

Lowell Public Schools: Washington

Family Orientation

In-Person Learning

August 2021



DESE Commissioner's Guidance (*as of 5/27/21*)

For the fall, all districts and schools will be **required to be in-person, full-time, five days a week, and all DESE health and safety requirements will be lifted**. This includes all physical distancing requirements. We will collaborate with the Department of Public Health (DPH) to issue any additional health and safety recommendations over the summer (e.g., masks for elementary school students). We will provide any updates to districts and schools as we receive them.

Health Protocols

Updates

- Air Purifiers in each class / Windows open in all classrooms.
- Masks required indoors by all staff and students*. (Mask Breaks)
- No masks outdoors.
- We will try to reach 3 feet in social distancing, but once a class reaches 20+ students this is hard to maintain. (There is no requirement for social distancing.)
- Eating - We will eat breakfast in the cafeteria. Lunch will be eaten outside whenever possible. In bad weather we will eat in the cafeteria.

Health Protocols

Updates

- Sanitizer will be used when entering and exiting a classroom or the building.
- All other operations are in a return to normal state.
- Must wear a mask on the bus.
- Weekly voluntary COVID-19 Pool testing again this year. This was very helpful last year. Please consider signing up.
- Students can share classroom materials such as books.
- Fog all rooms at night and during the day when it is requested.



A Day in the Life of a Washington Student Grades K-1

- Morning Meeting
- Social Emotional Learning (Second Step)
- 120 minutes of literacy
- 60 minutes math
- 35-40 minutes STE (Science, Technology, Engineering and Social Studies)
- Lunch/Recess - 50 minutes
- Specials - Art, Music, Gym, Content-Literacy - 40 minutes
- ST Math



A Day in the Life of a Washington Student Grades 2-4

- Morning Meeting
- Social Emotional Learning (Second Step)
- 100 minutes of literacy
- 60 minutes math
- 40-50 minutes STE (Science, Technology, Engineering and Social Studies)
- Lunch/Recess - 50 minutes
- Specials - Art, Music, Gym, Content-Literacy - 40 minutes
- ST Math

Bus Information

Transportation Plan -

- You qualify for a bus if you are .75 miles away from the school or more.
- Or have bus in an IEP.

You can request a bus using the following site.

<https://www.lowell.k12.ma.us/transportation>

Bus passes will be mailed out to K-1 after August 24th. Families with kids in 2-4 can look up the pass on this website.



New or Changing Staff

- ❏ Krista Kubick - Social Worker
- ❏ Nurse - Elaine Fleury
- ❏ Victoria Trull - Grade 4 Teacher
- ❏ Erin Parisi - Grade 3 Teacher
- ❏ Pam Nolan - CSA Para
- ❏ Carly Rennie - CSA Para






The Academic Day

- ❑ A combination of in-person and electronic platforms will be used.
- ❑ Teachers will communicate through the Talking Points App, their email and by phone.
- ❑ Devices and supplies will all be provided to your child
 - ❑ School supplies can be accessed at <https://www.lowell.k12.ma.us/Page/1482>
 - ❑ Please bring computer and charger on day 1.



The Curriculum and The Accelerated Road Map

Phase 1: Diagnostic and Planning	Phase 2: Launch	Phase 3: Progress Monitoring	Phase 4: Reflection and Planning
Before the 1 st day of school 2021	September - October 2021	November 2021 - April 2022	May - June 2022

Sense of Belonging 		
Monitor Understanding 		
Strong Instruction 		

	ACCELERATION	REMEDIATION
Self-efficacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self-confidence and engagement increase. Academic progress is evident. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students perceive they're in the "slow class," and self-confidence and engagement decrease. Backward movement leads to a sense of futility and lack of progress.
Basic skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Skills are hand-picked just in time for new concepts. Students apply skills immediately. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instruction attempts to reteach every missing skill. Skills are taught in isolation and not applied to current learning.
Prior knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key prior knowledge is provided ahead of time, enabling students to connect to new information. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Typically, does not introduce prior knowledge that connects to new learning.
Relevance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Treats relevance as critical component to student motivation and memory. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relevance is not seen as a priority.
Connection to core class	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instruction is connected to core class; ongoing collaboration is emphasized. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instruction is typically isolated from core class.
Pacing and direction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Active, fast-paced, hands-on. Forward movement; goal is for students to learn on time with peers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Passive, with focus on worksheets or basic software programs. Backward movement; goal is for students to "catch up" to peers.



The Academic Day

New Curriculum

- Phonics - Piloting Letterland - Multisensory approach using puppets and pictures to help students learn phonics (K-2)
- Social Studies - New online Social Studies program (1 unit in each grade) grades 2-4.
- Project Lead the Way - Engineering STEM program. One unit in grades K-4.
- ST Math Year 2 - Continue with Jiji the penguin and learning math visually.
- Second Step - Social Skills Program
- Mill City Grows - Gardening
- 21st Century After School Program



Arrival Procedures

- ❑ Students will assemble in back parking lot at 8:30am and line up in classrooms on white dots.
- ❑ Attendance will be taken outside.
- ❑ We will use multiple entrances to the building
 - ❑ All kids use hand sanitizer on way in
 - ❑ Breakfast will be in the cafeteria.
 - ❑ Instruction starts day 1



Dismissal Procedures



- ❑ Students will go to dots on playground and families will go there to meet them.
- ❑ Bus students will wait in their classrooms until their bus is called and then meet in the lobby where a teacher will help them get to the bus
- ❑ We start dismissal at 2:40 pm



Attendance

- ❑ If students are sick, parents should still CALL the school at 978-937-7635 for record keeping and doctor's notes should be emailed or faxed to the school to excuse absences
- ❑ Attendance will be monitored carefully by teachers and administrators. We will reach out when we see many absences or a pattern of absences to create an attendance plan.
- ❑ Dismissals should be for important/emergency reasons only.
- ❑ No visitors in building. We will dismiss from outside.
- ❑ 10+ absences for the school year puts you on the state list
- ❑ 18+ absences puts you on the chronic attendance state list



Supports Available for Families

Please let us know if you need help accessing any of these supports:

- Social Worker
- Bilingual Parent Liaisons
- Catie's Closet

Information will be sent to you by:

- Talking Points
- Phone Calls at 4:30pm Sunday evenings
- Emails
- Facebook - Most updated
- School Website
- Weekly SMORE Letters



Device & Materials Distribution Plan

At the Washington, we are committed to providing students and families with the technology and materials their students need to learn in a remote setting.

- All students will be receiving a LPS device for the school year to engage in remote learning
 - All students will be getting a Chromebook this year.
 - If you had an old MacBook, it will be exchanged out.
 - The computers will stay at school unless a project is assigned requiring them.



Next Steps



WASHINGTON
WOLFPACK

Main Contacts

Jason McCrevan -

jmccrean@lowell.k12.ma.us

978-937-7635 - School Phone

Krista Kubick - Social Worker

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Megan Ames - School Clerk

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