



Lincoln Elementary School

Dr. Matthew E. McFarland Sr.
Principal

August 30, 2019

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.

Important Dates

September:

- ✓ 2nd – No School for Students and Staff
- ✓ 5th – Back to School Night, Grades 1-5; 6:00pm
- ✓ 6th – Race for Ed. Packets sent home
- ✓ 16th – Race for Ed. Contacts return date
- ✓ 25th – Artist in Residence Hoedown; 6:30pm, Lincoln Gym
- ✓ 27th – Lincoln Shirt Day
- ✓ 27th – PTO Movie Night; 6:30pm, Lincoln Cafe



Important Announcements/Reminders

- ✓ Student Day
 - 8:20 – Doors open for breakfast
 - 8:30 – Doors open
 - 8:45 – Late bell
 - 3:20 – Dismissal begins
- ✓ If your child is eating breakfast, please do your best to have them at school by 8:20am.
- ✓ Students will be dismissed at 3:20pm.
- ✓ If your child will be going home from school a different way than normal, a note must be set in with the students or a parent/guardian must call the school prior to 2:30pm.
- ✓ If a student wishes to go home with another student, a parent/guardian of both students must send in a written note.
- ✓ 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.
- ✓ 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 the



student's locker and powered down.

Skyward: Family Access

This note is to inform you of a change to how back-to-school forms will be completed this year.

All back-to-school forms districtwide and including elementary schools will now be completed through Skyward/Family Access. **To access Skyward**, go to **gettysburg.k12.pa.us** and click on the **Skyward block** on the **right-hand side of the page**.



Please complete these forms at your earliest convenience. Computers will be available at all elementary schools during back to school night for form completion.

Access to Skyward was made available to all elementary parents/guardians on August 5, 2019. An email was sent with instructions.

If you have any questions or need access to Skyward, please reach out to the elementary building secretaries.

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.

Artist in Residence (AIR)

The Barnstormers and Rock Candy Cloggers will bring their music, dance, and instrument making to Lincoln Elementary School for a residency this fall. The Rock Candy Cloggers will perform for the school on Fri., Sept. 6 in the cafeteria. 4th and 5th grade students will learn folk dances and make



limber jacks, focusing on character traits from our Character Counts program.

The students will share their experience with the community through an evening hoedown on Wed., Sept. 25 beginning at 6:30 p. m. in the school gymnasium. Students should report to school by 6:15 p.m. wearing comfortable school clothes. **ONLY SOFT-SOLED SHOES (SNEAKERS) ARE ALLOWED** for the performance.

Nurse

Welcome back to our returning Lincoln Students and welcome to our new students! My name is Renee Winters-Dunn, and I am the new school nurse here at Lincoln. I love this school, as I have had two older children progress through Lincoln and have a new kindergartener this year, as well as a preschooler who will attend in the near future! A little bit about me: I have been a Registered Nurse for almost 17 years with extensive experience in adult/pediatric trauma, adult/pediatric emergency room, labor and delivery/maternity/newborn care, as well as adult/pediatric surgery and recovery. I consider it a great privilege to care for your children each and every day while here at school. I feel that our kids need to be healthy to be educated and need to be educated to be healthy! Health, wellness, and education are all linked. Part of my job in our community is to help our kids and families be as healthy and well as they can be and to support healthy kids so they can learn in our amazing school and community! I look forward to serving both your children and your family this school year!

Right to Know Information

- ✓ As a parent of a student attending a school that is receiving Federal Title I dollars, you have the right to know the professional qualifications of the teacher(s) and/or instructional paraprofessional(s) who instruct your child. Federal law requires every Title I school to comply and provide you with the requested information in a timely manner. We are happy to provide this information to you. At any time you may ask:
 - Whether the teacher met state qualification and certifications requires for the grade level he/she is teaching.
 - Whether the teacher received an emergency or conditional certificate through which state qualifications were waived, and
 - What undergraduate and/or graduate degrees the teacher holds, including graduate certificates and additional degrees, and major(s) or area(s) of concentration
 - You may also ask whether your child receives assistance from a paraprofessional. If you child receives this assistance, we can provide you with information about the paraprofessional's qualifications.
- ✓ The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) which was signed into law in December of 2015 and reauthorizes the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1956 (ESEA) includes additional right to know requests. At any time, parents/guardians and family members can request information on policies regarding student participation in assessment and procedures for opting out and information on required assessments that may include
 - Subject matter tested
 - Purpose of that test
 - Source of the requirement



- Amount of time it takes students to complete the test
- Time and format of disseminating results.
- ✓ Our staff is committed to helping your child develop the academic knowledge and critical thinking skills he/she needs to succeed in school and beyond. That commitment includes making sure that all of our teachers and professionals meet applicable Pennsylvania state requirements.
- ✓ We look forward to the upcoming school year, and together we will make a difference in your child's life.

Yours in education,

Dr. Matthew E. McFarland Sr.
Principal
Lincoln Elementary School
Gettysburg Area School District
"Make Every Minute Matter"

