



LITCHFIELD PRE KINDERGARTEN MADISON PARK ELEMENTARY



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Greetings Families

We are pleased to start the 2021-2022 school year off with full day in-person instruction. While things are not completely back to normal yet, we are in a much better starting place this year than last. Our teachers will be working closely with your child to ensure the best opportunity for learning and progress.

In addition to adding full hours back to the school day, we are very excited to be able to remove the limitations from our daily recess times. We will be allowing all children on the playground together and will not be requiring masks. We will reapply masks when entering the school building as well as sanitizing of hands.

We will also be looking to return our fieldtrips to the library. Depending on how the year goes and if the public health outlook improves, we will be searching for other fieldtrip opportunities for our children.

Below is my attempt to provide you some answers to some general questions you may have.

Routines

- Doors open at 8:00. Students are tardy starting at 8:15
- Students will be greeted as they arrive and staff members will provide hand sanitizer and check to ensure your child has an appropriate face covering. The same will occur with students riding the bus.
- Students are required to wear masks while traveling on all district busses. Your child will need one prior to boarding the bus.
- Drive up and drop-off. Kindergarten students should be dropped off traveling south on Montgomery street with parent dropping off at the cone marked area. 1st grade students should be dropped off on Chestnut street traveling north at the designated area. IF you have students in both grades, you may drop off at the 1st grade side and have your oldest bring your youngest in the building.
- Children will enter the building and immediately wash their hands, grab a breakfast and head directly to class.
- ALL STUDENTS will have the opportunity to receive a free student grab & go breakfast. There is no charge to families. Students will take 5-10 minutes to consume their meal without a mask at their assigned seat in class.

Building Visitors

We are not allowing visitors to our building at this time. Teachers will hold phone conferences and / or remote meetings with parents. Any in-person meetings will be scheduled in advance on a case-by-case basis. We will revisit as guidelines change.

Lunches & Water Bottles

- Water fountains are not available for student use. Please send your child with a water bottle that should last him/her for the entire day. Make sure it is sealed tight. Consider placing it in a sealed Ziploc bag so it does not leak in a book bag and damage the electronic devices.
- Lunches are consumed in the classroom at student desks. Not wanting to rush children as we know they wish to talk while they eat, we are also working to MINIMIZE any mask free time we have in the building. Children will be encouraged to consume their meal in approximately 15 minutes and will have an additional 15 minutes to then talk to one another from their seats. play educational games on their Chrome devices, or possibly watch a classroom video. We will also be taking students outside to eat on the playground as often as possible. This will allow all of the students to have time together and to eat without their masks and provide them a break from wearing the masks.

Mask Guidelines

- Masks ARE NOT optional. They are required on the bus and prior to entering the school buildings. Teachers will monitor, encourage, and remind often for the normal behaviors students exhibit with masks. Students who are outright refusing to wear masks cannot attend school. In all other instances, we will be addressing concerns in the classroom.
- Bandanas are not allowed.
- Disposable masks are often more comfortable and breathable for young learners and might be a good choice if your child does not tolerate a cloth mask.
- Students will have an appropriate number of mask breaks outdoors. Students also are not required to wear masks on the playground while playing.

Technology

- Each child will receive a Chrome device if parents have signed a device agreement. Device agreements were included at registration and will also be sent home for those that have not yet signed them. The forms should be returned on the next day of student in-person attendance. Please contact the office with questions
- Devices use a QR code to log in and should make devices easy to start. Normal wear is expected on devices. Parents will be responsible for any significant damage, especially if intentional.
- Devices will be taken home and returned to school on each day of attendance. Devices need to be CHARGED AT HOME as they will be used at various times throughout the school day.
- Devices work to some degree off-line but most activities require home WiFi or use of public WiFi hotspots. Each school building in the district has public WiFi access outside of the buildings.
The Litchfield Public Library is also an official area for free wireless internet access.

Departure

- Dismissal will start at 2:45 pm each day
- You should have received your color code car window signs today. Those should be used to help speed up the pickup process at the end of the day. Post the sign in your passenger side front or side window so staff can easily call for your child and send them out quickly.
- Parents will pull up at the same designated pick up locations as in the morning(see above information regarding drop-off)
- Staff outside the building will radio for the student and the child will be dismissed from the classroom and sent out to their parent's vehicle.

Holidays / Parties / Wish Lists

We will allow treats as we have in the past for celebrations. These items must be store purchased, pre packaged, and you need to discuss with your child's teacher prior to sending items to school. You are not required to send items in. However, if you are wanting to make any classroom supplies donations, please contact your child's teacher to see if there is a need. We do not like to turn down help, but we also want to make good use of items provided.

We will be following recommended practice by the Illinois Department of Public Health and local health department during the school day. Our goal is to limit the spread of COVID amongst our unvaccinated students. We encourage families to follow the same guidelines outside the school day as much as possible. Your efforts provide us our best chance at continuing in-person education.

We appreciate your attention. Please contact me at afavre@litchfieldpanthers.org or your child's teacher if you have questions or concerns related to the above information.

Adam D. Favre, Principal