The Lion's Roar

McAvinnue's Community Newsletter: Week Of October 17th

McAvinnue's Principal's Message

Hello McAvinnue Community!

I hope that everyone is enjoying this fine weekend....and the warmer weather that we all experienced this past week! It was so great to have a solid week of time for our students to get outside and enjoy some fresh air. As long as the weather continues to be decent, we will do our best to have your child spend some time outside at least one time per day. Even



though we had some warmer weather this past week, please keep in mind that this is New England and things can change quickly from one day to the next. It is important to watch the weather each day to ensure that your child has appropriate clothing on that matches the predicted weather. Layers still seems like the best option moving forward.

We have a busy next few weeks at McAvinnue! Progress Reports will be sent home on Wednesday, October 19th for PreK - Grade 4 students. This document will give you a good idea with how your child is settling into the new school year and if there are any pressing concerns that you may need to be aware of. Also, our Kindergarten students will head to Parlee Farms in Tyngsboro on Thursday, October 20th. This is an traditional annual trip for this grade level...and I know that our students and teachers are really excited for this amazing opportunity to get out into the community for the day! We can't wait to see the pictures!

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 few weeks:

- Monday, October 17th McAvinnue Reopens
- Wednesday, October 19th Progress Report Distribution: PreK Grade 4
- Thursday, October 20th Kindergarten Field Trip: Parlee Farms
- Monday, October 24th Picture Day At McAvinnue

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"!

Candy Donations Needed!



We are gladly accepting candy donations for McAvinnue's "Trunk Or Treat" family Celebration! Please feel free to drop off a bag of candy to the Main Office at McAvinnue anytime during school hours. Also, you can have your child bring a bag of candy with them to school...and they can drop it off at the Main Office when they arrive to the school building.

We will accept donations all the way up to the big event on Thursday, October 27th!

Thank you in advance for your support with this!

McAvinnue's Week In Review



Lego Robotics Fun!

Our 21st Century After
School Program is offering a
really engaging and fun
engineering option with the
new Lego Robotics Program!
Our students are really
excited and we can't wait to
move forward with the
programming element of this
amazing program!



The Straw Challenge

Check out our "Team
Building Group" from
McAvinnue's 21st Century
After School Program. The
straw challenge was
successfully completed, as
well as many unconventional
poses to work together to
balance the straw. Really
creative stuff!



McAvinnue's "Artist Of The Week"

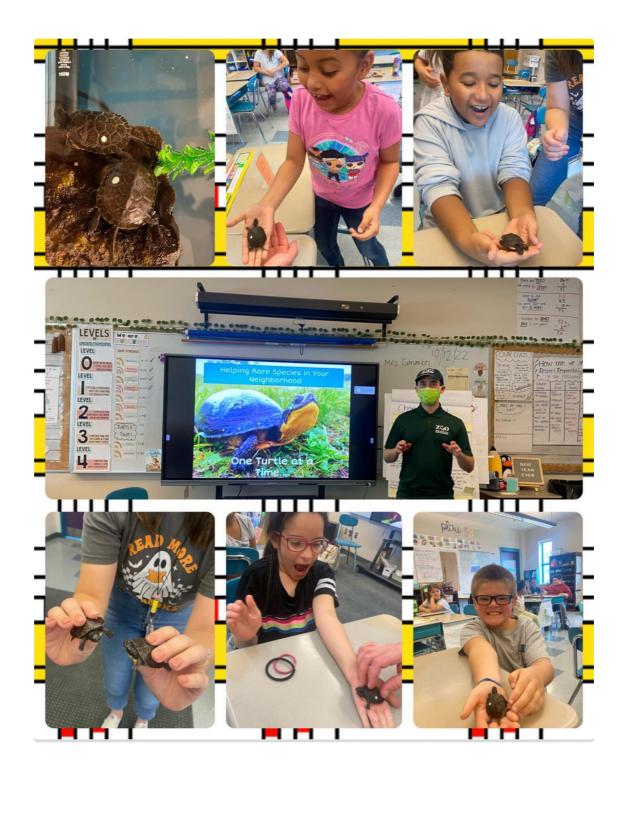
McAvinnue's "Artist of the Week" is Violette from Room 309. Violette used important Studio Skills including creativity and perseverance to turn her "oopses" into fun, exciting ideas to be proud of!

Turtles At McAvinnue!

We welcomed turtles to McAvinnue! We are so excited for this great opportunity.

Mr. Matthew from Zoo New England came by to teach Grade 3 and 4 students in Room 303 and Room 310 about endangered turtles in our state. Also, he dropped off the two endangered Blanding's Turtles that Rooms 303 and 310 will be raising this school year!

The program was incredible and everyone is so excited to be "conservation heroes" by helping species that live in the state forest right here in Lowell!





McAvinnue's Student Daily Attendance Policy

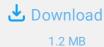


Please click the links below to access McAvinnue's Student Attendance Policy for the 2022-2023 academic school year. For your convenience, we have included the policy flyer in multiple languages.

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



Attendance English.pdf





Attendance Spanish.pdf



1.8 MB

Check Out McAvinnue's "Virtual" Morning Announcements!

Like we had successfully done last school year, 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/UC7hxiBuRjqjqfASl_RLMleQ

If you want a peek of the latest edition of McAvinnue's "Virtual Morning Announcements", check out the video below!





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

- Monday, October 17th McAvinnue Opens @ 9:10 AM
- Wednesday, October 19th Progress Report Distribution: PreK Grade 4
- Thursday, October 20th Kindergarten Field Trip: Parlee Farms
- Monday, October 24th Picture Day At McAvinnue
- Thursday, October 27th McAvinnue's "Trunk Or Treat" Family Night @ 5:00 PM 6:30 PM
- Friday, October 28th McAvinnue's "Lion's Pride" Core Value All School Meeting @ 9:30 AM -10:15 AM

Picture Day: Monday, October 24th



We have once again partnered with O'Connor Studios for student pictures for the 2022-2023 academic school year. The first round of pictures will occur on Monday, October 24th. This will be for individual portraits only for those that are interested in making a purchase. Class pictures will occur for the second round of student pictures during the spring. Individual portraits will also be available at this time.

Be on the lookout for the order to come home with your child soon! This is needed along with payment if you are interested in purchasing a picture package for your child.

McAvinnue's "Trunk Or Treat" Family Celebration

Please join us for McAvinnue's "Trunk Or Treat" Family Celebration!

On Thursday, October 27th from 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM, you can come to St. Rita's Church rear parking lot (directly across from McAvinnue), for some costume and candy fun!

This event is free of charge! All you need to do is come by with your costume on, bring a bag for treats, and we will do the rest! You will have a chance to walk through a maze of cars that will each have a special treat for you!

We are super excited to bring this event back at McAvinnue! We hope that everyone makes the time to come by!



McAvinnue's Yoga Pose Of The Week: "Cat"

We will continue the pose that we launched this past week called the "Cat"! This new pose will allow us to work on releasing tension that we may have through a good upper body stretch...just like a cat. We will practice the "Cat" 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!



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.

School 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 24th. 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.

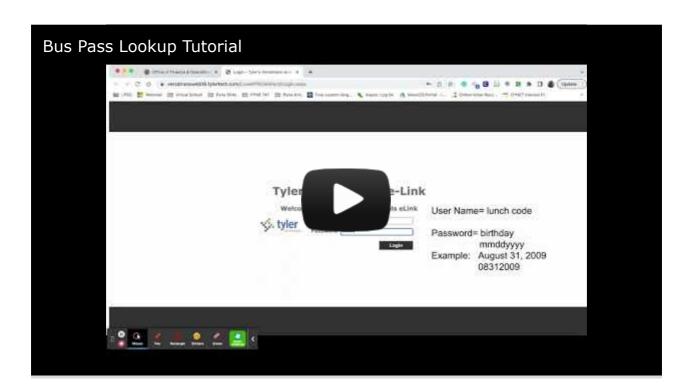
Please note that Kindergarten and 1st grader students <u>must</u> have an older sibling (4th grade or older) or parent present at the bus stop in the afternoon in order to depart from the school bus. If a parent or older sibling is not present, the student will be brought to the Moody School, located 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.



Need Info? FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

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 or use the online form found in this newsletter.

What should I do if my child needs a Chromebook or if my child's Chromebook needs repairs?

• Families should contact their school to coordinate the issuing of a new Chromebook or to schedule repairs. After the school year begins, the district will resume its "tech tent" services and will inform families via email, text, and phone once the services resume.

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, 2021, 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 2021-22 School Assignment Policy, all students have the option to request one school transfer per year. Families can apply online by going to
 https://www.lowell.k12.ma.us/SchoolTransfer or can come to the Family Resource Center inperson to complete the application. Transfers are assigned on a space availability basis.

Medical Information Reminder

Any students who have emergency medications (Epi-Pens, inhalers, etc.) or who will receive medication in school must have a medication order from the prescribing physician <u>AND</u> a completed consent form from the City Health Department.



Forms and medication can be dropped off to Nurse Robin any time during the school day. However, it's ideal to drop things off between 9:10 AM - 9:30 AM each day.

Nurse Robin cannot administer <u>ANY</u> medications without a physician's order, including over-the-counter medications. Please make sure that the school nurse is provided refills in advance of any medication supply running out.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Nurse Robin directly,

Lowell Public Schools COVID Guidelines Update

Please see the message that was recently sent out regarding the latest COVID-19 guidance for this school year.

"Dear Lowell Public Schools Families,

We are looking forward to welcoming you all back to school on August
31st (Sept 7th for PreK and Kindergarteners) for the start of the 2022-2023 school year!

We would like to take this time to share the latest COVID-19 guidelines and policies:

- There will be no more in-school testing or contract tracing and schools will be distributing one last at-home testing kit, which will expire Sept. 29.
- Masks are not required (except for in the school nurse's office), but staff and students who wish to wear a mask may do so.
- Students and staff who do have a positive case of COVID-19 must stay out of school for a
 minimum of five days, but may return if symptoms improve on days 6-10 if they wear a highquality mask.

The Centers for Disease Control's latest COVID-19 guidance can be found here: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/isolation.html

We ask that you continue to stress good hygiene habits to your children, such as thorough hand washing and coughing into their elbows when they cough, and ask them not to share cups or water bottles with friends.

We strongly encourage all who are able to do so to receive the COVID-19 vaccine and subsequent boosters. We are thankful to our partners at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, who provided vaccinations at our Back-to-School Block Party, which was attended by more than 3,000 people. To find a location to receive a vaccine or booster, as well as additional information about the vaccine, visit: https://www.lowellma.gov/1523/COVID-19-Vaccine"

2022-2023 School Year Calendar

Superintendent of Schools-Lowell Public Schools- Lowell, MA 2022-2023 School Year Calendar

Monday, August 29, 2022	Staff Return to School for Staff Orientation Day
Tuesday, August 30, 2022	Staff Professional Development Day at School Site
Wednesday, August 31, 2022	First Day of School - Grades 1-12
Friday, September 2, 2022	No School Labor Day Recess
Monday, September 5, 2022	No School - Labor Day
Tuesday, September 6, 2022	No School for Students - Primary Election - Professional Day for Staff
Wednesday, September 7, 2022	First Day of School - Pre-Kindergarten & Kindergarten
Monday, October 10, 2022 *	No School - Indigenous Peoples' Day
Tuesday, November 8, 2022	No School for Students - Election Day - Professional Day for Staff
Friday, November 11, 2022 •	No School - Veterans' Day Observed
Wednesday, November 23, 2022	Early Dismissal - Thanksgiving Recess
Thursday, November 24, 2022 *	No School - Thankogiving Day
Friday, November 25, 2022 *	No School - Thanksgiving Recess
Monday, November 28, 2022	Schools Re-Open
Friday, December 23, 2022	Holiday Vacation Begins at the Close of Day
Saturday, December 24, 2022 *	Christmas Eve [Holiday Vacation: Saturday, December 24 - Sunday, January 1, 2023]
Sunday, December 25, 2022	Christmas Day
Monday, December 26, 2022*	Central Office and Family Resource Office Closed
Friday, December 30, 2022*	New Year's Eve
Sunday, January 1, 2023	New Year's Day
Monday, January 2, 2023*	Central Office and Family Resource Office Closed
Tuesday, January 3, 2023	Schools Re-Open
Wednesday, January 11, 2023	Wednesday - Early Release for grades PreK-12
Monday, January 16, 2023 *	No School - Martin Luther King, Jr. Duy
Friday, February 17, 2023	Mid-Winter Vacation Begins at the Close of School
Monday, February 20, 2023 *	President's Day [School Vacation: Monday, February 20 - Friday, February 24, 2023]
Monday, February 27, 2023	Monday - Schools Re-Open
Wednesday, March 8, 2023	Wednesday - Early Release for grades PreK-12
Friday, April 7, 2023 *	No School - Good Friday
Friday, April 14, 2023	Spring Vacation Begins at the Close of School
Monday, April 17, 2023 *	Patriot's Day - [School Vacation: Monday, April 17 - Friday, April 21, 2023]
Monday, April 24, 2023	Schools Re-Open
Monday, May 29, 2023 *	No School - Memorial Day
Thursday, June 15, 2023	180 th School Day
Monday, June 19, 2023 *	Juneteenth
Friday, June 23, 2023	185° School Day (Includes five (5) Snow Days)



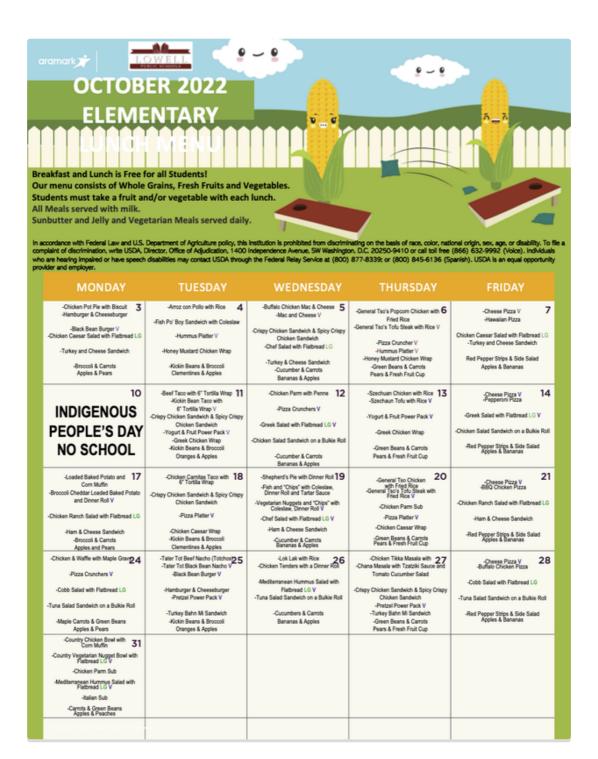
Approved by the Lowell School Committee at their meeting of May 4, 2022

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

Click To Access The 2022-2023 School Calendar

October Breakfast & Lunch Menus





pdf

Elementary Oct Breakfast Menu 22.23.pdf

L Download 605.5 KB



Elementary Oct Lunch Menu 22.23 Final.pdf

丛 Download 438.4 KB



Emergency Contact Form: 2022-2023

Get a jump start now and complete your emergency contact form for the 2022-2023 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 <u>adelaluz@lowell.k12.ma.us</u> or contact the Main Office at McAvinnue for support!



Emergency Form Formulario de Emergencia Formulário de Emergência 20222023

Sign in to Google to save your progress. Learn more





2022 State Election Early Voting Schedule



Latino Parent Conference - Saturday, October 22nd

The 6th Annual Latino Parent Conference is right around the corner! Join us on Saturday Oct. 22nd at Lowell High School's McDonough Freshman Academy for a series of helpful workshops to assist you in being a partner in your children's education.



Breakfast and lunch will be served and childcare will be provided. To register, visit:

https://docs.google.com/.../1FAIpQLSeXZO2BufDFti.../viewform



The Sun Santa Is Back!

The "Sun Santa" is pleased to again work with Community Teamwork, Inc., and The Salvation Army to help area families in need during the holidays. All interviews for assistance from The Sun Santa Fund will be conducted by these agencies. Due to COVID-19 concerns, applications will be ONLINE ONLY, no in-person application sessions.



Starts Monday, Oct. 3rd, and runs until the agency's Angel Tree Assistance Program reaches capacity.

Required information:

- Birth certificates for EACH child under age 16*
- Photo ID for Parent/Guardian

- · Proof of Address
- A valid email address to confirm follow-up appointments
- Guardianship papers to be uploaded under Birth Certificate tab

Website link: www.saangeltree.org

Questions/Assistance:

Dianne James, 978-458-3396; dianne.james@use.salvationarmy.org



Thanksgiving & Christmas Support From The Salvation Army

The Salvation Army is opening up its sign-ups for its "Angel Tree Project" earlier than usual this year. Applications will open on <u>October 3rd</u> and remain open only until capacity has been reached.

See the attached flyer for all of the eligibility and documentation requirements in order to qualify for support.



For more information contact Dianne James at 978-458-3396 or through email at Dianne.James@use.salvationarmy.org

Click Here For The Application

Open Available October 3rd



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, <u>kshannon@commteam.org</u>
 - · 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, <u>kshannon@commteam.org</u> 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

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.

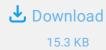


Click the link below for a list of local food pantries that are willing to help.

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



Greater-Lowell-Area-Pantry-List 8-27-20 (1).xlsx



McAvinnue's Family Read-A-Loud

"Creepy Crayon"



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://instragram.com/mcavinnueelementarylps

YouTube:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7hxiBuRjqjqfASl_RLMleQ



Our Vision

Facebook



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 Nowell.k12.ma.us/Domain/21

(978) 937-2871

