The Lion's Roar

McAvinnue's Community Newsletter: Week Of October 30th

MCAVINNUE'S PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Hello McAvinnue Community!

What a week at McAvinnue! We had some amazingly warm weather this past week which was a pleasant surprise for everyone. There has been so much excitement throughout the walls of McAvinnue with Halloween right around the corner...and the nice weather only added to the positive



buzz that our students displayed to end of week. For those that are planning on participating in "Trick Or Treating" in Lowell on Tuesday evening, the weather looks to be on the colder side with predicted temperatures in the upper 30's. Please keep in mind that Trick Or Treating will occur between the hours of 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM.

We had another highly successful event on Thursday evening....McAvinnue's "Trunk Or Treat" Family Celebration at St. Rita's Parish across the street from the school! It was a perfect and much needed McAvinnue community event that allowed everyone to come together to smile, laugh, and have some spooky fun for a few hours! This is the second consecutive year that we have hosted this event...and it couldn't have gone better. Thanks to Ms. Martineau for leading this event with the support of some helping hands in the Main Office! So much fun...and we look forward to doing this again next year! Check out the pictures below!

A quick reminder...we will not have school on Tuesday, November 7th due to the local and statewide "Election Day". On this day off from school, it is important for you to go out and cast your vote to be seen and heard. Local elections can make the greatest impact in making change within the Lowell community. For more information about voting, please use the link below.

https://www.lowellma.gov/369/Voter-Eligibility-Registration

We are looking forward to another successful week at the "best school that we all know"!

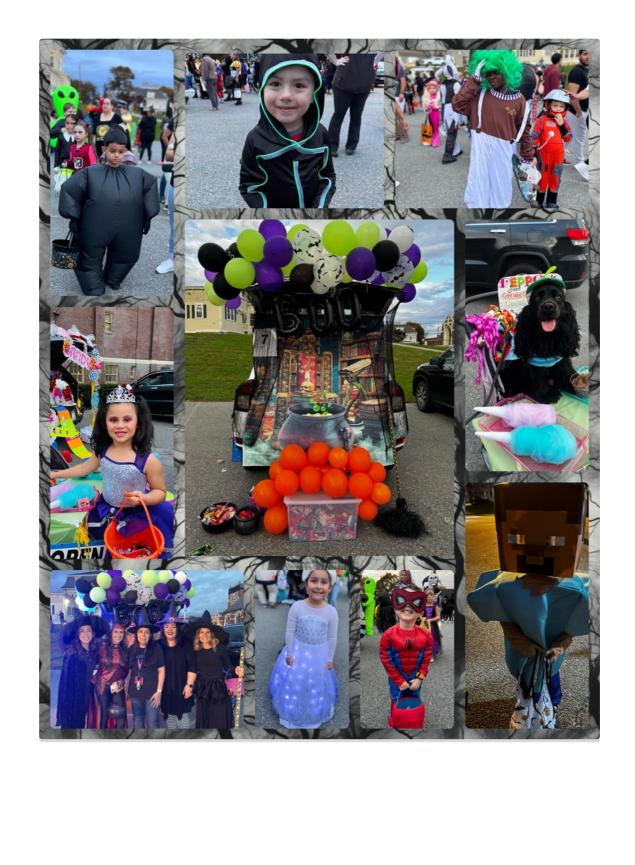
If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach directly.

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:

- <u>Tuesday, October 31st</u> McAvinnue's "Lion's Pride" Core Value All School Celebration: October Edition
- Tuesday, October 31st Treat Or Treating In Lowell @ 6:00 PM 8:00 PM
- Wednesday, November 1st Grade 3 Field Trip: "Future Senator" @ The Kennedy Institute,
 Boston, MA

McAvinnue's "Trunk Or Treat" Family Celebration



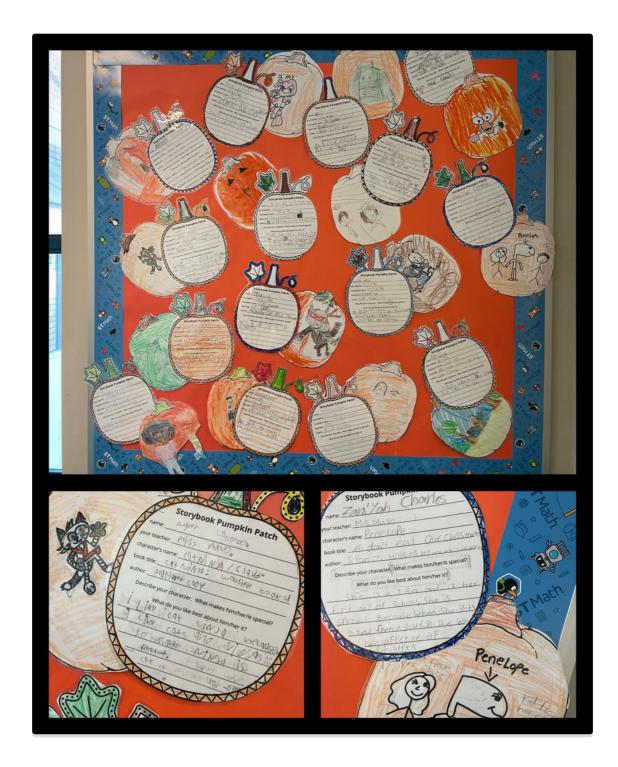




McAvinnue's Week In Review

Storybook Pumpkin Patch!

Grade 3 students in Room 304 worked on creating a storybook "Pumpkin Patch"! The students choose a favorite book and wrote about the main character of the story! Check out the writing samples that the students created! Nice work!



Fun With Artificial Intelligence!

"Good News" in Room 310! Grade 4 students created AI generated images for the covers of their realistic fiction stories! Now this is a really cool way to use technology...so much fun!





McAvinnue's "Morning Announcements" Are Back!

McAvinnue's "Morning Announcements" are back for the 2023-2024 academic school year!

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

You can check out the latest edition of McAvinnue's Morning Announcements below!

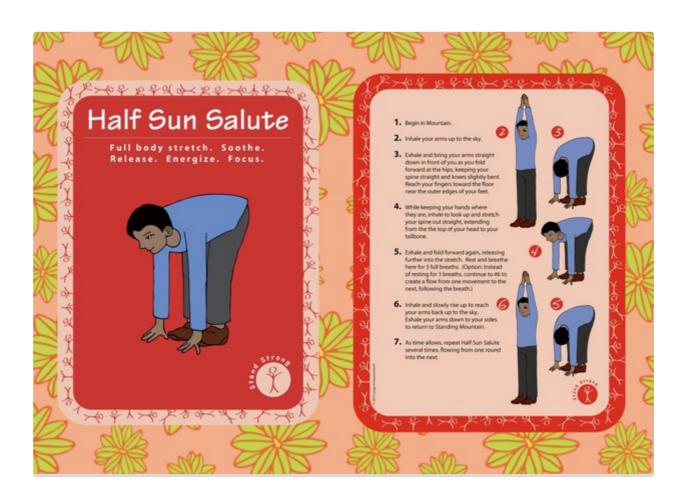


McAvinnue's Yoga Pose Of The Week: "Half Sun Salute"

We will try another new pose this week called the Half Sun Salute". This new pose will allow us to focus on our full body through a stretching technique that will soothe and release tension while increasing our energy and focus. We will practice the "Half Sun Salute" technique daily during McAvinnue's Morning Announcements during this up and coming week.



You can get an early head start and practice this technique before we launch into another exciting week!



Allergies? Asthma? Medications? - Please Let Nurse Danielle Know!

If your students have any medical concerns or diagnosis, please make sure Nurse Danielle is aware. Also, if they have any medical conditions, for example allergies or asthma, that require medications such as Epipens or inhalers here at school, please remember she needs updated paperwork and medication yearly.



Please reach out as soon as possible to get her the necessary paperwork and to arrange drop off of new medications. Nurse Danielle's email address is <u>dralls@lowell.k12.ma.us</u> and she can also be reached by calling (978) 937-2871 ex. 47858. Our fax number is (978) 937-2880.

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 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 23rd. 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.

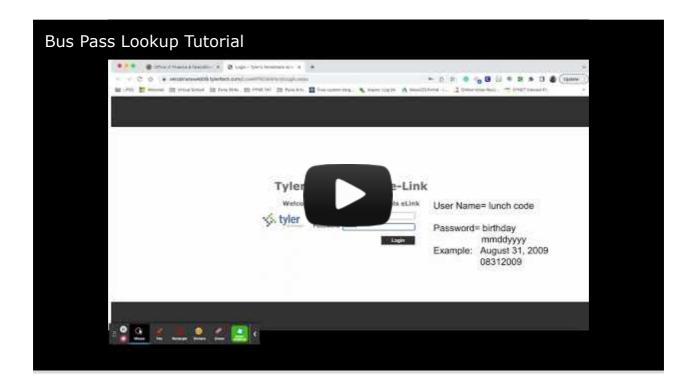
Please note that Kindergarten and 1st grader students <u>must</u> have an older sibling (4th grade or older) or parent present at the bus stop in the afternoon in order to depart from the school bus. If a parent or older sibling is not present, the student will be brought to the Moody School, located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



Upcoming Events



Here are important dates to remember for the month of the October and early November:

- <u>Tuesday, October 31st</u> McAvinnue's "Lion's Pride" Core Value All School Celebration: October Edition
- Tuesday, October 31st Treat Or Treating In Lowell @ 6:00 PM 8:00 PM
- Wednesday, November 1st, 2nd, 8th, and 9th Vision & Hearing Screenings
- Wednesday, November 1st Grade 3 Field Trip: "Future Senator" @ The Kennedy Institute,
 Boston, MA
- Thursday, November 2nd Lock Down Practice Session @ 10 AM
- Tuesday, November 7th No School For Students: "Election Day"
- Friday, November 10th No School: Veterans Day



Election Day - November 7th



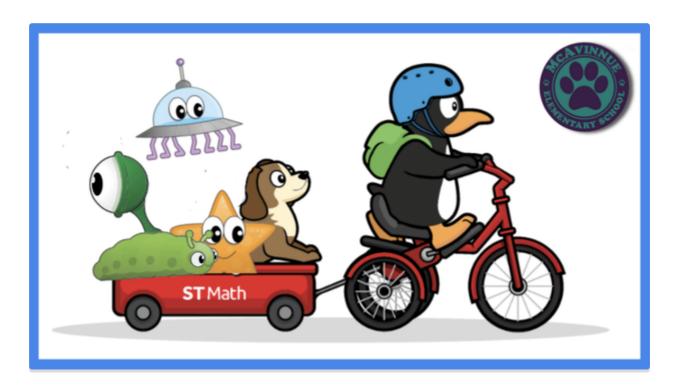
As part of the local and state elections, McAvinnue will be closed on <u>Tuesday, November 7th</u>. Please make the necessary arrangements to be available for your child on this day.

McAvinnue's 21st Century "Before & After School" Program will not occur on this day.

We will reopen our doors on Wednesday, November 8th at 9:10 AM.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out directly.

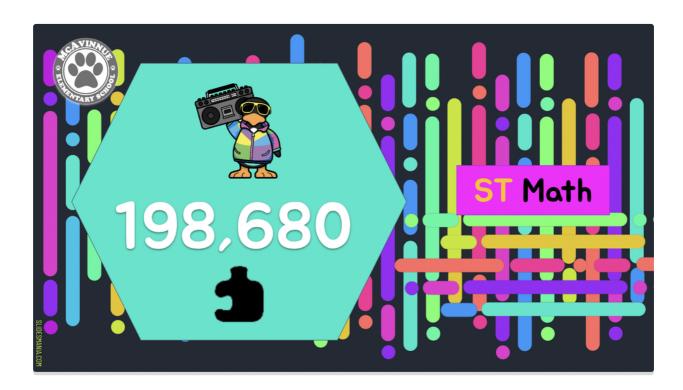
ST Math Weekly Shout Out!

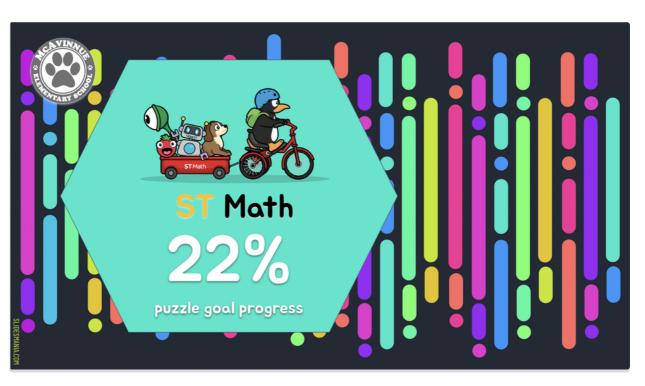


Check out our total puzzle count since the launch of the school year. 198,680 puzzles is our current total...we are so close to reaching 200,000 which is AMAZING progress! Our school-wide progress percentage continues to move forward at a rapid pace! Again, we are up 3% from last week for a total of 22%

Our school-wide goal is for ALL of our students reach 80% progress or more by the conclusion of the school year! Many of our students are well on their way to reaching this goal!

We have finalize our first school-wide challenge that will begin in the month of November! Stay tuned for details that we will share during the week of October 30th. The first ST Math challenge of the school year will begin on Wednesday, November 1st!





Holiday Assistance At McAvinnue

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 and Mrs. Teague-Power directly for more information.

2023-2024 School Year Calendar

Superintendent of Schools-Lowell Public Schools-Lowell, MA 2023-2024 School Year Calendar

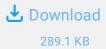
uesday, August 29, 2023 riday, September 1, 2023 fonday, September 4, 2023 uesday, September 5, 2023 tonday, October 9, 2023 uesday, November 7, 2023 riday, November 10, 2023	First Day of School - Grades 1-12 No School Labor Day Recess No School - Labor Day First Day of School - Pre-Kindergarten & Kindergarten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



Approved by the Lowell School Committee at their morting of

Central Administration, Family Resource Center will be closed in burvance of a holiday Number of School Days Per Month August 3 January 21 September 19 February 16 October 21 March 20 November 18 April 17 December 16 May 22





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.



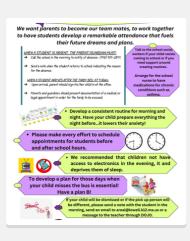
The McAvinnue Attendnace Team will monitor student attendance on a weekly basis and will reach our directly to families when they notice frequent absences, a pattern of absences, or an increased number of consecutive absences within a short period of time.

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 Menu: October







October Breakfast Menu.pdf

L Download 597.3 KB



October Lunch Menu.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

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.

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 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.

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, 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
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 2023-2024 School Assignment Policy, all students have the option to request one school transfer per year.
- Families can apply online at https://www.lowell.k12.ma.us/SchoolTransfer 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



Monster Bash - Saturday, October 28th



Pawtucketville "Trunk Or Treat" - Sunday, October 29th



Pollard Library: "Children's Book To Art Club"

Children's Book to Art Club SPECIAL EVENT!



For Grades 1-4 Monday 4:30—5:30PM October 30

Children in grades 1 - 4 are invited to join our book club to read and discuss a picture book and make a hands-on art project. This month, special guest author Aaron Lewis Krol will be joining us to read his new picture book "A Cloud in a Jar"! This program takes place in the library meeting room and snacks will be provided.

Registration is required and space is limited.

Register online at lowelllibrary.org/events or by calling the Children's Reference Desk (978) 674-1529.



Youth Services Department Pollard Memorial Library 401 Merrimack St. Lowell, MA 01852 978-674-1529 www.LowellLibrary.org

Color Me Autumn - Thursday, November 2nd

The Lowell Public Schools will be hosting a special resource fair on Thursday, November 2nd at the Stoklosa Middle School for Lowell families who receive services under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.

Under the act, homeless is defined in several ways, including: families living in hotels/motels, families who are "doubled up" living with others in inadequate space, families living in shelters, families who are unsheltered (living in cars, campgrounds, etc.), as well as unoccupied youth who are not in the physical custody of a parent or legal guardian.

For more information about McKinney-Vento eligibility and services, visit: https://www.lowell.k12.ma.us/site/Default.aspx?PageID=3028



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 www.pack7lowell.com

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





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



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: https://www.lowell.k12.ma.us/Page/5263 or email FLI Director Zoe Dzineku at zdzineku@lowell.k12.ma.us.

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

"That Monster On The Block"



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

Facebook

@McAvinnueLPS

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

131 Mammoth Road, Lowell, M...

mdomina@lowell.k12.ma.us

(978) 937-2871

Nowell.k12.ma.us/Domain/21

