THE LION'S ROAR

MCAVINNUE'S COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER: WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 5TH

MCAVINNUE'S PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Greetings McAvinnue Community!

I hope that everyone is having a fantastic super long Labor Day holiday with family and friends! The weather was better than decent for the most part allowing for some fun time spent outside...which is always a bonus!



Simply put, what a truly amazing start to the brand new school year! It has been a really long time since we last heard the sights and sounds of students at McAvinnue having a great time learning about new things!

I am aware that 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.

As everyone knows, we are so excited to welcome our Pre-K and Kindergarten students to McAvinnue! 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".

McAvinnue is currently 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:

- Friday, September 2nd Monday, September 5th No School: Observance of Labor Day
- <u>Tuesday, September 6th</u> Election Day No School for Students: Professional Development for Faculty
- Wednesday, September 7th First Day of School for Pre-K and Kindergarten Students
- Thursday, September 8th McAvinnue's Taste Test: Breakfast Cheese Pizza Bagel
- Friday, September 9th McAvinnue's Team Spirit Day: Pats vs. Dolphins
- Thursday, September 22nd McAvinnue's "Back To School Bash" @ 5:00 PM 6:30 PM

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"!

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the Main Office at McAvinnue or send Mr. Domina a message a mdomina@lowell.k12.ma.us.

NO SCHOOL - MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH LABOR DAY HOLIDAY



NO SCHOOL - TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6TH
PRIMARY ELECTION DAY



LET'S WELCOME OUR PREK & KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS!



It was so amazing to see so many of new faces at McAvinnue's
Orientation Open House for Pre-K and Kindergarten this past
Thursday! Everyone seemed really excited about the starting school on Wednesday, September 7th!

Reminder...Wednesday, September 7th is the first day of school for our Pre-K and Kindergarten students. All Pre-K and Kindergarten student that are walkers will enter the building using the entrance next to McAvinnue's Reading Garden (to the left of the Main Entrance). We will open our doors at 9:10 AM.

During the first week of school (Wednesday - Friday), we will allow PreK and Kindergarten families to accompany your child to class to meet the classroom teacher and check out the classroom. We respectfully ask all families to leave the building at 9:30 AM.

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



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</u>

<u>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 TEAM SPIRIT DAY - FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9TH

We are getting a jump start on another super fun school spirit event at McAvinnue!

On Friday, September 9th, you will have a chance to wear your favorite team's gear of colors to school and cheer them on as the Fall sports season gets underway!

The New England Patriots play their first game of the season against the Miami Dolphins on Sunday, September 11th! Show your team pride and wear the gear or colors of the team you want to win!

We know that Mr. Domina will have his Miami Dolphins gear on! Here's your chance to show your "Patriots Pride" and cheer them on to their first win of the season!

UPCOMING EVENTS



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

- Friday, September 2nd Monday, September 5th No School: Observance of Labor Day
- <u>Tuesday, September 6th</u> Election Day No School for Students: Professional Development for Faculty
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- Thursday, September 8th McAvinnue's Taste Test: Breakfast Cheese Pizza Bagel
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DROP-OFF & PICK-UP LOGISTICS



Drop-Off Logistics

- Arrival begins at 9:10 AM each day. The late bell rings at 9:25 ΔM
- 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,

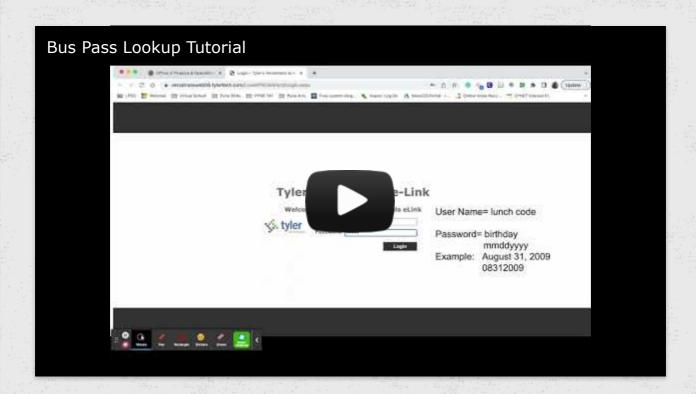
located at 158 Rogers Street. A driver's license or valid identification must be presented to the staff in order to dismiss the student.

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.



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.

PUBLIC SCHOOL AND OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOL AND ADDRESS ACHUSETTS

"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. 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,

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

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



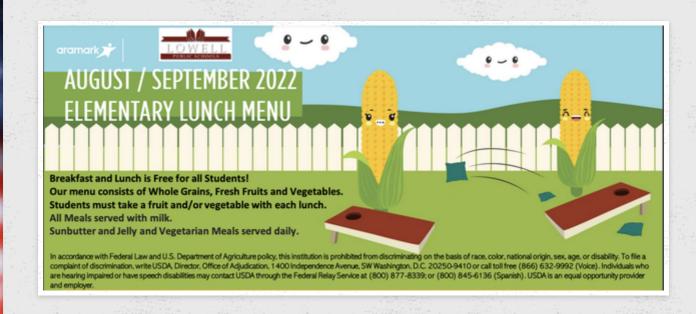
overall dining operations. When your child dines with us, rest assured that we will be serving delicious, nutritious meals prepared with the utmost attention to safety. We encourage every

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.

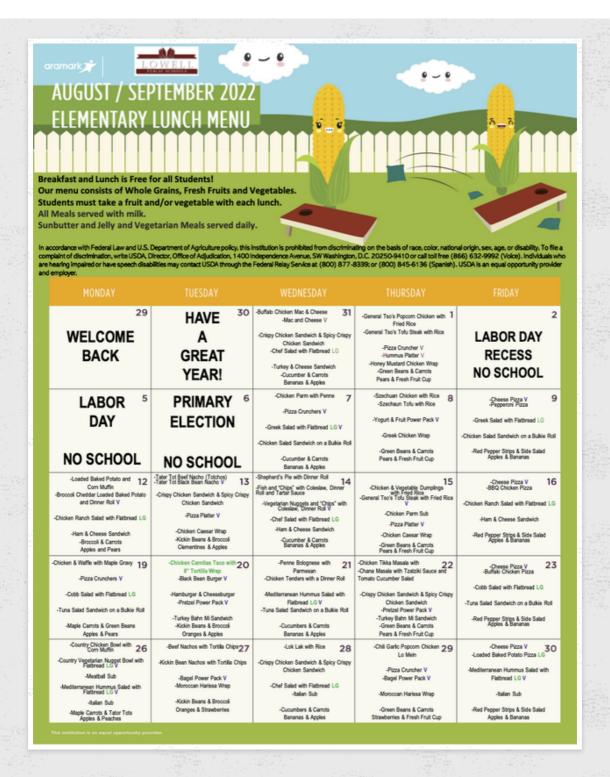
Please keep up to date on our program, nutrition education, monthly menus and back to school letters on the LPS Food and Nutrition website.

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



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.

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, <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 Glrls 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

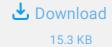
Click the link below for a list of local food pantries that are willing to help.

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 LITTLE SPOT GOES TO SCHOOL"



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/UC7hxiBuRjqjqfASI_RLMleQ



OUR VISION

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



mdomina@lowell.k12.ma.us



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