



# Lincoln Elementary School

Gettysburg Area School District

Dr. Matthew E. McFarland Sr.

*Principal*

September 1, 2023

Dear Lincoln Parents & Guardians,

I hope the start of yet another school year has greeted you and your family fondly. I look forward to working with you and your family as we continue to make Lincoln Elementary the best place for our kids to learn and grow. We appreciate your continued support!!!

A portion of the beginning of our school year has and will continue to be dedicated to collecting student data. As a result, we began organizing classroom instructional groups to focus more precisely on students' strengths and needs. Determining these strengths and needs was and will continue to be accomplished through administering an assortment of short assessments. Our goal is to provide each student with individualized instruction based on their unique needs. For some students this may involve some time working with a teacher other than their classroom teacher for a small portion of the day. This additional assistance may be provided by Mrs. Sherry Becker, Mrs. Angela Suehr, Mrs. Lisa Gray, Mrs. Shannon Jones, Mrs. Dee Dee Becker, Mrs. Andrea Sneeringer, Mrs. Rebecca Morris, Ms. Jessica Gillingham, Mrs. Justina Chamberlin, Mrs. Karlene Gutierrez, or Mrs. Julie Henry. This time spent with another teacher is designed to help enhance your child's learning.

Thank you for all the time you spend working with your child and all you do to help your child to become a life-long learner. Should you have any questions regarding our approach or the additional support that we provide, please do not hesitate to call me at 717-334-6254, option 4, extension 7150.

## **We Care What You Think**

At Lincoln Elementary School we care what you think. Please visit the link below as many times as you would like and answer any question(s) that apply. Tell us your thoughts or anything that you think is important for us to know.

[We Care What You Think](#)

## **Important Dates**

September:

- ✓ 1<sup>st</sup> – No School for Students
- ✓ 4<sup>th</sup> – No School for Students & Staff
- ✓ 5<sup>th</sup> – PTO Meeting; 600 PM, Lincoln Cafe
- ✓ 8<sup>th</sup> – Lincoln Spirit Wear Orders Due (Online)



✓ 29<sup>th</sup> – Lincoln Shirt Day

### Important Announcements/Reminders

✓ **Twitter:**

- Do you want to see more of the GREAT things students are doing @ Lincoln.

Follow us on Twitter: **@GASD\_McFarland**

Download the app on your phone or bookmark it on your computer!

✓ We have water bottle fillers in our hallways!! We encourage families to send water bottles with students each day. Please ensure that only water is sent.

✓ **Student Day**

- 8:20 – Doors open
- 8:40 – Late bell
- 3:10 – Dismissal begins

✓ Students should never have any type of over the counter or prescription medicine in their possession on school property.

✓ If a student brings an electronic/communicable device to school, it needs to stay in their bookbag and powered down.

✓ If your child is eating breakfast, please do your best to have them at school by 8:20am.

✓ If your child will be going home from school a different way than normal, a note must be sent in with the student or a parent/guardian must call the school prior to 2:30pm.

✓ **Student Drop Off**

■ Please be cautious as you are dropping off your students in the morning for school. Here are some helpful guidelines to ensure that all of our students and family are able to arrive at school safely.

- When dropping off your child/children stay in one lane using the curb closest to the school.

- Utilize the entire curb for drop off. If you are the first/only car pull the entire way up past the school to make room for others behind you.

- Do not pass other vehicles for any reason.

- Please be sure not to block the crosswalk with your vehicle.

- Look prior to moving your vehicle again after drop off.

- It is our goal to ensure that each student arrives safely to school.

✓ **Gettysburg Area School District Police Department**

■ We are entering year two of building our GASD Police Department. Officer Weaver is assigned to our school. He assists us with many procedures and is heavily involved in evaluating and improving our practices.

✓ **Lincoln Elementary PTO**

■ We want YOU to be a part of our Lincoln Elementary PTO. Our PTO is very important to our students, staff, and community as it supports and provides resources to enhance the experiences provided at Lincoln Elementary. If you are interested in serving as an officer or volunteer please contact Kari @ [Lincoln.PTO@outlook.com](mailto:Lincoln.PTO@outlook.com). If you are interested in joining our PTO, our next meeting date is on Tuesday, September 5th at 6pm held in the Lincoln Elementary Cafeteria.

✓ **Attendance Procedures**

■ If a student is absent from school for any reason, a written explanation signed by a parent/guardian stating the reason for the absence must be submitted to the office. The excuse must be received by the office within three (3) school days of the absence. If a physician treated the student, the excuse should be written by the physician. Four (4) or more consecutive absences can be excused only with a note from the physician. Any student with ten (10) accumulated absences will be placed on a physician's note.



# GETTYSBURG AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

*A Great Place To Learn*

■ Attached to this newsletter you will find information about how to submit absence notes in Skyward

## ✓ Counselor Corner

■ Mrs. Staub is excited to welcome a School Counseling intern to Lincoln Elementary this year. Mrs. Abigail Krstanovic is a graduate student at McDaniel College and will be working under the supervision of Mrs. Staub for her fall semester. In her spare time, Mrs. Krstanovic spends time with her family, coaches high school girl's basketball, and visits the beach as often as she can. She has a passion for helping children and supporting them so that they can grow and be successful in all that they do. Welcome to Lincoln Mrs. Krstanovic!

## ✓ Nurse

■ If you haven't returned a Health Survey (pink form) to the nursing office for your student(s), please do so as soon as possible.

■ Health Hero flu vaccination forms are due by Friday, September 22nd for those choosing to have their child receive the flu vaccine. Flu vaccines will be administered on Wednesday, September 27th.

■ If you have a student in Kindergarten, 3rd or 5th grade, they are mandated by the state to receive a dental screening this school year (forms were sent home with students). If your child has been seen by a dentist within the past 6 months, please have your dentist complete the dental form and return it to the nursing office. Otherwise, indicate a date in which your child is scheduled to be seen by a family dentist, or request a dental screening by our school dentist on the form provided. All forms must be returned by September 6th. If a dental form is not received, a screening will be performed on Wednesday, September 13th in school as required by the state.

■ If your child requires an inhaler, epi pen, or medication for school, please be sure to get these items to the nursing office. Items must be in the original container and be accompanied by a medication order by the physician for administration.

■ If you want your child to have cough drops during the school day they need to be brought to the nursing office prior to the start of the day. We cannot have these items in areas where other students can access them.

■ Please feel free to call or email with any question or concerns. The school nurse, Mrs. Sites can be reached at ext. 7127, or at [ksites@gasd-pa.org](mailto:ksites@gasd-pa.org).

## ✓ Family Navigators

■ Welcome back to a new school year! We missed you all over the summer and are thrilled to have everyone back. GASD will have two Family Navigators this school year, Tara Zimmerman and Rachel Hastie. Having two of us means we can spend more time in and around the community, which will allow us to serve and support you to the best of our ability. At least once a week, you will find us in various public locations throughout our district (outside of our school buildings) and we invite you to drop in to visit with us at any point during these times, even if only to introduce yourself. If you have questions about registering for school, extra curriculars, attendance, student concerns, how to get involved, etc., please stop by to see us. We love to meet the families of our district and would love to see you there! During September, you will find us in the following locations at the following times:

- Tuesday, September 5, 1:00-3:00pm – Misty Ridge Community Center
- Thursday, September 14, 9:00-11:00am – Lincoln Square Starbucks
- Friday, September 22, 9:30-11:30am – Gettysburg Public Library (basement)
- Friday, September 29, 10:30am-12:30pm – Lions Park (Chambersburg Road, Biglerville)
- Please see additional information attached to this newsletter about Rachel Hastie.

## ✓ Box Tops for Education



# GETTYSBURG AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

*A Great Place To Learn*

■ Please use the link below to download the Box Tops for Education App. Using this app while purchasing your groceries can help donate money towards our school. This money helps provide funds for various types of fun events for our kids!

■ <https://www.boxtops4education.com/s/get-the-app>

## ✓ **The Warrior Way**

■ Be Here: Every Day, On-Time

■ Be Involved: Participate, Engage, All In

■ Be Committed: Responsible; Safe Choices; Ownership for Actions and Learning

■ Be Kind: Show Respect and Include Others

■ Our students are spending their first few weeks learning about the Warrior Way and what it looks like to follow the Warrior Way in various locations on our campus.

■ Students at Lincoln Elementary receive Warrior Way tickets for following the Warrior Way. The recipients of Warrior Way tickets are recognized each morning on our announcements. Currently we are working towards our goal of earning 500 tickets for a chalk party!

■ LET'S GO WARRIORS!!!!

Yours in education,

Dr. Matthew E. McFarland Sr.

Principal

Lincoln Elementary School

98 Lefever St.

Gettysburg, PA 17325

717.334.6254 opt. 4 ext. 7150

<https://www.gettysburg.k12.pa.us/domain/10>

Twitter: @GASD\_McFarland