @McAvinnueLPS

McAvinnue Elementary School is a place...where there are **high expectations**, where students are **academically engaged**, where instruction is guided by a **systematic approach to examine data**, where there is a **multi-tiered system of support**, and where a responsive environment that fosters **social emotional connections** between faculty and students prevails.

**#McAvinnuePride #BeTheDifference #NextLevel**

 131 Mammoth Road, Lowell, M...  mdomina@lowell.k12.ma.us  
 (978) 937-2871  lowell.k12.ma.us/Domain/21

