Greetings Lincoln Educational Stakeholders,

Spring is in the air! The Spring season is a time for refreshing and renewal and perhaps the greatest example of that can be seen with the steel framing going up at Lincoln High School! As the new structure takes shape and the work gets completed, a refreshed and renewed Lincoln High School is in the works! Last month also saw the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) come for their decennial visit to Lincoln High School to assess curriculum, climate, academic programming and supports for students. At the end of visit read out, all were pleased with the comments and recommendations of the visiting team. The final report will be completed by NEASC in the coming months. At the elementary schools, educational stakeholders will begin to see improvements in facilities and building aesthetics providing we get the necessary funds to accomplish our goals. There is a district-wide improvement plan for strategic upgrades for each of our buildings over the course of the next few years. Additionally, our three-year technology plan was recently approved by the Lincoln School Committee. This technology plan maps out technology support for our blended learning initiatives and supports 21st century instruction at all of our schools. Next year, we will be working on our district strategic plan to encompass the collective educational vision for the district.

Enjoy the warmer weather and the new opportunities that the Spring season brings!

Sincerely,

Lawrence P. Flippelli, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Lincoln Public Schools Kindergarten Registration & Tours

Children who will be 5 years old on or before September 1, 2019 should register for kindergarten at this time. Children now attending kindergarten outside the Lincoln Public Schools, who will enter first grade in Lincoln in September 2019, must also register. Birth certificates and two original proof-of-residency documents (mortgage statement or notarized lease agreement and one of the following: property or fire tax bill, water bill or utility bill) are required at registration. A recent physical, including vision screening and immunization records with month, date and year of shots for diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus (dpt 5), polio (ipv 4), measles, mumps, rubella (mmr2), chicken pox (varicella 2), hepatitis b (3), lead (date and result-if child was tested) or a certificate from a licensed physician stating that your child is not subject to immunizations because of medical reasons, must also be presented at registration. Registration will not be accepted without birth certificate, proof of residency documents and immunization records. Registration packets are available online at www.lincolnps.org or you may call one of the schools listed to obtain a registration packet.

Central Elementary School: 401-334-2800
Lonsdale Elementary School: 401-725-4200
Northern Elementary School: 401-769-0261
Saylesville Elementary School: 401-723-5240

Enrollment is based on space availability. Therefore, a student’s school assignment may be subject to change. Kindergarten Tours for all four elementary schools will take place on Friday, May 3, 2019 from 10 AM—11 AM. Please contact the school your child will attend to register for the tour.
March was a fun month at Central Elementary starting off with a Reading Week celebration that was “out of this world”. The creative talents of Mrs. Costa and Mrs. Archambault along with many helping hands transformed our foyer into outer space. The students LOVED their space travel through Central -- it was a labor of love and well worth all the time it took when we saw the students’ faces as they arrived at school on Monday. We had many guest readers and visitors who shared their favorite books and stories with our students.

Also in March, Lincoln Central hosted its first ever Pop Art Festival to celebrate the creative popsicle creations crafted by Mr. Drolet’s third grade students using healthy food ingredients. The two day event allowed students to showcase bite-sized samples to family, faculty and friends. This hands-on project has allowed these third graders limitless opportunities to experience the importance of taking risks and making mistakes - - our growth mindset in action. Throughout this process, they’ve also learned a great deal about the health benefits of many of the ingredients that they chose to work with. The only ingredient that was off limits was sugar. However, their results proved that choosing healthy alternatives can not only be delicious but also nutritious. Well done Lincoln Central!
Lonsdale School is the first elementary school in Lincoln to partner with Special Olympics RI as part of the Unified Champion Schools (UCS) program. UCS is a strategy used to promote a positive and inclusive environment for all students. UCS promotes social inclusion by bringing together students with and without disabilities through sports and other activities under the premise that *youth are the agents of lasting change.*

As part of this initiative, Lonsdale’s PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention and Support) program and Unified Champion Schools program featured activities in physical education classes that gave students an idea of what it feels like to face a challenge doing ordinary tasks. Members of the Lincoln Middle School Unified Basketball Team have been invited to speak about their experiences. The week of March 25-29 was Lonsdale’s School-wide USC Awareness Week. Activities were focused on awareness and education for the entire school that promote respect and social inclusion for all students.

The Unified Champion Activities Week was coordinated by Lonsdale’s PBIS Leadership Team which includes, Frank Almstrom, Physical Education Teacher, Cheryl LaRiviere, 4th grade teacher, and Shannon McComiskey, Social Worker. PBIS Student Leaders, Fourth graders Luke Cavanaugh and Colton Henderson, and fifth graders Anna Longpre, Neala Bentley and Cameron DeSousa also assisted in the weekly activity.

**Pennies For Patients**

From March 4– March 22, Lonsdale Elementary School participated in the *Pennies for Patients* fundraiser, sponsored by The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS). Pennies for Patients is a three-week service-learning program that gives students the unique experience of working together to help raise awareness and funds in honor of thousands of children and adults fighting blood cancers - like leukemia – which is one of the leading fatal cancers of children ages 1 – 20. The five-year survival rate for children under the age of 20 with the most common form of leukemia (ALL) went from 3% in the 1960s to almost 95% today. Every day we are getting closer to finding cures for all blood cancers! During our first week of collection, we sold Popsicles for $1 at lunchtime. The kids loved it! Some parents generously sent in $25 to buy Popsicles for their child’s entire class. Our second week was also a tremendous success, including our week-long spirit week. Monday was *Fashion Disaster Day* and students brought in pennies for the fundraiser. Tuesday was *Neon Nickel Day* so students could wear their brightest clothing. Wednesday was *Dazzling Dime Day* so students could wear their most dazzling “bling.” Thursday was *Crazy Quarter Day* so the kids could wear crazy hats, hair, socks, etc. Friday was *Wear Your Green...and bring in Green!* Students wore green and brought dollar bills to school. We also continued to sell Popsicles as they were such a hit. During our final week of collection we sold Hershey Kisses as “Kisses for Patients” and Gummie Bears as “Gummie Hugs for Patients.” We ended the week with an exciting challenge for the fifth grade. We held a pie toss contest where students could donate $20 and throw a whipped cream pie at the principal or the school nurse. Eighteen fifth grade students participated in the pie toss—it was a huge success! Lonsdale more than doubled its goal of $2,019.00 by raising a total amount of $4,639.00! Outstanding effort by everyone at Lonsdale School!
March 14th was Pi Day at Northern Elementary School. (The number Pi (π) is a mathematical constant, the ratio of a circle's circumference to its diameter, commonly approximated as 3.14159). During the day, students were challenged to complete a “real life simulation” with Mrs. Buffery our Math Interventionist. Students were given a checkbook and a month’s salary to work with. They were also given real life bills (mortgage, car payment, living expense) and they needed to make their bills and expenses meet.

Throughout the day there were many wonderful events and much excitement! Pi Night was an excellent evening event where parents and children worked on an app called Bedtime Math. This fun free app allowed parents to work together with their child to complete fun math problems. Everyone enjoyed popcorn in their PJ’s in the library as they learned. It was a great night! We extend a huge “THANK YOU” to Colleen Buffery and her math helpers for coordinating this wonderful event!

**Peter Pan Jr.**

On Friday, March 29th, the PTA treated K-5 students to their annual trip to the Stadium Theater. This year we saw Peter Pan Jr. The trip, as it has been in the past, was a big hit with all grades. Students thoroughly enjoy going to the theater and experiencing a live performance. This is the fourth year the PTA has treated the school to this type of a field trip. We can’t wait until next year!

**Saylesville Elementary School is Excited about Teaching & Learning**

The teachers and families of Saylesville elementary school continue to find ways to improve teaching and learning for all students. By partnering with the Saylesville PTO, Saylesville Elementary School is going beyond creating memorable family-friendly events to identify ways our partnership can improve outcomes for all students. For example, after analyzing student work samples and standardized test data, Saylesville teachers identified writing as an area to target for improvement. With the support of the Saylesville PTO and the district, we have taken steps to support the teaching of writing. To get students and teachers excited about writing, we used funds from the Saylesville One and Done Fundraiser to bring in a local author. Author Mark Binder led assemblies and worked in classes to help students see themselves as writers. He helped each student understand how writers write and provided feedback on pieces the students had developed using some of his ideas. Having a published author work within the classes signaled our commitment to writing.

To build our capacity, teachers have used time during Common Planning Time, Faculty Meetings, Grade Level Meetings and Professional Development to look at and improve the curriculum, deepen their understanding of the standards, coordinate lessons, and share strategies that support English-Language Learners and students with disabilities. Several teachers attended the Empowering Writer’s Workshop to identify effective, research-based practices to support student writing and share what they learned with their colleagues. We networked with other schools in Lincoln and the region to identify best practices. Given the change in the state assessment to measure proficiency in writing from PARCC to RICAS, we have studied examples of high quality writing and re-calibrated our expectations to better align with the new expectations. Although it is too early to assume there will be notable and sustainable gains on this year’s RICAS assessment, Saylesville is establishing a strong foundation to support accelerated growth in writing through a combination of ongoing professional development, purposeful collaboration and standards-based curriculum development.
The Lincoln Middle School Student Council kicked off its “Kindness Matters” month. LMS staff, faculty, and students were greeted by “Positive Post-Its” created by Student Council members and posted throughout the school. Other activities associated with the Kindness Month efforts included “Good Morning Mondays” and “Thankful Thursdays.” These days encouraged students to think and be courteous, as well as encourage positive student interactions. A food drive finished off the kindness matters theme and was held the last week in March.

Additionally, in honor of the annual March Madness NCAA College Basketball Tournament, the month’s Student Council Challenge had LMS teams select a basketball team to follow throughout the basketball tournament. Bragging rights are definitely on the line as the tournament comes to a close.

The Lincoln Middle School Project Unified basketball team’s season is underway, coached by Michael Bedrossian and assistants Kalli Hayter and Chris Morris. The “Unified” team consists of players and partners chosen to help serve as positive peer models and assist during practices and games. Partners are chosen based on excellent behavior, grades and overall willingness to be part of a team. The team practices twice a week and competes against teams from other districts. During the first week of March, students enrolled in World Language classes at Lincoln Middle School celebrated National World Language Week! Students enjoyed and explored a variety of cultural cuisine and customs as well as learned of some of the experiences of faculty and staff. As the week continued, students had the opportunity to sample delicacies such as crepes and tamales, participate in dance workshops, and hear from former Lincoln students about their experiences studying abroad.

“Lion bucks” are being awarded by faculty and staff to students exhibiting behavior that is deemed “above and beyond” or exemplary of the standards of our recalibrated PBIS initiative. The LMS Universal Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) focuses on three main behavioral expectations encouraging students to be: Respectful, Responsible, and Ready to Learn. Weekly prizes are awarded to students at each grade level as well as one grand prize. These raffles will continue throughout the remainder of the school year thanks to the generous donations from the community, efforts on behalf of the faculty, and the spirit of the LMS student body.

### Important Dates

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>April 15-19, 2019</td>
<td>Spring Recess (No School)</td>
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<td>May 3, 2019</td>
<td>Kindergarten Tours at all four elementary schools</td>
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<td>May 13, 2019</td>
<td>Financial Town Meeting @ Lincoln Middle School</td>
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<td>May 24, 2019</td>
<td>Lincoln High School Only Early Dismissal—Exhibitions</td>
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<td>May 27, 2019</td>
<td>Memorial Day (No School)</td>
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<td>June 7, 2019</td>
<td>Lincoln High School Graduation at CCRI</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 12, 2019</td>
<td>Last Day of School! (Early Dismissal for Middle and Elementary Schools Only)</td>
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Mr. Jeff Drolet, Lincoln Central Elementary School, Third Grade Teacher

Central Elementary is fortunate to have a cadre of exceptional staff members. One such talented and innovative faculty member is third grade teacher, Mr. Jeff Drolet. Mr. Drolet began his career in Lincoln in 2011, having previously taught in Cumberland. He began his career in Lincoln as a fifth grade teacher before permanently settling into his role as a third grade teacher. Mr. Drolet has a talent for grant writing for unique learning experiences for his students. He has secured grant money from The Rhode Island Foundation, Toshiba, Conscious Cuisine, and various Twin River grants, to name just a few! One such example of grant funded learning is a Central AC project where students designed a cooling system using Yeti coolers. This project is ongoing as new classes identify how to improve upon the existing design. While a fifth grade teacher, Mr. Drolet collaborated with Mr. Thomson from Chalk Children’s books and published a book written by his fifth grade class. Persuasive writing for a purpose is another project where the Dryden Gallery donated a television for a hallway gallery outside Mr. Drolet’s classroom that is used to highlight student achievement. Mr. Drolet also created the Ikidarod Challenge and built an instructional unit of study that focused on cooperation and communication, as well as, math and geography skills. This year, Mr. Drolet spearheaded a healthy eating initiative - Food For Thought - where students composed and published their own healthy popsicle recipes in collaboration with author Liz Moody of Glow Pops. Jeff lives in Lincoln with his wife (also a teacher), his 3 daughters (twins in grade 5 at Northern Elementary, and a 7th grader at the middle school) and his pet ornate box turtle, Charles Darwin, who retired from the classroom here at Central. We consider ourselves fortunate that Mr. Drolet shares his considerable talents and expertise with the students and staff of Central Elementary!

Mrs. Beverly Whitham, Lonsdale Elementary School, Secretary

Lonsdale School Secretary, Mrs. Beverly Whitham, has been a part of the Lonsdale community since the mid 1970s. Mrs. Whitham is not only our secretary, but she is the bright light that warms the day for anyone who enters the school! She is a true Lonsdale family member and communicator who acts in an utmost professional manner a all times. Parents applaud her for her accommodating and hospitable nature. Mrs. Whitham is the face of Lonsdale School. No matter what is needed, Mrs. Whitham knows how to help. Her institutional knowledge, incredible work ethic, and kind personality make for a perfect fit in her role as school secretary. Mrs. Whitman’s true joy and passion is spending time with her children and grandchildren. She is seen at all school events cheering at LHS swim meets. Another passion of Mrs. Whitham is helping facilitate Alzheimer support groups for family members and caregivers. She finds it most rewarding to help people along their journey by supporting and encouraging their family members. Mrs. Whitham is not only an exceptional staff member, she is an amazing person, and we are so lucky to have her at Lonsdale Elementary School!

Mrs. Tracy Maziarz, Northern Lincoln Elementary School, Teacher Assistant

Tracy Maziarz has joined the Northern staff as a special needs Teacher Assistant. Presently, she is working in Northern’s preschool program. She received her bachelor’s degree in Sociology from Stonehill College in Massachusetts and her masters’ degree in Library and Information Science from Simmons College, also in Massachusetts. Prior to working at Northern, she was a Children’s Librarian at Lincoln Public Library. Tracy currently lives in Lincoln with her husband and three daughters. Her oldest daughter is at Keene State College in New Hampshire; her middle daughter is a senior at Lincoln High School; and, her youngest daughter is in the 8th grade at Lincoln Middle School. The family loves to ski. They spend a lot of time skiing in New Hampshire and Vermont. They also love to travel and will be visiting England and Scotland this summer. Welcome to the Great Northern Mrs. Mariarz!
Ms. Kathy Phillips, Saylesville Elementary School, Fourth Grade Teacher

Kathy Phillips grew up in Lincoln, RI. She attended the Lincoln Public Schools and is a graduate of Lincoln High School. Ms. Phillips earned her BS in Elementary Education, BS in Middle School Math and Science and her Master’s in Technology & Education from Lesley University in Cambridge, Massachusetts. She began her career in Franklin, MA at the Horace Mann Middle School, where she taught 7th grade science and math. After one year, Ms. Phillips joined the Lincoln Publics Schools and taught in three of the same schools she attended as a child. For the last 26 years, Kathy Phillips has taught 4th, 5th, 7th and 8th grades and she currently teaches 4th grade at Saylesville elementary school. When she was a child growing up in Lincoln, her mother returned to work full time. This change caused so much anxiety for Ms. Phillips that she did not want to go to school. Working together, her mother and the school nurse came up with a novel plan to help her find a sense of purpose. Kathy’s teacher had her work one-on-one with a student whose first language was not English. This special thirty minutes a day transformed her life and Kathy discovered that her calling was to be a teacher. The experience of having caring and creative teachers inspires Kathy’s work. Ms. Phillips has embraced innovation in the classroom. She has partnered with the Highlander Institute to adopt practices that allow her to better differentiate and personalize learning. As a member of Lincoln’s first cohort of teachers to implement Blended and Personalized Learning, Ms. Phillips has allowed herself to grow, reflect and share her work. As a result, scores of educators have visited Ms. Phillips’ classroom to observe her and her students. She has also opened up unique learning opportunities for her students as she has piloted STEM programs such as “Unruly Splatz,” a coding program that promotes critical thinking and active learning, as well as an arts-literacy research unit called “We are RI!” that examined unrepresented figures in RI’s history. When Kathy isn’t teaching, she is dedicated to supporting her family. She is the proud mother of Connor, a sophomore at URI; Emma an 8th grader; and Lucy, a mix terrier-pomeranian rescue dog.

Mr. Todd Garrepy, Lincoln Middle School, Social Studies Teacher

Mr. Todd Garrepy joins Lincoln Middle School this year as a first year social studies teacher. Mr. Garrepy comes to us after graduating from the University of Rhode Island and with a wide range of life experiences. Mr. Garrepy is currently serving our country in the Army National Guard as a French Horn player! You can see him playing in parades around the state throughout the year. He also brings a vast amount of energy and enthusiasm into the classroom, and has extremely idealistic and ambitious goals for himself and his students. His contributions, in just a short time, include memberships on the Universal PBIS team, the school safety team, and the implementation of several project/performance based lessons to his curriculum. One lesson focuses on the students learning how government works and includes the entire school! The administrative team, faculty, and students always look forward to Mr. Garrepy’s enthusiasm and positivity, and truly appreciate his addition to the LMS faculty this year. Welcome to Lincoln Middle School Mr. Garrepy!

Ms. Regina Ferreira, Lincoln High School, Math Teacher

Ms. Regina Ferreira has taught math at LHS for many years. She is also currently the class advisor to the Class of 2022. She and fellow math teacher Miss Mauricio just helped the Freshman Class organize its Freshman Frolic. Previously, she was the advisor to the Class of 2017 for all four years and stepped in to help the Class of 2018 as well. Before becoming a teacher, Regina worked in the travel industry. As a teacher, Regina works very hard to ensure that her students have meaningful learning experiences every day. Regina spends a lot of time planning her lessons. Regina has taught many different math courses during her career at LHS. Her willingness to take on different assignments is evidence of her team mentality. In her spare time, she loves to cook for other people. Nothing gives her more pleasure than to try a new recipe and have family/friends come over, sit around the dining room table and enjoy a great meal. Another activity that she really enjoys is decorating and organizing events. She’s always at the ready to make centerpieces and other decorations for her family and friends’ events. In the summertime, she enjoys kayaking on Waterman lake. LHS is lucky to have this positive team player who is always there to help!
On Sunday, March 17, 2019, Lincoln High School welcomed a decennial visiting team from the New England Association of Schools and Colleges. This visit is an important part of the school’s continuous cycle of improvement and marks the completion of a rigorous and thorough self-study process that lasted approximately two years. The sixteen-member team was made up of educators from around the region and was chaired by retired school administrator and professor Donald D. Gainey. The team spent many hours in meetings with teachers, administrators, support staff, parents and students as they made determinations about Lincoln High School’s alignment to the seven standards of accreditation. The Lincoln High School self-study process was overseen by a steering committee made up of faculty and administrators. Dr. Graham Souness, Science Department Chair and Mrs. Doreen Picozzi, English Teacher, chaired the committee.

A panel presentation made by students and LHS faculty members provided the committee with an orientation to LHS on Sunday. During the welcome reception, students from LHS’s culinary program along with teachers Mrs. Amanda Migneault and Mrs. Roseann Santopietro, provided the crowd with delicious hors d’oeuvres and refreshments. Students from the jazz band, under the direction of Mr. David Enos, provided entertainment at the opening of the day and during the reception. Later in the week, Mrs. Kilsey’s Transition Program provided the team with lunch. Mrs. Migneault’s students also provided a delicious luncheon for the team on Wednesday. The work that this required simulated a real restaurant kitchen! In the team work room, the team was surrounded by artifacts from various LHS courses: products from our design technology classes, woodworking classes, art classes, science fair projects and many others. The visiting team certainly came away with a positive impression of all the things LHS does for its students!

On Saturday, March 23, 2019 members of the Spanish and French National Honor Societies volunteered their morning to prepare and distribute 200 lunches to homeless people in Providence through The Elisha Project. In addition, by selling friendship bracelets and Mardi Gras eggs, they were able to make a donation of $180 to The Elisha Project to further support its great work. LHS was the first Rhode Island high school to volunteer with The Elisha Project and we are proud of the three years that we have worked with such a wonderful organization.