November 16, 2021

**Zoom Link School Site Council Cardinal Join Zoom Meeting** [**https://lowell-k12-ma-us.zoom.us/j/83484053053?pwd=WThYaE9aeHlmczkzSmRVTllCcmlHdz09**](https://lowell-k12-ma-us.zoom.us/j/83484053053?pwd=WThYaE9aeHlmczkzSmRVTllCcmlHdz09)

**Meeting ID: 834 8405 3053 Passcode: 710109 Dial by your location**

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**Find your local number:** [**https://lowell-k12-ma-us.zoom.us/u/kdLyU5Ttd**](https://lowell-k12-ma-us.zoom.us/u/kdLyU5Ttd)

**Agenda**

**Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)** --Jennifer 30 minutes

* Thank you teachers and staff (Holidays and Teacher Appreciate Week May 2-6, 2022)
* Katie Closet – Fund raiser in Donation
* Creating voluntary directory

**School Site Council –**

* Breakfast with Boyd – Meeting invite and planning
* Proposal for moving funds from technology line to instructional line to vote on next meeting
* Input on playgroup from Teachers – sharing their thoughts and ideas
* Teacher in process of ordering supplies
* Review of Cardinal Coffee notes – shared with families at the end of the week in Newsletter
* LETRS training and GLEAM Grant
* Revisit School Climate Goals in School Improvement Plans where are and where are we headed.
* Requested Email for Stephanie, Kanitha, and Cecilia Flores

**Future Dates:**

November 16, 2021 December 21, 2021 January 18, 2022 February 15, 2022 March 15, 2022 April 26, 2022 May 17, 2022 June 7, 2022

* School Site Council Information: <https://www.doe.mass.edu/lawsregs/advisory/schoolcouncils/>
* School Improvement Plan: <https://www.lowell.k12.ma.us/cms/lib/MA01907636/Centricity/Domain/2459/LPS%20SIP%20Cardinal%20OConnell%20QIP%20APPROVE%20SSC.pdf>

Our Family Coffee held November 9, 2021 was a great success. We had nine parents attend and engaged in lively discussion. In order to initiate discussion four questions were posed to families.

We have prepared the following questions and answers to share this rich discussion with our entire community.

**Please tell us your thoughts about your experience in Lowell Public Schools.**

* I love seeing the different stations. The school is very versatile.
* Great curriculum. I like that academics and social emotional skills are focused on equally.
* Communication. The ease of using class DoJo.
* Happy my child is in a more structured environment at his age. Not a lot of children get to do preschool at this age.
* I think it is a great change of my son to expand his learning.
* Love the curriculum and all preschool aged rooms.
* Just wish it was full-time. Longer day. (half-day parent)
* For children that are unable to get a full-day (or even half-day)preschool placement, what are some resources to help support them to be prepared for kindergarten

**Do you have questions about Lowell Public Schools preschool?**

* **How much electronic time should children have at home?** *The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends children 2-5 years old, limit non-educational screen time to about 1 hour per week day and three hours on a weekend day. Family Media Planning Tool:* [*https://www.aap.org/en/patient-care/media-and-children/*](https://www.aap.org/en/patient-care/media-and-children/)
* **Looking forward to building and making new friends in the community. How can I be involved?** *School Site Council and Parent Teacher Organization are two ways to be involved in our school community. Meetings are generally held the third Tuesday of each month. We also have the Early Childhood Council which meets the first Monday of each month.*
* **Are PT, OT, and Speech available? In class? Out of class?** *Children with Individual Education Plans that have a diagnosed disability whom required these serves as part of their individual plan do receive these therapies as determined by their individual education plan. All students are fully engaged in the general curriculum. Our curriculum units are based on* ***Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks.*** *All areas of development social, emotional, physical, language, and academics as well as all content area (science, mathematics, language, literacy, the arts, and physical development and health).*
* Several families asked, “Will there be more full day classrooms?”
* For children that are unable to get a full-day (or even half day) preschool placement, what are some resources to help them to be prepared for kindergarten. *We will bring this to the attention of our Coordinated Family and Community Engagement team. Additionally, we work on providing a learning corner to our monthly newsletter with ideas for extending learning at home.*

**Suggest bringing this item up to the Superintendent during his visit to the Cardinal O’Connell School on December 7, 2021 at 9:30 AM.**

**Please share what your child talks about with you about school.**

* All the songs sung at school. My 1.5 year old even sings and dances along now.
* Friends and activities engaged in with peers.
* Books he reads and friends.
* My daughter usually shares what she ate, whom she played with, and what she did.
* Friendships, dress-up, and food.

*If you want to prompt your child to talk about his/her school day, you may want to ask questions such as: What happened in dramatic play this week? What do you do at the grocery, pet shop, or doctor’s office? What story did you read today? What was the story about? Tell me about the characters.*

**Please share a favorite tradition your family has.**

* Regular family table time
* Food like pork, rice potatoes salad for Thanksgiving
* Gift giving and games and swapping
* Visiting New Hampshire going to Santa’s Village
* Elf on the shelf
* Favorite family traditions being together as a family every holiday with cousins
* We love the holidays and celebrate them all big with our families. We love family meals, decorating the house, dressing up and doing seasonal activities
* Opening Christmas crackers at the dinner table
* Cambodian New Year and Ancestor Day
* Holiday Dinners at Thanksgiving and Christmas
* Be all together at Christmas
* Playing games after all holiday meals