

The Lion's Roar

Community Newsletter: Week Of May 12th



MCAVINNUE'S PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Hello McAvinnue Community!

First, I wanted to wish all of the mothers and mother figures in the McAvinnue community a very happy and special Mother's Day! Today is your day....take it easy and put you feet up and enjoy this day that is all about you!

Here is a brief but interesting history of Mother's Day and how it all came about including some fun facts...

Mother's Day has ancient roots and has evolved over time into the modern holiday we know today. Here's a brief timeline of its development:

Mom

Ancient Origins

- Ancient Greece and Rome: Festivals were held in honor of mother goddesses like Rhea (Greek) and Cybele (Roman). These early celebrations were more religious in nature.
- Early Christianity: A day known as "Mothering Sunday" was celebrated in parts of Europe. It began as a religious tradition during Lent, where people would return to their "mother church" and honor the Virgin Mary, eventually expanding to include mothers.

Modern Mother's Day (United States)

- Ann Reeves Jarvis (1860s): During the Civil War, she organized "Mother's Day Work Clubs" to address public health issues and promote peace.
- Julia Ward Howe (1870s): She proposed a "Mother's Peace Day" to promote disarmament and peace following the Civil War.
- Anna Jarvis (1908): The true founder of the modern U.S. Mother's Day, she held a memorial for her mother and launched a campaign to make it a national holiday.
- 1914: President Woodrow Wilson signed a proclamation designating the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day, a national holiday to honor mothers.

Commercialization and Controversy

• Ironically, Anna Jarvis grew to resent the commercialization of Mother's Day. She felt the focus shifted from heartfelt sentiment to profit, especially as greeting card companies and florists capitalized on the day.

Fun Facts About Mother's Day

- 1. Carnations are the official flower: Anna Jarvis chose the white carnation as the symbol of Mother's Day because it was her mother's favorite flower.
- 2. One of the busiest days for cards: It's the third-largest card-sending holiday in the U.S. after Christmas and Valentine's Day.
- 3. Phone traffic spikes: Mother's Day is often the busiest day of the year for phone calls.
- 4. Popular for dining out: It's also one of the busiest days of the year for restaurants, as many families treat mom to brunch or dinner.
- 5. Celebrated worldwide: Though the dates vary, over 50 countries celebrate Mother's Day, including the UK (in March), Thailand (in August), and Ethiopia (during the fall).
- 6. Most moms in the U.S.: As of recent statistics, there are about 85 million mothers in the United States.
- 7. Spending adds up: Americans spend over \$30 billion annually on Mother's Day gifts, including flowers, jewelry, and experiences.

Have a great Sunday...and I hope that this upcoming week will be a smooth and successful one for everyone!

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach directly.

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

- Monday, May 12th- McAvinnue Reopens @ 9:10 AM
- Monday, May 12th McAvinnue's "STEM Challenge Month" Begins
- Monday, May 12th McAvinnue's "Lion's Pride" Core Value All School Celebration: April Edition
- Tuesday, May 13th Grade 4 Math MCAS Testing: Session 1
- <u>Wednesday, May 14th</u> Early Release Day Student Dismissal @ 1:30 PM (No PreK Classes For Ms. Annie's Students)
- Thursday, May 15th Grade 4 Math MCAS Testing: Session 2

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.

Early Release Day - Wednesday, May 14th



There is a district-wide Early Release Day on Wednesday, May 14th. McAvinnue students will be dismissed at 1:30 PM.

Students in Ms. Annie's PreK classes will not have school on this day. McAvinnue's After School Program will also not occur on May 14th.

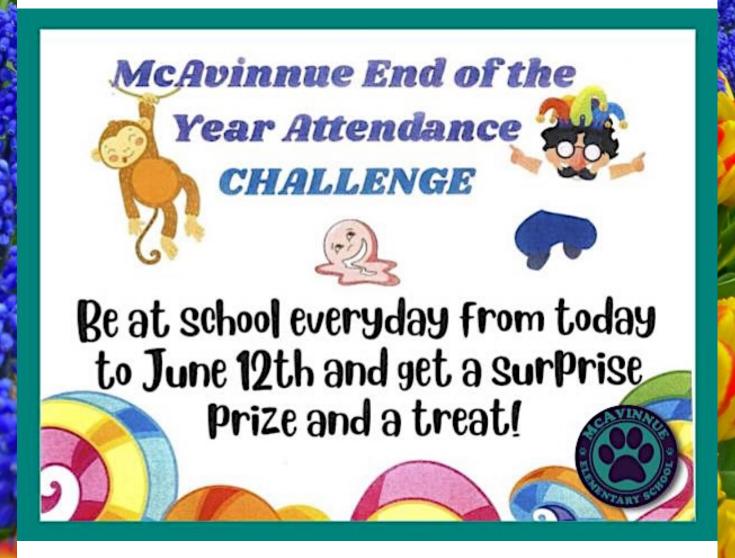
Please make the necessary arrangements to be available for your child on this day.

McAvinnue's All School Attendance Challenge

McAvinnue's Attendance Team would like to thank you for all of your efforts in supporting your child's academic success by stressing the importance of attendance!

We have approximately one month left of school and we are aksing that you please continue to send your child to school everyday. We understand that it can be difficult with the nicer weather and many activities occuring at home. However, we have many important and fun events planned for the remainder of the school year that include various field trips, classroom activities, Field Day, and much more!

To encourage your child's attendance, we are starting an all school attendance challenge. If your child comes to school everyday starting on Monday, May 12th through Friday, June 12th, they will be included to picking a great fun prize along with a special popsicle party!





2025 MCAS Testing Dates: Grade 4

We have scheduled McAvinnue's MCAS dates for this school year. Please see the dates below for Grade 4. This will be the final week of MCAS testing for this school year.

Math

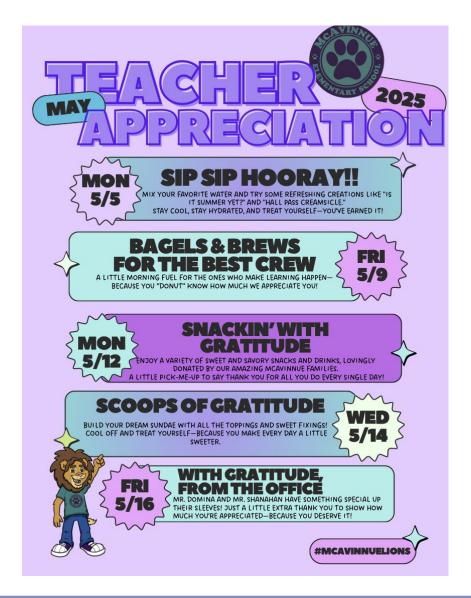
- Grade 4 Math May 13th (Session 1); May 15th (Session 2)
- Grade 3 Math Make Up Sessions May 16th & 19th

It's important that ALL of our students attend on the days that their grade level is testing. Being rested, on time, and fully prepared is essential for students to "show what they know" and do their very best!

If you have any questions, please reach out directly to your child's teacher for additional information.

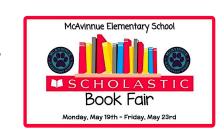


McAvinnue's "Teacher Appreciation Days"



Scholastic Book Fair Is Back At McAvinnue!

We are once again bringing back the Scholastic Book Fair one final time this school year during the week of Monday, May 19th - Friday, May 23rd.



As usual, your child will have an opportunity to visit the Book Fair before there scheduled day to make a purchase. Your child's

teacher will reach out to you with the date that week that the class will head to make purchases. Stay tuned for this outreach from your child's teacher.

We will offer extended time during McAvinnue's "International Night" on Thursday, May 22nd to visit the Scholastic Book Fair with your child! This opportunity will occur from 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM.

Below is the link for our school homepage. Here you will have the opportunity to catch a glimpse at the digital flyer, and, should you choose to, also set up their e-wallet which makes purchasing books very easy for your child!

https://www.scholastic.com/bf/josephamcavinnueelemsch

Please keep in mind that the money that is raised will be used to purchase books for our students at McAvinnue!



McAvinnue's International Night - Chefs Needed!

We are thrilled to invite you to McAvinnue's Annual International Night on Thursday, May 22nd at 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM. This is a very special evening dedicated to celebrating the amazing cultures and traditions that make up our school community!



As part of the festivities, we are asking families to bring a favorite family dish that reflects their heritage, culture, or family traditions.

Here are a few important details:

- What to Bring: A dish that is meaningful to your family and represents your cultural background. It could be an appetizer, main dish, dessert, or snack — whatever you love to share!
- Serving Size: Please prepare a dish that can serve about 20–25 small portions, so many families have the chance to sample different foods.

- Labeling: If possible, please include a small label with the name of the dish, the country or culture it represents, and any important ingredients (to help those with allergies).
- Allergies: We kindly ask that you list common allergens (such as nuts, dairy, eggs, gluten, etc.) if they are included.
- Drop-off Time: Please bring your dish to the gymnasium at 5:00 PM 5:30 PM. Tables will be set up for you to display your dish.
- Optional: Feel free to bring a small flag, photo, or short description that tells a little about your dish or your family's story!

This evening is always one of the highlights of our school year — a time to connect, share traditions, and learn from one another. We can't wait to experience the delicious tastes and rich stories that each of you will bring to this beautiful night!

If you are planning to bring a dish, please RSVP by reaching out to Mrs. De La Luz at adelaluz@lowell.k12.ma.us or send back the bottom portion of the flyer that was sent home before Spring Break so we can plan accordingly.

Thank you for helping us make our International Night a meaningful and memorable event!









Last Day Of School: All Grades



McAvinnue's Week In Review



100 Acts Of Kindness!

Kindergarten students in Room 205 filled up their "100 Acts Of Kindness Chart" by doing and saying kind things all month! They earned a super cool ice cream party! Well done!



McAvinnue's "Musician of the Week"

McAvinnue's "Musician of the Week" is Benjamin is Room 202! Benjamin has been learning to work with a partner in group dances, how to sing a solo as part of a singing game, and has mastered how to read basic rhythms. He is always a leader in music, showing great behavior and great listening. Good job!



Fruit Bowl Fun!

Students in Room 108 enjoyed time in the Art Room by creating these realistic fruit bowls that have three-dimensional perspective!



McAvinnue's "Artist of the Week"

McAvinnue's "Artist of the Week" is Nathaniel in Room 205! He drew an incredible daffodil during our directed drawing lesson! Next he'll add paint for color. This is truly impressive artwork!



Learning About The Life Cycle Of The Pumpkin

Kindergarten students in Room 208 had a chance to learn about the life cycle of the pumpkin in a very unique and interesting way! Students had a chance to watch the pumpkin decompose over time and it's seeds germinate to form a newly sprouted pumpkin plant! So cool!



Mother's Day Paint Night!

Kindergarten students in Room 208 hosted a Mother's Day "Painting Night" on Friday during the school day! Our students and their mothers or mother figures enjoyed some painting fun and some delicious snacks! What a blast and such a fun idea!

If your students have any medical concerns or diagnosis, please make sure Nurse Danielle is aware. Also, if they have any medical conditions, for example allergies or asthma, that require medications such as Epipens or inhalers here at school, please remember she needs updated paperwork and medication yearly.

Please reach out as soon as possible to get her the necessary paperwork and to arrange drop off of new medications. Nurse Danielle's email address is dralls@lowell.k12.ma.us and she can also be reached by calling (978) 937-2871 ex. 47858. Our fax number is (978) 937-2880.

School NURSE

Drop-Off & Pick-Up Logistics

Drop-Off Logistics

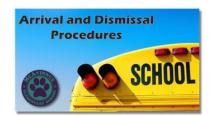
- Arrival begins at 9:10 AM each day. The late bell rings at 9:25 AM.
- Please pull up to the 4th Avenue side of the building when dropping off your child.
- As you approach the 4th Avenue sidewalk, a faculty member will greet and support getting your child safely out of the vehicle.
- This area is a 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.

Bus Transportation Information

School bus transportation is provided to students in grades K-4, who live greater than .75 mile from their residence or alternate address to their assigned school. Middle school students (grades 5-8) must live greater than 1.5 miles from their residence or alternate address to their assigned school.



Kindergarten through 4th grade students will receive a printed bus pass via postal mail. These passes were mailed out on August 23rd. You can also look up your student's bus pass information by using their Student ID for the username and date of birth for the password at the link below. This is the same information that students use to log in to their Chromebooks for school.

Please note that Kindergarten and 1st grader students <u>must</u> have an older sibling (4th grade or older) or parent present at the bus stop in the afternoon in order to depart from the school bus. If a parent or older sibling is not present, the student will be brought to the Moody School, located at 158 Rogers Street. A driver's license or valid identification must be presented to the staff in order to dismiss the student.

You can use the LPSD "Bus Lookup Tool" using the link below. You will need to use you child's LASID or lunch number along with their birthdate to access this helpful system.

There also is a helpful video that you can watch that will walk you through the process.

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.

Bus Pass Lookup Tutorial

Tyler's Versatrans e-Link

Welcome to Lowell Public Schools eLink

Styler

Uner Name TOWN

Perswell ----

User Name= lunch code

Password= birthday mmddyyyy Example: August 31, 2009

Is Your Bus On Time?

The Lowell Public Schools Transportation Department has added a live spreadsheet to its webpage that indicates in the AM or PM if a school bus (grades K-8) is running late and by how long.

Check it out today: https://www.lowell.k12.ma.us/Page/5990



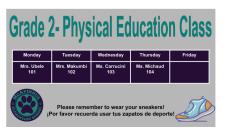
Physical Education Class Information With Ms. Rindo

Here is information regarding when each grade level and homeroom has weekly Physical Education Class with Ms. Rindo.

Please ensure that your child wears sneakers on their assigned day in the gymnasium so that can fully participate.





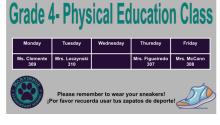


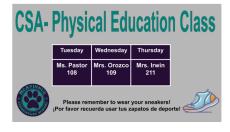
Kindergarten

Grade 1

Grade 2







Grade 3 Grade 4 CSA

McAvinnue's Yoga Pose Of The Week: "Flying Bird Breath" Continued...

We will continue to practice the "Flying Bird Breath" for this upcoming week.

This pose will allow us to work on remaining calm while increasing our focus by maintaining grace through our own person "center".

We will practice the "Flying Bird Breath" 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!





Upcoming Events



Here are important dates to remember for the month of May:

- Monday, May 12th- McAvinnue Reopens @ 9:10 AM
- Monday, May 12th McAvinnue's "STEM Challenge Month" Begins
- Monday, May 12th McAvinnue's "Lion's Pride" Core Value All School Celebration: April Edition
- <u>Tuesday, May 13th</u> Grade 4 Math MCAS Testing: Session 1
- <u>Wednesday, May 14th</u> Early Release Day Student Dismissal @ 1:30 PM (No PreK Classes For Ms. Annie's Students)
- Thursday, May 15th Grade 4 Math MCAS Testing: Session 2
- Monday, May 19th Friday, May 23rd McAvinnue's Spring Scholastic Book Fair
- Monday, May 19th Grade 4 Field Trip: Kimball Farms Westford
- Thursday, May 22nd Grade 2 Field Trip: Stone Zoo
- Thursday, May 22nd McAvinnue's International Night @ 5:30 PM 7:00 PM
- Friday, May 23rd McAvinnue's "Walk-A-Thon" Fundraiser Event
- Monday, May 26th Memorial Day No School
- Thursday, May 29th Kindergarten Field Trip: Stone Zoo
- <u>Thursday, May 29th</u> Turtle HATCH Program Field Trip Turtle Release Day (Rooms 202 & 303)
- <u>Friday, May 30th</u> McAvinnue's "Lions Pride" Core Value All School Celebration: May Edition @ 9:30 AM 10:15 AM

ST Math Weekly Progress!

We're in the *final month* of ST Math puzzle play—and WOW, what a journey it's been!

- 95% overall progress toward our puzzle goal
- Nearly 1 million puzzles solved
- Over 440 amazing student puzzlers engaged

Let's finish strong and make the most of our momentum!



95%



Average Puzzle Goal Progress









Over 943,000 puzzles solved



ST Math Champions!



McAvinnue's ST Math Progress Champions





Bruna Room 208



Natalia Room 204



Aayesha Room 204



McAvinnue's ST Math Progress Champions





Freya Room 201



Alianna Room 302



Siedon Room 302



McAvinnue's ST Math Progress Champions





Jaxavhieus & Edison
Room 101



Thang Room 304



Takao Room 302



McAvinnue's ST Math Progress Champions





Adriel Room 308



Dev Room 304



Surya Room 203

2024-2025 School Year Calendar

Superintendent of Schools-Lowell Public Schools- Lowell, MA 2024-2025 School Year Calendar

Monday, August 26, 2024	Staff Return to School - Staff Orientation Day	
Tuesday, August 27, 2024	First Day of School - Grades 1-12	
Friday, August 30, 2024	No School Labor Day Recess	
Monday, September 2, 2024 *	No School - Labor Day	
Tuesday, September 3, 2024	No School - State Primary Elections	
Wednesday, September 4, 2024	First Day of School - Pre-Kindergarten & Kindergarten	
Wednesday, October 9, 2024	Wednesday - Early Release for grades PreK-12	
Monday, October 14, 2024 *	No School - Indigenous Peoples' Day	
Tuesday, November 5, 2024	No School for Students -Election Day -Professional Day for Staff	
Monday, November 11, 2024 *	No School - Veterans' Day Observed	
Wednesday, November 27, 2024	Early Dismissal - Thanksgiving Recess	
Thursday, November 28, 2024 *	No School - Thanksgiving Day	
Friday, November 29, 2024 *	No School – Thanksgiving Recess	
Monday, December 2, 2024	Schools Re-Open	
Wednesday, December 4, 2024	Wednesday - Early Release for grades PreK-12	
Friday, December 20, 2024	Winter Vacation Begins at the Close of Day	
Tuesday, December 24, 2024*	Christmas Eve	
Wednesday, December 25, 2024	Christmas Day	
Tuesday, December 31, 2024 *	New Year's Eve	
Wednesday, January 1, 2025 *	New Year's Day	
Thursday, January 2, 2025	Schools Re-Open	
Wednesday, January 8, 2025	Wednesday - Early Release for grades PreK-12	
Monday, January 20, 2025 *	No School - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	
Wednesday, February 5, 2025	Wednesday - Early Release for grades PreK-12	
Friday, February 14, 2025	Mid-Winter Vacation Begins at the Close of School	
Monday, February 17, 2025 *	President's Day [Mid-Winter Vacation: Monday, February 17 - Friday, February 21, 2025]	
Monday, February 24, 2025	Monday – Schools Re-Open	
Wednesday, March 5, 2025	Wednesday - Early Release for grades PreK-12	
Thursday, April 17, 2025	Spring Vacation Begins at the Close of School	
Friday, April 18, 2025 *	No School – Good Friday	
Monday, April 21, 2025 *	Patriot's Day – [Spring Break: Monday, April 21– Friday, April 25, 2025]	
Monday, April 28, 2025	Schools Re-Open	
Wednesday, May 14, 2025	Wednesday - Early Release for grades PreK-12	
Monday, May 26, 2025 *	No School – Memorial Day	
Friday, June 13, 2025	180th School Day - Early Release for grades PreK-12 on Last Day of School	
Thursday, June 19, 2025 *	Juneteenth	
Monday, June 23, 2025	185th School Day [Includes five (5) Snow Days]	

Approved by the Lowell School Committee at their meeting of: 4/17/24

* Central Administration, Family Resource Center will be closed in observance of a holiday

Number	of Sch	ool Days Per	Month
August	3	January	21
September	19	February	15
October	22	March	21
November	17	April	16
December	15	May	21
		June	10





2024-2025 LPSD Calendar.pdf

Download 236.8 KB

2025-2026 School Year Calendar



Superintendent of Schools – Lowell Public Schools – Lowell, MA 2025-2026 School Year Calendar

Monday, August 25, 2025	Staff Return to School – Staff Orientation Day	
Tuesday, August 26, 2025	First Day of School – Grades 1-12	
Friday, August 29, 2025	No School – Labor Day Recess	
Monday, September 1, 2025 *	No School – Labor Day	
Wednesday, September 3, 2025	First Day of School – Pre-Kindergarten & Kindergarten	
Tuesday, September 9, 2025	No School - Local Primary Elections - Professional Day for Staff	
Wednesday, October 8, 2025	Early Release for grades K-12 (No School PK)	
Monday, October 13, 2025 *	No School – Indigenous Peoples' Day	
Tuesday, November 4, 2025	No School -Election Day	
Tuesday, November 11, 2025 *	No School - Veterans Day Observed	
Wednesday, November 26, 2025	Early Dismissal - Thanksgiving Recess (No School PK)	
Thursday, November 27, 2025*	No School - Thanksgiving Day	
Friday, November 28, 2025 *	No School - Thanksgiving Recess	
Monday, December 1, 2025	Schools Re-Open	
Wednesday, December 3, 2025	Early Release for grades K-12 (No School PK)	
Friday, December 19, 2025	Winter Vacation Begins at the Close of Day	
Wednesday, December 24, 2025 *	Christmas Eve	
Thursday, December 25, 2025 *	Christmas Day	
Wednesday, December 31, 2025 *	New Year's Eve	
Thursday, January 1, 2026 *	New Year's Day	
Monday, January 5, 2026	Schools Re-Open	
Wednesday, January 14, 2026	Early Release for grades K-12 (No School PK)	
Monday, January 19, 2026 *	No School - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	
Wednesday, February 4, 2026	Early Release for grades K-12 (No School PK)	
Friday, February 13, 2026	Mid-Winter Vacation Begins at the Close of School	
Monday, February 16, 2026 *	President's Day [Mid-Winter Vacation: Monday, February 16 – Friday, February 20, 2026]	
Monday, February 23, 2026	Monday - Schools Reopen	
Wednesday, March 4, 2026	Early Release for grades K-12 (No School PK)	
Friday, April 3, 2026*	No School – Good Friday	
Friday, April 17, 2026	Spring Vacation Begins at the Close of School	
Monday, April 20, 2026 *	Patriot's Day - [Spring Break: Monday, April 20- Friday, April 24, 2026]	
Monday, April 27, 2026	Schools Re-Open	
Wednesday, May 13, 2026	Early Release for grades K-12 (No School PK)	
Monday, May 25, 2026 *	No School – Memorial Day	
Tuesday, June 16, 2026	180th School Day - Early Release for grades K-12 on Last Day of School (No School PK)	
Friday, June 19, 2026 *	Juneteenth	
Wednesday, June 24, 2026	185th School Day [Includes five (5) Snow Days]	

Approved by the Lowell School Committee at their meeting of: April 2, 2025

* Central Administration & Family Resource Center will be closed in observance of a holiday

August	3	January	19
September	20	February	15
October	22	March	22
November	16	April	16
December	15	May	20
		June	12



2025-2026 LPSD Calendar.pdf

Download 101.9 KB

McAvinnue's Morning Announcements

McAvinnue's "Morning Announcements" are back once again for the 2024-2025 academic school year! We are excited to bring these back starting on Monday, September 16th!

Like we had successfully done during previous school years, 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".

McAvinnue's Morning Announcements will occur on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday each week.

You can check out current and past editions of McAvinnue's Morning Announcements on our YouTube channel using the link below.

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7hxiBuRjqjqfASI_RLMleQ

You can check out the latest edition of McAvinnue's Morning Announcements below for last school year!



Parent & Family Resources







LPS Connector April 2025



LPS Connector Newsletter: April Edition

The Lowell Public Schools April Newsletter is here! Celtics legend Antoine Walker, an epic field trip to Amazon Robotics, Khmer New Year, a farewell to a beloved LHS staff member, information about upcoming sports and summer camp opportunities, next school year's calendar, and so much more!

Click the button below to access the latest newsletter!

LPS Connector Newsletter: April Edition

Mental Health Student Support

Lowell Public School Families: We are committed to supporting the overall well-being of our students and believe mental health is an important part of overall health. We currently partner with Cartwheel https://www.cartwheel.org/ to support the mental health needs of our students via virtual therapy with licensed clinicians.



Up until now, a student had to be identified and referred for these services by our school team. Now, parents/guardians can express interest directly in mental health services for their child. Just fill out this form https://bit.ly/3QReTok

Our school staff can still refer a student to Cartwheel with parent/guardian consent. To learn more about this mental health program, check out the flyer below.

Here are some signs to look out for to determine if your child might benefit from mental health support:

- · Changes in mood or behavior
- · Changes in eating or sleeping patterns
- · Declining academic performance
- · Withdrawal from friends or activities
- · Increased anxiety or stress
- Expressing feelings of sadness or hopelessness
- Experiencing transition (related to life, family, peers, school)
- Exposure to a traumatic event



Supporting Your Child's Mental Health

Oftentimes, families are the first to recognize that their child might need mental health support but aren't sure where to start.

Cartwheel, our partner in supporting the mental health needs of our students, is now offering a way for parents/guardians to directly raise their hand for mental health support for their child.

Just fill out this simple form to inquire about accessing these services.



Cartwheel provides rapid access to evidence-based 1-1 teletherapy, psychiatric evaluations, medication management, parent guidance, and family therapy.

It is easy to access care. Connect via laptop, tablet, or phone. Services are available Mon-Fri, 8am-8pm (some Sat hours). Care provided in multiple languages, including Spanish.

Covered by most insurance plans. Standard co-pays and deductibles apply. Families with Medicaid or no insurance have \$0 out-of-pocket costs.

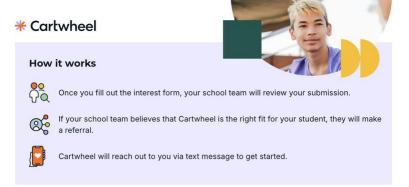


Signs that your child might need mental health support:

- · Changes in mood or behavior
- · Changes in eating or sleeping patterns
- · Declining academic performance
- · Withdrawal from friends or activities
- Increased anxiety or stress
- Expressing feelings of sadness or hopelessness
- Experiencing transition (related to life, family, peers, school)
- Exposure to a traumatic event

I was extremely impressed how fast he was scheduled to see a therapist once the referral was made. Both the therapist and the psychiatrist were absolutely wonderful, created an environment that made my son feel comfortable enough to talk and were so kind and patient. Highly satisfied!"

www.cartwheel.org



Some challenges Cartwheel can help your child with:

Anxiety Coping skills
Stress Motivation

Depression Family and relationships

Sadness Anger
Grief or loss Trauma
Low self-esteem School avoidance
Self-harm Social issues
Navigating identity Sleep issues
Technology use And more...

First of all, it was so much easier and faster to get set up with Cartwheel than it would have been for us to find a new therapist in the traditional route. My son felt connected to his therapist right away, and we were grateful that a good match was found for him so quickly."



Want to learn more about mental health support for your child?



Fill Out Form Here

Questions? Please contact a member of your school's team or contact Cartwheel directly by calling/texting (617) 272-7439 or emailing office@cartwheelcare.org.

PreK & Kindergarten Registration 2025-2026

Preschool and Kindergarten Registration for the 2025-2026 academic school year opens February 3rd.

For all the info you need about registration visit: www.lowell.k12.ma.us/registration

You can also check out the flyer below for all of the details.









Should I Send My Child To School?

Please see the chart below that will help you decide whether you should send your child to school.

If you have any questions or are not sure whether you should send your child to school, please reach out to the school and ask to speak with Nurse Danielle.





SHOULD I SEND MY CHILD TO SCHOOL?

STAY HOME FOR	Students May Return after
Fever: temperature of 100.4°F or greater	Fever-free for 24 hours without taking fever- reducing medicine like Tylenol or Motrin
Vomiting or Diarrhea	Symptom-free for 24 hours
Skin Rash	Condition has been diagnosed by a doctor, and treatment started if indicated, and doctor's note received by nurse
Red eyes with eye drainage: yellow or brown drainage from the eyes, crusting at eyelashes	Condition has been diagnosed by a doctor, and treatment started if indicated, with a doctor's note (24 hours on antibiotics if conjunctivitis)
Live Head Lice	Medicated Lice Shampoo Treatment has been completed, and no live lice are found
A contagious illness like chickenpox, or strep throat	A doctor or public health official says it is safe to return and/ or the child has been on antibiotics for 24 hours.
Student's immunizations are not up-to-date and an exclusion notice has been given	Required vaccines have been received



OK FOR SCHOOL!

- Chronic Diseases (Controlled Asthma, Diabetes, Sickle Cell, Epilepsy)
 Mild Cold Symptoms Stuffy nose/ runny nose, sneezing, mild cough, no fever
 Menstrual Issues cramps
 Someone at home is sick, stressed, or hospitalized





¿DEBERIA LLEVAR A MI HIJO A LA ESCUELA?

Estar en casa para	Los estudiantes podrán regresar después
Fiebre: temperatura de 38 °C o mas alta	de Sin fiebre durante 24 horas, sin haber tomado medicamentos reductores de fiebre como Tylenol o Motrin.
Vómitos o diarrea	Sin sintomas durante 24 horas
Erupción cutánea	Un medico ha diagnosticado la afección y se ha iniciado el tratamiento si es necesario, y la enfermera ha recibido una nota del médico
Ojos rojos con secreción ocular: secreción amarilla o marrón de los ojos y formación de costras en las pestañas	Un medico ha diagnosticado y comenzado el tratamiento si es necessario, con nota médica (24 horas de antibióticos si es conjuntivitis)
Piojos vivos	El tratamiento con champu medicado contra piojos se ha completado y no se encontraron piojos vivos
Una enfermedad contagiosa, como la varicela o la faringitis estreptocócica.	Un médico o un funcionario de salud pública ha indicado que es seguro regresar, y/o el niño ha estado tomando antibióticos durante 24 horas.
Las vacunas del estudiante no están actualizadas y se ha emitido un aviso de exclusión	Se han recibido las vacunas necesarias



Por Favor, Mande a su hijo/a a la escuela si...

- Enfermedades crónicas (asma controlada, diabetes, anemia de células falciformes, epilepsia)
 Sintomas de resfriado leve: Nariz congestinada, Nariz goteando, estornudos, tos leve, sin fiebre.
 Problemas menstruales: calambres
 Alguien en casa está enfermo, estresado o hospitalizado





DEVO MANDAR MEU FILHO PARA A ESCOLA?





Por favor, envie seu filho(a) para a escola se...

- · Doenças Crónicas (Asma Controlada, Diabetes, Anemia Falciforme, Epilepsia)
- Sintomas Leves de Constipação Nariz entupido/coriza, espirros, tosse leve, sem febre
- Dificuldades menstruais dores
- Alguém em casa está doente, estressado ou hospitalizado

Mill City Grows: Mobile Farmers Market

A new year, a new Indoor Mobile Farmers Market season!

Our 2025 Winter/Spring Indoor Markets will run January 16th - April 10th on Wednesdays and Thursdays at <u>City of Lowell Senior Center</u> and <u>University Crossing at UMass Lowell</u>. Free parking is available at both locations.

All our Markets accept SNAP/EBT, HIP, Apple Pay, WellSense, S3/OTC Healthy Grocery Gift Card, cash, credit, debit, and Mill City Grows eGift Cards.

Get details at MillCityGrows.org/mobile-markets and shop all season long with Mill City Grows!



MillCityGrows.org 978-455-2620

Purchase fresh, locally grown produce in Lowell, MA, all season long!

2025 Winter/Spring Indoor Mobile Farmers Markets

University Crossing Lobby 220 Pawtucket Street

Biweekly Wednesdays 1pm - 4pm

> January 22 February 5, 19 March 5, 19 April 2

Lowell Senior Center Cafeteria 276 Broadway Street

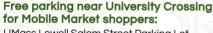
Biweekly Thursdays 10am - 12pm

January 16, 30 February 13, 27 March 13, 27 April 10

We welcome these payment options:

SNAP/EBT, HIP, APPLE PAY, WELLSENSE, MCG E-GIFT CARDS, CASH, CREDIT, DEBIT, S3 OTC/HEALTHY GROCERY CARD

MDAR



UMass Lowell Salem Street Parking Lot 294 Salem Street, Lowell (Please look for parking signs)











Student Handbook 2024-2025

The LPS Student Handbook is a great tool to use to fully understand the expectations of the role of our students as well as the partnership needed for our families to ensure that the school year is a great success.



You can access the district elementary student handbook by clicking the button below. You will find various policies and procedures focusing on attendance, grading, discipline, bus expectations, and more.

Please reach out directly if you have any questions.

Click Here To Access The LPS 2024-2025 Student Handbook

As you are aware, attending school is first step each in the learning process for our students. It is critical that our students arrive to school on time each day so that they can access all of the engaging and meaning lessons that have been planned by our teachers and related service providers.



The McAvinnue Attendance Team will monitor student attendance on a weekly basis and will reach our directly to families when they notice frequent absences, a pattern of absences, or an increased number of consecutive absences within a short period of time.

Please refer to McAvinnue's Student Attendance Booket below that will provide additional information. This booket will be sent home with students in multiple languages. It is important that you review this information for your own awareness and to be fully prepared to support your child with the first step of the learning process...attending school on time.

The handbook is provided in three languages below.







English

English

English







Spanish

Spanish

Spanish







Portuguese

Portuguese

Portuguese

Breakfast and Lunch Will Be Free for All LPS Students

As we reopen for the new school year, Lowell Public Schools Food and Nutrition are "Powering Potential" for students and faculty with innovations in our menus and enhancements to our overall dining operations. When your child dines with us, rest assured that we will be serving delicious, nutritious meals prepared with the utmost attention to safety. We encourage every student to fuel up with breakfast and lunch meals each day so they can be energized and prepared to succeed throughout the day, in and out of the classroom.



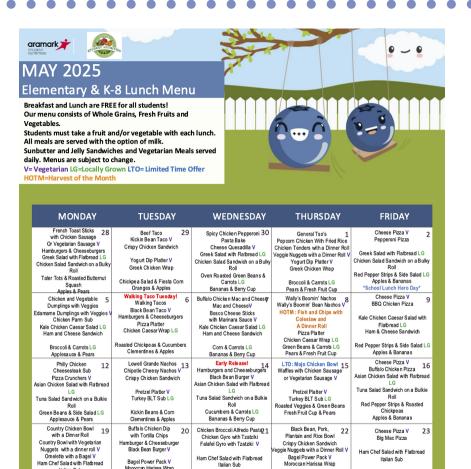
Please keep up to date on our program, nutrition education, monthly menus and back to school letters on the <u>LPS Food and Nutrition website</u>.

Any concerns please feel free to email foodservice@lowell.k12.ma.us



May Breakfast & Lunch Menus





Cucumber & Carrots LG

Bananas & Berry Cups Hamburger Day
Lok Lak
Bacon Cheeseburger & Bacon
Hamburger
Vegetarian Burger V
hicken Caesar Salad with Flatbres

Turkey and Cheese Sandwid Roasted Chickpe as & Carrots LG Bananas & Berry Cups Chili Garlic Popcom Chicken Lo Mein Pizza Crunchers V

Bagel Power Pack V Moroccan Harissa Wrap

Kickin Beans & Fiesta Com Clementines & Apples Arroz con Pollo 27 Chicken Nuggets with a Dinner Roll V Vegge Nuggets with a Dinner Roll V

Chocolate Hummus Platter V Ham and Cheese Sub

Italian Sub Roasted Potatoes & Carrots LG Apples & Pears

No

School

Memorial

Day

Ham Chef Salad with Flatbread

Red Pepper Strips & Side Salad LG Apples & Bananas
Cheese Pizza V
Hawaiian Pizza

Turkey and Cheese Sandwich

elery Sticks & Kale Caesar Salad LG
Red Pepper Strips & Side Salad LG
Apples & Bananas

Caesar Salad with Flathread

Elementary May Lunch Menu 2025.pdf

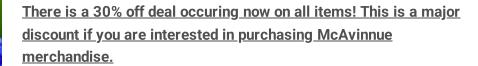
Download 305.0 KB

McAvinnue Spirit Gear By Prep Sportswear

We have an online store if you wish to order any McAvinnue gear! It is open 24 hours per day and there is no due date for orders.

Anytime you want to order...on any day!

The company is Prep Sportswear and has been reliable with solid product quality from reputable brands.





Like during previous school years, we are also exploring additional local options to purchase McAvinnue gear. Stay tuned for more information in the month of September.

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

Click To Access Prep Sportswear Spirit Gear

General Information

How can I update my contact information (phone number/email/address)?

Go online to the Family Resource Webpage
 (https://www.lowell.k12.ma.us/UpdateContactInfo)
 and fill out the "contact us" form. Families who don't have access to the internet can fill out the form in person at the Family Resource



Center. If an address change is related to economic factors or housing instability (family

moves in with relatives, eviction, hotel/motel, fire or unsheltered, please contact the McKinney Vento Office located at the Family Resource Center in person (151 Merrimack Street), by phone (978-674-4321) or go to the webpage at https://www.lowell.k12.ma.us/HomelessAssistance.

How do I update my emergency contacts?

• If you were in the school last year we will send a verification sheet out. if you are new we will send home an emergency form to fill out on the first day of school.

How do I register my child for the new school year?

All school registrations are completed online using a computer or laptop. You can access the
online application by going to https://www.lowell.k12.ma.us/SchoolRegistration. If you only
have a mobile device and don't have access to a computer or laptop, you can register in
person at the Family Resource Center (151 Merrimack Street). Please call the Family Resource
Center if you have any questions (978-674-4321).

What should I do if I need to register my child(ren) and I don't speak English?

• The Lowell Public Schools is committed to providing translation and interpretation services for families who require assistance in a language other than English. The online registration application and website is translated in Spanish and Portuguese and can be accessed by going to https://www.lowell.k12.ma.us/SchoolRegistration. For all other languages, please call Vannak Khin at (978) 328-6782 to arrange services. In-person language interpretation support for registration can be accessed by visiting the Lowell Public Schools at 151 Merrimack Street. Families can also call the Family Resource Center at (978) 674-4321 to make an appointment with a Bilingual Family Liaison.

How old does my child need to be to enroll in preschool or kindergarten?

A child must turn 4 years old on or before September 1, 2023, in order to apply for preschool and 5 by September 1 to apply for kindergarten. A family can apply for preschool by going to https://www.lowell.k12.ma.us/PreschoolRegistration to fill out an online application or https://www.lowell.k12.ma.us/KindergartenRegistration for kindergarten. For registration questions, please call (978) 674-4321.

How do I apply for a transfer for my child to change schools in the new year?

- Per the 2023-2024 School Assignment Policy, all students have the option to request one school transfer per year.
- Families can apply online at https://www.lowell.k12.ma.us/SchoolTransfer or can come to the Family Resource Center in-person to complete the application. Transfers are assigned on a space availability basis.

Community Connections & Opportunities



Idea Camp 2025

Update on Idea Camp 2025! Check out this great opportunity for our Grade 4 students as they transition to Grade 5!

Due to funding constraints, there will be one week of camp, June 23rd-June 27th. Space is limited.

It will be an exciting week of STEM MashUp, Architecture, Gamemakers, Crime Science, Battlebots, and Harvard MedScience.



Thank you to Project Learn and UMASS Lowell for sponsoring this year's Idea Camp. Any questions, email padams@lowell.k12.ma.us.

Sign up today:

https://tinyurl.com/3pt98xvc



SUMMER 2025

<u> Session I</u> | June 23 - June 27

STEM Mash-Up (Grades 5 -8)

Students will try out challenges like a Shark tank escape, Paper Airplane Challenge & a popsicle bridge and more. There will also be a field trip to Trition Systems.

Crime Science (Grades 5 - 7)

Students will participate in hands-on activities to help them understand how a crime would be solved. Activites such as fingerprinting, DNA typing, chromatography, blood typing and handwriting analysis will help students put clues together to identify suspects in a crime. This course will be geared toward younger students and students can continue the following year to a more advanced Forensic Course.

Gamemakers (Grades 5 - 8)

Game developement has come a long way from Pacman and Pong, yet 2D games still hold their own in the gaming world. In this camp, students will learn the basics of game development that allow video games like Undertale and Terraria to complete with the bigger game studios. Students will learn mechanics and design techniques through the development of multiple games and will have the opportunity to create their own personal games from scratch!

Architecture & Design (Grades 7 - 11)

Students will learn about the field of structural engineering. Students will design, create a bridge and participate in a bridge challenge. Students will also complete a 3D kit of their dream house including 3-D furniture. Students will be introduced to graphic design and create an architecture logo.

Coding With Sphero Battle Bots (Grades 8 – 11)
Students will first learn how to code and then students will look at and build robotic designs for battle bots. Then using the engineering design process, students will build protective armor for their sphero robot that focuses on offense, defense, and controlability in different situation. Once completed students will compete and "battle" with fellow students robots. May the best battlebot win!

Careers in Medicine (Grades 9 - 12)

In this course students will explore various medical professions through hands-on investigations. The science curriculum motivates students to think critically, communicate effectively, and work collaboratively in teams. We bring classroom learning into the real world with hands-on experiences, giving them the confidence they need to succeed. Students will explore the UMAS Physical Therapy program as well as the Biomedical programs at MCC. Students will also be certified in First Ald and



Session II | July 7 - 11

Harvard MEDscience (Grades 9 -12)

MEDscience is an innovative high school Biology course immersing students into simulated medical emergencies. The science curriculum motivates students to think critically, communicate effectively, and work collaboratively in teams. We bring classroom learning into the real world with hands-on experiences, giving them the confidence they need to succeed.

Lowell Pop Warner

Lowell Pop Warner is having sign ups for football and cheerleading for all ages. Please see the information on the flyer if you are interested in joining in on the fun next Fall.



Softball & Baseball Spring Recreation League

With Spring being right around the corner, it's that time of the year again to begin signing up for some Spring Sport options for your child.

Check out the information below for baseball and softball recreation leagues in Lowell. Visit www.lybsl.org or see flyer for more details!



Girls Lacrosse Registration Now Open!

Registration is now open for Girls Lacrosse for Spring 2025 for girls in grades K-8 (new K program this year!).

To register: www.lowellgirlslacrosse.com

The season will run from the middle of February to June!

LGL Registration is OPEN for **Spring 2025!**

LGL Littles (new Kindergarten program for 2025)

Grades 1/2

Grades 3/4

Grades 5/6

Grades 7/8

Season runs mid-February through beginning of June

Register online @ lowellgirlslacrosse.com Learn more about our programs on LGL's Teams and FAQs pages!



Questions, please email lowellgirlsyouthlacrosse@gmail.com



Lowell Youth Boys Lacrosse Registration Now Open!

Lowell Youth Lacrosse Spring 2025 registration is now open for boys in grades 1-8. To register: https://lowellyouthlax.com

Practice session begin in March with game play occuring on Sundays.

Financial aid is available if needed.



Cub Scout Pack 7 Information

Cub Scout Pack 7 is looking for new cubs to join their pack! Tons of fun and learning experiences for all kids in Kindergarten through Grade 5. For more information, visit www.pack7lowell.com

Pack 7 meets at St. Rita's Church directly across from McAvinnue!





Be A Girl Scout

Interested in joining the Girl Scouts Of America? Check out the information below for an event on Tuesday, September 17th at 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM at the Pollard Library in Lowell.

To sign up for Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts, please use the link below.



gsema.org/jion



Fall Playgroup Opportunities

The Lowell Public Schools' Coordinated Family and Community Engagement Program holds weekly playgroups for children under 5-years-old and their families.

You can access the registration form below.

Click Here To Register



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
 - Karen 978-729-7216, 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 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



The Family Leadership Institute

The Family Leadership Institute provides families with the knowledge and skills to partner with schools and communities to ensure their children achieve their full potential.

Throughout the year, the FLI runs a variety of programs including: survival English classes, family college visits, mental health and financial literacy workshops, and more. For more information about the FLI visit: https://www.lowell.k12.ma.us/Page/5263 or email FLI Director Zoe Dzineku at zdzineku@lowell.k12.ma.us.

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 at adelaluz@lowell.k12.ma.us.



Community Vaccination Information

Click the link below to see a comprensive list of local vaccination options for your child.

Please keep in mind that certain vaccinations are required for students to participate in learning at all Lowell Public Schools.

If you have any questions regarding vaccination requirements, please contact Nurse Danielle at the school. She will be glad to help you out and provide you with the information that you require or request.

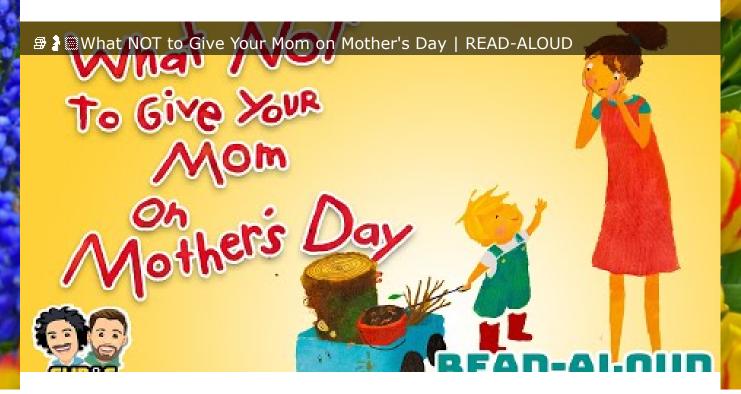




Community vaccination sites.pdf

Download 1.1 MB

Family Read-A-Loud: "What Not To Give Your Mom On Mother's Day"



McAvinnue's School Website

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

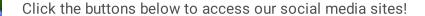
Please visit our website at:

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"!





Click To Access McAvinnue's Facebook Page

Click To Access McAvinnue's "X" (Twitter) Page

Click To Access McAvinnue's Instagram Page

Click To Access McAvinnue's YouTube Channel

Our Vision

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

