The Lion's Roar

McAvinnue's Community Newsletter: Week Of December 5th

McAvinnue's Principal's Message

Hello McAvinnue Community!

I hope that everyone is having a great weekend! December is here and everyone will soon become even busier than we already are with the holiday season right at our doorstep. This month will be a one that moves quickly for all of us with many important events for you to be



aware of. We have a lot to do before we leave for the holiday break on Friday, December 23rd.

We will have our first round of Parent/Teacher Conferences for this school year on Thursday, December 8th at 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM. The conferences will be either in-person at the school or using the Google meets platform. This will allow us the most flexibility to best meet everyone's needs. Please be on the lookout for a message from your child's teacher with an online Sign-Up Genius link or alternative signup option that you can use to book your time and other details about conferences that are relevant to your child's classroom.

It is important to remember that the winter months are right around the corner. Students need to wear jackets, hats, and gloves daily for the next 3 months or so. We will continue to have outdoor recess until the significant snow arrives. If you need any of the items that were mentioned, please reach out to your child's teacher for support. We have access to these items at McAvinnue...and can pass them along to your child so that they can be prepared each day of the winter months. Thank you in advance for your support with this!

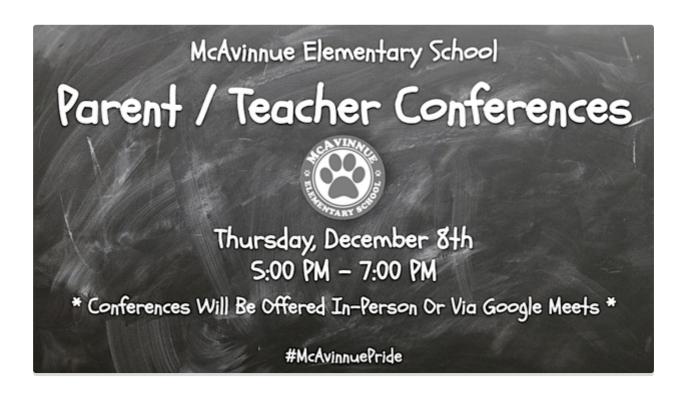
As we continue move through December, there are several items that you need to be aware of. Please mark your calendar for the following events and activities at McAvinnue:

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, December 5th McAvinnue Reopens @ 9:10 AM
- Thursday, December 8th Parent / Teacher Conferences @ 5:00 PM 7:00 PM
- Monday, December 12th 15th Scholastic Book Fair

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"!



Parent / Teacher Conferences: Thursday, December 8th @ 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

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McAvinnue's Week In Review

McAvinnue's "Artist of the Week"

McAvinnue's "Artist of the Week" is Khauy in Room 309! Her blending of colors, layering of leaf prints and attention to balance across the paper created a beautiful example of printmaking. She also wished to include artwork she created in her free time, which makes great use of line, value, and texture! Amazing!



Do You See Any Turkeys?

Check out some of the "disguised" turkeys created by Grade 1 students in Room 204 last week! Do you see any turkeys? We don't!

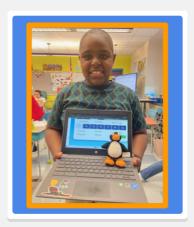


ST Math "Good News"

The students below reached 100% progress by completing all of the expected grade level puzzles and journey objectives! Nice work...and be on the lookout for them on McAvinnue's "ST Math 100%ers" bulletin board in the Main Office!



Dean - Room 302



Brad - Room 304



Vasili - Room 309



Ryan - Room 204

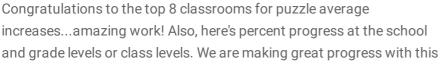


Mason - Room 307



ST Math Weekly Update

Check out our ST Math celebrations below! Our student have continued to work really hard on this interactive and engaging math learning platform.



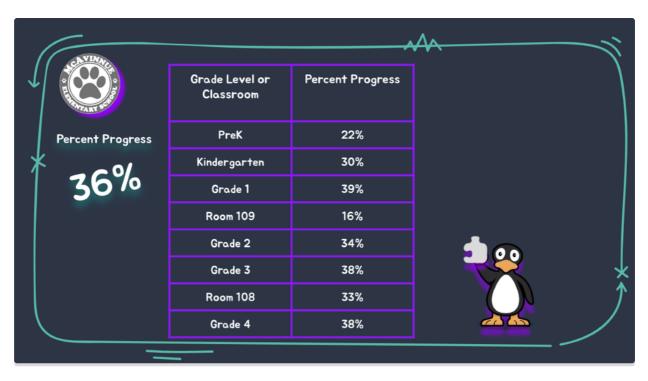


as a school! Finally, how about those puzzles!! Check out our school total. We are more than one-third of the way to one million puzzles!

We had a fantastic and engaging month focused on McAvinnue's 1st official Turkey Trot Challenge. What a great time we had with this challenge! Stay tuned for details about the next challenge...

Be sure to reach out with those 100%ers and with any special recognitions for your class!







McAvinnue's Student Council "Food Drive"

McAvinnue's Student Council has started their first community service project of the school year! They are seeking donated food items that will be delivered to support the Merrimack Valley Food Bank.

They need canned goods and other dry food products.

Check out their video below for all of the details!



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.

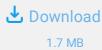


Attendance English.pdf





Attendance Spanish.pdf





Attendance Portuguese.pdf





Upcoming Events

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

- Monday, December 5th McAvinnue Reopens @ 9:10 AM
- Thursday, December 8th Parent / Teacher Conferences @ 5:00 PM 7:00 PM
- Monday, December 12th 15th Scholastic Book Fair
- Monday, December 19th Kindergarten Field Trip: Concord Museum (2 Classes)
- Tuesday, December 20th Kindergarten Field Trip: Concord Museum (2 Classes)

- Thursday, December 22nd McAvinnue's "Lion's Pride" Core Value All School Meeting @ 9:30
 AM 10:15 AM
- Friday, December 23rd Holiday Break Begins @ 3:30 PM
- Monday, December 26th Monday, January 2nd Holiday Break No School

Scholastic Book Fair Returns To McAvinnue!

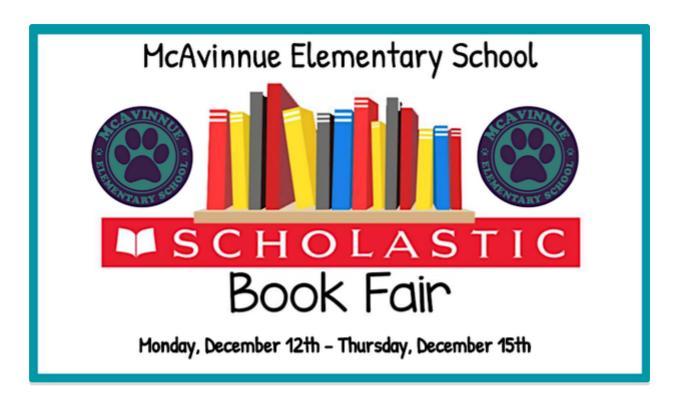
We are once again bringing back the Scholastic Book Fair to McAvinnue during the week of <u>Monday, December 12th - Thursday, December 15th</u>.



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 have extended hours on Wednesday, December 14th until 5:00 PM. You can come by McAvinnue after school to visit the the Book Fair!

The money that is raised will be used to purchase books for our students at McAvinnue!



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!



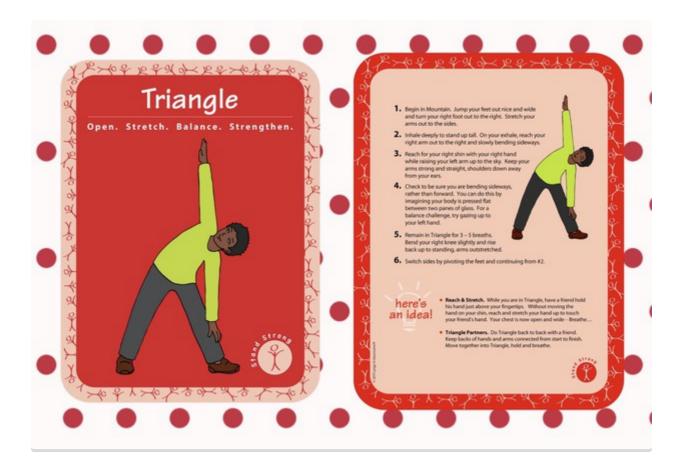
McAvinnue's Yoga Pose Of The Week: "Triangle"

We will continue to try the new pose that we launched last week called the "Triangle"! This new pose will allow us to focus on opening up body through stretching that highlights improved balance and increased strength. We will practice the "Triangle" 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.
- Crades 2.2 and 1 will be dismissed out the 1th Avenue dear 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.

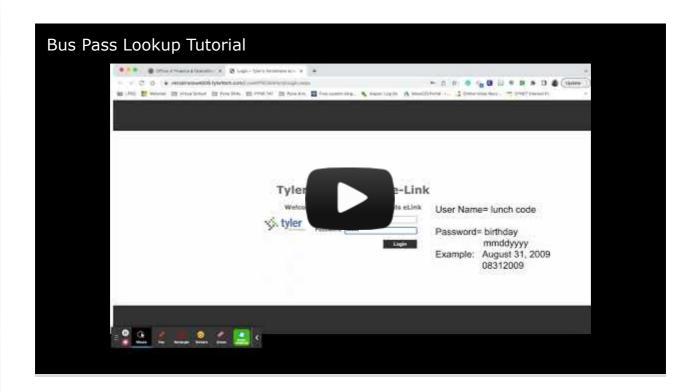
Please note that Kindergarten and 1st grader students <u>must</u> have an older sibling (4th grade or older) or parent present at the bus stop in the afternoon in order to depart from the school bus. If a parent or older sibling is not present, the student will be brought to the Moody School, located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



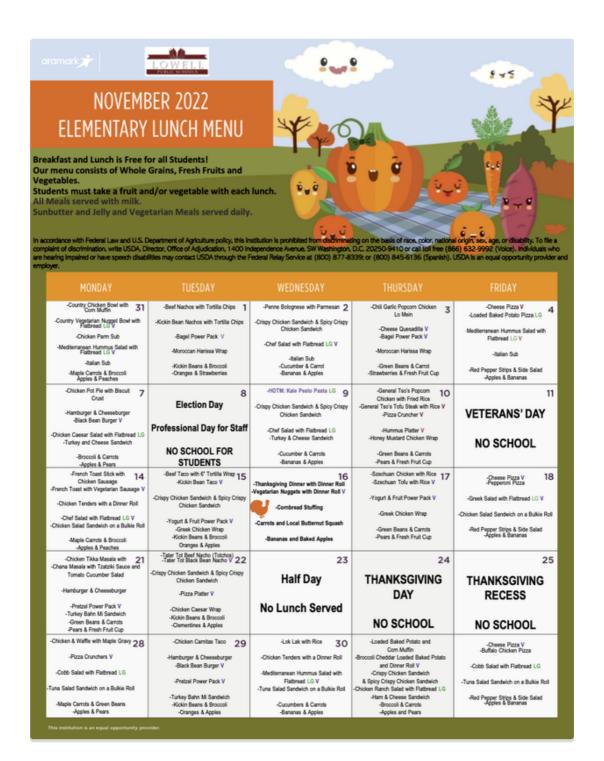
Approved by the Lowell School Committee at their meeting of May 4, 2022

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

Click To Access The 2022-2023 School Calendar

December Breakfast & Lunch Menus





pdf

Elementary Nov Breakfast Menu 22.23.pdf

L Download 231.7 KB



Elementary Nov Lunch Menu 22.23 FINAL.pdf

♣ Download 307.0 KB

Parent & Family Resources

Dear Parent or Guardian, as the holidays approach, many of us are already thinking about the financial stretch it would mean to our pockets. Please reach out to us if we can help you these holidays with toys or basic needs like food or clothes If you haven't already signed up with other community agencies. We are limited in the things we can offer



since we don't gift expensive electronics, but we will do out best to get things your child likes or needs.

Please also reach out if you need some assistance with Thanksgiving since we sometimes get Thanksgiving baskets donated by local groups.

You can contact the school directly or reach out to our Social Worker Team, Mrs. De La Luz, Mrs. Teague-Power, and Ms. Rigon for assistance and guidance.

SNAP Benefits For Families





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

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.

There is a 30% off deal occuring now on all items! This is a major discount if you are interested in purchasing McAvinnue merchandise.



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



Indoor Winter Farmers' Markets

Select Wednesdays & Thursdays
Starting November 16

Shop fresh and local at UMass Lowell's University Crossing and at Mill City Grows' ROOT Kitchen!

Use your SNAP/EBT and HIP benefits



ROOT Kitchen at **Mill City Grows**

Bi-weekly on Thursdays 2pm - 5pm

2022

November 17 December 1 & 15 February 2 & 16

2023

January 5 & 19 March 2 & 16

19 Hall Street

Community Connections & Opportunities



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.

THE SALVATION SALVARMY

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, 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, <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

"The Cool Beans: As Cool As It Gets"



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



@McAvinnueLPS

McAvinnue Elementary School is a place...where there are <u>high</u> 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

Nowell.k12.ma.us/Domain/21

