The Lion's Roar

McAvinnue's Community Newsletter: Week Of September 12th

MCAVINNUE'S PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Greetings McAvinnue Community!

It was another short but busy and amazing week at McAvinnue! It was so great to welcome our PreK and Kindergarten friends this week. There was a tremendous amount of excitement and energy in the building on Wednesday...and they were already settled in and working by the end of



the school week! Now, we are gearing up for our first full week of school ahead. It is important that your child gets sufficient sleep each night with a consistent and predictable evening routine. This will make the first full week of school a more pleasant and successful one.

For the teaching and learning side of things, I've seen a multiple engaging lessons and activities with our students that focus on writing, speaking, moving, and collaborating with one another. I'm eager to see what this up and coming week brings! Stay tuned and be on the lookout for various posts on Class Dojo and our social media outlets for samples of what our students are working on during the school day!

The afternoon buses improved toward the end of this past week. Please keep in mind that we remain in close communication with the LPS Transportation Department when buses are delayed or if there are any routes need to be adjusted or modified.

Please be aware that there may still be delays in both the morning and the afternoon runs due to the closure of the Central Street Bridge. I'm not sure if or how this will impact the busing to and from McAvinnue. If you need to check the location of an afternoon bus, you can do so by calling NRT at (978) 323-0101. Press "5" for the Lowell Public Schools.

Finally, McAvinnue is still looking for 1 parent to consider joining our School Site Council (SSC). This working group has a very important job that assists in making the academic and financial decisions that will help move our school forward. Please see the section below for additional information including the Google sign-up form.

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:

- Wednesday, September 21st McAvinnue's "Virtual" Morning Announcements Return
- Thursday, September 22nd McAvinnue's "Back To School Bash" @ 5:00 PM 6:30 PM

• <u>Friday, September 30th</u> - McAvinnue's "Lion's Pride" All School Meeting: September Edition @ 9:30 AM - 10:15 AM

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"!

McAvinnue's Week In Review



Good News From The Art Room!

Grade 4 students in Room 307 are exploring the element of art "Value" in their canvas paintings! Looking good!



ST Math News In Room 304!

Mrs. M-C's Grade 3 students gearing up to launch ST Math for the new school year!



Good News In Grade 1

Grade 1 students learning about the components of "Reader's Workshop"!



Good News In Room 303!

Students in Room 303
nominated each other for
class awards at the end of
the day. These two desk
groups were nominated
today by their peers for being
neat and organized, and for
working together as an epic
team! Amazing!



Good News In Room 201!

Grade 1 students learning about the components of "Reader's Workshop"!



Good News In Room 205!

Kindergarten students in Room 205 read the story "Pigeon Has To Go To School" by Mo Willems on their first day at McAvinnue. They went on a tour/scavenger hunt around the building looking for Pigeon. They found him in Mr. Domina's office hiding out with JiJi from ST Math and Mojo from Class Dojo!



Our Kindergarten students are already settling into the new school year! Check out some of the cool work and activities they participated successfully in this past week. We can't wait to see what they can do next week! Simply amazing start to the new school year!

McAvinnue's School Site Council

McAvinnue's Site Council is a group of faculty, parents, and community stakeholders who come together to help drive the instructional focus of the McAvinnue Elementary School. We look at student data and make decisions about the school's Quality Improvement Plan and budget.



We need one additional parent to join this important group. The commitment is one, one-hour, meeting each month usually on Zoom. As we hit budget season in February-April, there will be other meetings

added.

If you would like to be a part of the team, please fill out the form below. If you have questions, please reach out to Mr. Domina at mdomna@lowell.k12.ma.us.



McAvinnue's School Site Council Interest Form

Please complete the information below if you are interested in joining McAvinnue's School Site Council.

McAvinnue's Site Council is a group of faculty, parents, and community stakeholders who come together to help drive the instructional focus of the McAvinnue Elementary School. We look at student data and make decisions

BASH
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22ND
5:00 PM - 6:30 PM

McAvinnue's "Back To School Bash" is back after taking over 2 years off due to the COVID-19 pandemic! We are so excited to be able to bring this amazing event back to our school community.

Please mark your calendar to come by McAvinnue on <u>Thursday, September 22nd from 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM</u> for some fun and excitement. You will have a chance to meet your child's teacher, play some super cool games, get a free backpack full of school supplies, meet members of the Lowell Police and Fire Departments, eat some amazing food and treats, and more!

We look forward to seeing everyone at McAvinnue's "Back To School Bash"! If you have any questions, please reach out to your child's teacher or call the Main Office for support.

McAvinnue's "Virtual" Morning Announcements Will Be Back!

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



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 at what a version of McAvinnue's "Virtual" Morning Announcements will look like...watch the video below!



Upcoming Events



Here are important dates to remember for the next few months:

- Wednesday, September 21st McAvinnue's "Virtual" Morning Announcements Return
- Thursday, September 22nd McAvinnue's "Back To School Bash" @ 5:00 PM 6:30 PM
- <u>Friday, September 30th</u> McAvinnue's "Lion's Pride" All School Meeting: September Edition @ 9:30 AM 10:15 AM
- Monday, October 3rd NED'S Mindset Mission Shoe All School Meeting @ 9:30 AM 10:30 AM
- Monday, October 10th No School Indigenous Peoples' Day
- Thursday, October 27th McAvinnue's "Spooktacular" Family Night @ 5:00 PM 6:30 PM (Tentative)
- <u>Friday, October 28th</u>- McAvinnue's "Lion's Pride" All School Meeting: October Edition @ 9:30 AM
 10:15 AM

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.

FIND MY BUS STOP

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

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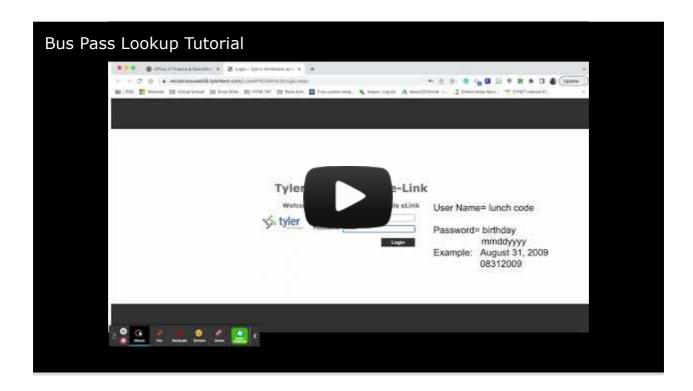


You can use the LPSD "Bus Lookup Tool" using the link below. You will need to use you child's LASID or lunch number along with their birthdate to access this helpful system.

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.

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"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 - Thankagiving 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, 202		
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% School Day		
	Juneteenth		
Monday, June 19, 2023 *)uneteenth		



Number	of Sch	ool Days Per	Month
August	1	Sanuary	20
September	19	February	15
October	20	March	23
November	18	April	14
December	17	May	22
		June	11

Click To Access The 2022-2023 School Calendar

Parent & Family Resources

Breakfast and Lunch Will Be Free for All LPS Students

As we reopen for the new school year, Lowell Public Schools Food and Nutrition we 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.

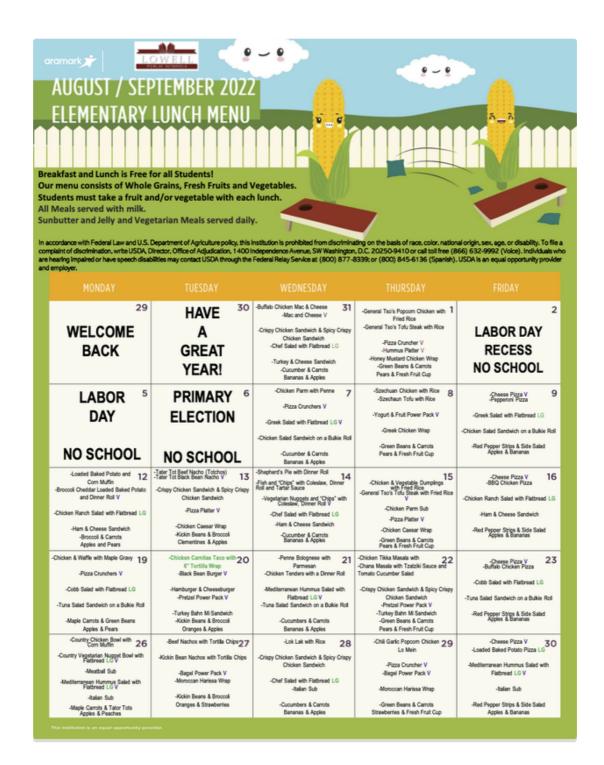
Please keep up to date on our program, nutrition education, monthly menus and back to school letters on the <u>LPS Food and Nutrition website</u>.

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

Breakfast & Lunch Menus: September







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 2022-2023

Sign in to Google to save your progress. Learn more



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

Community Connections & Opportunities



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

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.

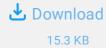


Click the link below for a list of local food pantries that are willing to help.

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

"A Teacher In The Wild"



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"!



 $Face Book: \underline{https://www.facebook.com/McAvinnueElementarySchool}$

Twitter:

https://twitter.com/McAvinnueLPS

Instagram:

http://instragram.com/mcavinnueelementarylps

YouTube:

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



Our Vision

f 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

Nowell.k12.ma.us/Domain/21

(978) 937-2871



