# The Lion's Roar

McAvinnue's Community Newsletter: Week Of September 4th

#### MCAVINNUE'S PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Hello McAvinnue Community!

I hope that everyone is having a fantastic super long Labor Day holiday with family and friends! The weather has been amazing allowing for some fun time spent outside...which is always a bonus when compared to all of the rain we have over the past 2 months!



What a truly amazing start to the brand new school year! It has been a long time since we last heard the sights and sounds of students at McAvinnue having a great time learning about new things! I want to personally thank everyone for putting forth great effort to get things up and running for a very successful launch of the 2023-2024 academic school year!

As everyone is well aware, there have been some issues with transportation to and from school last week. Please keep in mind that we typically experience some bumps as bus routes are modified to allow for the smoothest journey for your child. We have been told by the LPS Transportation Department that we will be in a better place over the next few weeks. If I receive updated information, I will keep everyone posted with any positive or less than positive changes that may occur each day.

We are so excited to welcome our Pre-K and Kindergarten students to McAvinnue on Tuesday of this week! It will be great to have all of our students finally together and ready to continue to make McAvinnue "the best school we all know".

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 week:

- Monday, September 4th No School: Observance of Labor Day
- Tuesday, September 5th First Day of School for Pre-K and Kindergarten Students
- Thursday, September 21st Grade 4 Field Trip: Patriot Place STEM Challenge
- Friday, September 22nd McAvinnue's "Back To School Bash"

#### Observance Of Labor Day - No School: Monday, September 4th



#### Welcome PreK & Kindergarten Students!



We are excited to welcome our PreK and Kindergarten students to McAvinnue on Tuesday, September 5th at 9:10 AM.

Students will enter the building at the door near McAvinnue's "Reading Garden". This is the door that is to the left of the Main Door. Families are allowed to come into the building to support their child on this day.

If you have any questions, please reach out to your child's teacher on Class Dojo or call the Main Office for support.

#### 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

FIND MY BUS STOP

**Arrival and Dismissal** 

**Procedures** 

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

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.

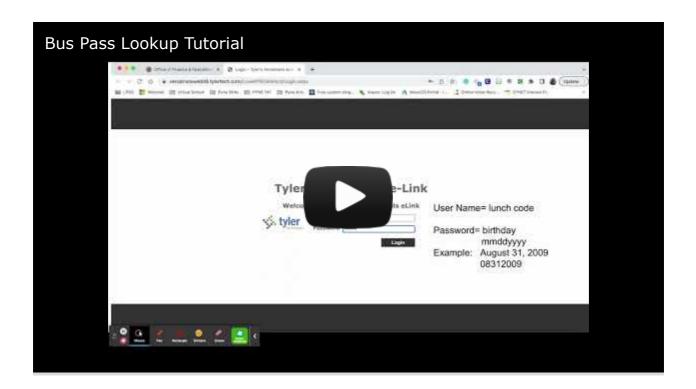
Please note that Kindergarten and 1st grader students <u>must</u> have an older sibling (4th grade or older) or parent present at the bus stop in the afternoon in order to depart from the school bus. If a parent or older sibling is not present, the student will be brought to the Moody School, located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



**Upcoming Events** 



Here are important dates to remember for the first month of the school year:

- Monday, September 4th No School: Observance of Labor Day
- Tuesday, September 5th First Day of School for Pre-K and Kindergarten Students
- Thursday, September 21st Grade 4 Field Trip: Patriots Hall Of Fame STEAM Showcase
- Friday, September 22nd McAvinnue's "Back To School Bash"
- <u>Friday, September 29th</u> McAvinnue's "Lions Pride" All School Core Value Celebration @ 9:30
   AM 10:15 AM

McAvinnue's "Back To School Bash"



Marks your calendars for McAvinnue's "Back To School Bash"!

This annual and traditional event will occur at McAvinnue on Friday, <u>September 22nd from 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM</u> for some fun and excitement. Families will have a chance to meet their child's teacher, play some super cool games, get a free backpack, school supplies books, meet members of the Lowell Police and Fire Departments, eat some amazing treats, and more!

This event is FREE of charge...so, all you need to do is come to the school and have a blast!

2023-2024 School Year Calendar

#### ntof Schools-Lowell Public Schools-Lowell, MA 2023-2024 School Year Calendar

Toursday: Assessed 20, 2022	Staff Return to School for Staff Orientation Day
Tuesday, August 29, 2023	First Day of School - Grades 1-12
Friday, September 1, 2023	No School Labor Day Recess
Monday, September 4, 2023 *	No School - Labor Day
Tuesday, September 5, 2023	First Day of School - Pre-Kindergarten & Kindergarten
Monday, October 9, 2023 *	No School - Indigenous Peoples' Day
Tuesday, November 7, 2023	No School for Students -Election Day -Professional Day for Staff
Friday, November 10, 2023 *	No School - Veterans' Day Observed
Wednesday, November 22, 2023	Early Dismissal - Thanksgiving Recess
Thursday, November 23, 2023 *	No School - Thanksgiving Day
Friday, November 24, 2023 *	No School - Thanksgiving Recess
Monday, November 27, 2023	Schools Re-Open
Wednesday, December 6, 2023	Wednesday - Early Release for grades PreK-12
Friday, December 22, 2023	Winter Vacation Begins at the Close of Day
Monday, December 25, 2023*	Christmas Duy
Fuesday, December 26, 2023*	Central Office and Family Resource Office Closed
Sunday, December 31, 2023	New Year's Eve
Monday, January 1, 2024*	New Year's Day
Tuesday, January 2, 2024	Schools Re-Open
Wednesday, January 10, 2024	Wednesday - Early Release for grades PreK-12
Monday, January 15, 2024 *	No School - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Friday, February 16, 2024	February Vacation Begins at the Close of School
Monday, February 19, 2024 *	President's Day [School Vacation: Monday, February 19 - Friday, February 23, 2024]
Monday, February 26, 2024	Monday - Schools Re-Open
Wednesday, March 6, 2024	Wednesday - Early Release for grades PreK-12
Friday, March 29, 2024 *	No School - Good Friday
Friday, April 12, 2024	Spring Vacation Begins at the Close of School
Monday, April 15, 2024 *	Patriot's Day - [School Vacation: Monday, April 15 - Friday, April 19, 2024]
Monday, April 22, 2024	Schools Re-Open
Monday, May 27, 2024 *	No School – Memorial Day
Tuesday, June 11, 2024	180° School Day
Tuesday, June 18, 2024	185* School Day [Includes five (5) Snow Days]
	Juneteenth



School Calendar 2023-2024.pdf



#### 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

#### Parent & Family Resources

#### Student Handbook 2023-2024

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 Updated Student Handbook

#### McAvinnue's School Attendance Information

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.

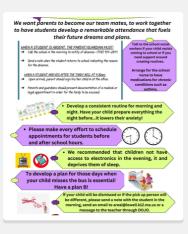
The McAvinnue Attendnace Team will monitor student attendance on a weekly basis and will reach our directly to families when they notice frequent absences, a pattern of absences, or an increased number of consecutive absences within a short period of time.

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.













# 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

# Breakfast & Lunch Menus: August/September







pdf

Elementary Breakfast Menu September.pdf

**丛** Download 287.6 KB



Elementary Lunch Menu September.pdf



Emergency Contact Form: 2023-2024

Get a jump start now and complete your emergency contact form for the 2023-2024 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 2023-2024

Sign in to Google to save your progress. Learn more

#### LPS Connector Newsletter: Summer Edition

The LPS Connector is a monthly newsletter that highlights the happenings of the previous month in all Lowell Public Schools. Check it out for some cool articles and pictures of the great things happening in our district.



Click below for the Summer edition of the LPS Connector which includes highlights from many of the summer programs put on by the district, new district and school leadership, and access to important information regarding transportation and the Family Leadership Institute.

Click the button below to access this Smore Newsletter!

#### Click Here To Access The Summer Newsletter

#### 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 occurring now on all items! This is a major discount if you are interested in purchasing McAvinnue merchandise.



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**

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

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 <a href="https://www.lowell.k12.ma.us/HomelessAssistance">https://www.lowell.k12.ma.us/HomelessAssistance</a>.

• 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 <a href="https://www.lowell.k12.ma.us/SchoolRegistration">https://www.lowell.k12.ma.us/SchoolRegistration</a>. 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 <a href="https://www.lowell.k12.ma.us/SchoolRegistration">https://www.lowell.k12.ma.us/SchoolRegistration</a>. 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 <a href="https://www.lowell.k12.ma.us/PreschoolRegistration">https://www.lowell.k12.ma.us/PreschoolRegistration</a> to fill out an online application or <a href="https://www.lowell.k12.ma.us/KindergartenRegistration">https://www.lowell.k12.ma.us/KindergartenRegistration</a> 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 <a href="https://www.lowell.k12.ma.us/SchoolTransfer">https://www.lowell.k12.ma.us/SchoolTransfer</a> 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** 



# **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 <a href="https://www.pack7lowell.com">www.pack7lowell.com</a>

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





Lowell Fall Local Activities/Events



Mill City Grows: Autumn Market





Friends of Tyler Park

# AUTUMN MARKET

makers | artisans | farmers | growers



Sunday, September 10, 2023 11:00 am - 3:00 pm

Tyler Park, Lowell, MA

## 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, <u>wma@commteam.org</u>
      - 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



## 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: <a href="https://www.lowell.k12.ma.us/Page/5263">https://www.lowell.k12.ma.us/Page/5263</a> or email FLI Director Zoe Dzineku at <a href="mailto:zdzineku@lowell.k12.ma.us">zdzineku@lowell.k12.ma.us</a>.

#### **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.

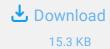
Click the link below for a list of local food pantries that are willing to help.

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





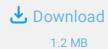
Greater-Lowell-Area-Pantry-List 8-27-20 (1).xlsx



## **Community Vaccination Information**



Community vaccination sites.pdf



## McAvinnue's Family Read-A-Loud

"Back To School Rules"



#### 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 the buttons below to access our social media sites!

Click To Access McAvinnue's Facebook Page

Click To Access McAvinnue's Twitter Page

Click To Access McAvinnue's Instagram Page

Click To Access McAvinnue's YouTube Channel



# 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



**(**978) 937-2871

Nowell.k12.ma.us/Domain/21



