



206 Jackson Street Lowell, MA 01852

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www.lccps.org

August 31, 2020

Dear LCCPS Community,

I would like to welcome you to the 2020 school year. I would like to thank our many parents for their thoughtful messages of support and faith in the work that we strive to do each day for your children. I am optimistic that we will be able to maintain the high level of education and communication to parents that we have achieved in the past, while maintaining all safety protocols during this pandemic. I hope you all had a nice summer break and are ready for coming back for a great year, whether you are sending your child to us for 2 days a week, or staying remote. We are happy and excited to have renewed our Charter for another five years, and we have a new Accountability Plan which we are excited to use to help us continue to improve every year.

As always, I'd like to thank our dedicated Board of Trustees for their guidance and support over the past year. It is a pleasure to work with them as we continue to strive to be the very best school we can be.

Alicia Raspa, Chair
Pamela LaRocque
Dr. Felicia Sullivan

Elkin Montoya, Vice-Chair
Nicolette Pinnock
Tooch Van

Darren Carmon
Sophan Smith

I am very excited and proud to announce that we achieved a 92% staff retention rate this year, one of the highest in recent history at LCCPS. This means that we had only a few teachers and staff leave the school, which is a key factor in our success, and is part of our Strategic Plan, to maintain high staff retention. We are also proud to share that we have continued to increase the diversity of our teaching faculty in the past three years, growing from 7% non-white teachers in 2017, to 18% today. LCCPS now ranks 44th of all districts in the state for teacher diversity. We can only be as good as our teachers, and our focus is always on how to support them in the work they do with your children.

Our first day of school is planned for September 16, we are starting with a virtual day for all, followed by Group B in the building on Thursday September 17, and Group A in the building on Monday September 21.

We are training our staff in all the safety protocols, and the plan for each day's schedule and all the details we need to focus on to keep everyone safe. As you know we have adopted the Hybrid model, where no more than 50% of the students attend each day, for two days per week. We will continue to do our best to support students while they are home during this challenging time, and we will continue to provide the technology that our students need as much as possible, based on funding.

Our parent listening sessions will now be held over the first weeks of September, and be done online using Google Meets or Zoom. Our teachers will be reaching out to families to set them up. Our teachers have been involved in protocol trainings, how to welcome students back to school during a lengthy and potentially traumatic time, and how to make instructional decisions that will work in a hybrid model.

During the school year, we will be requiring staff and students to be wearing masks for the entire school day. There will be scheduled mask breaks during meal times, water break, snacks, and recess. Please be sure to review this with your child so they understand the importance of mask wearing, as it is the number one way to limit the spread of the virus. We will be doing our best to keep everyone 6 feet apart as much as possible during the school day, and no less than 3 feet apart. As part of the social distancing guidelines, parents will not be permitted to enter the building beyond the main lobby. If you need to reach a teacher, use the Remind App or send an email. You can always contact us via phone as well.

One major challenge this year is dealing with the new transportation policies that Lowell Public Schools has enacted. We will be sharing plans for arrival and dismissal now that only 70 families qualify for bus service, and many children will be needing a ride to and from school. We will be sharing the plan with parents as soon as it is finalized, and we ask parents to adhere to the plans we put in place.

Our facilities and operations staff are working hard to get the building ready and looking good. The brickwork project was completed over the summer, and the new air handlers have been installed. We have plexiglass dividers, updated and safe ventilation, and additional air purifiers in every room. We have hand sanitizer to last for several years. We feel like we are ready for school to finally start again!

On behalf of our hard working and dedicated leadership team, and all of our teachers and staff, whom I would like to thank for all their efforts over these challenging months, we all look forward to seeing you and your children, and we wish you a wonderful rest of your summer.

Robert Gignac
Chief Operating Officer

Carey Reeve-Hildebrant
Chief Academic Officer

Wanda Rivera-Rosado
Director of Student Support

Randy Taylor
Principal, K-4

Stephen Greene
Principal, 5-8

Dr. Cathy Andrews
Assistant Principal, K-8

Deborah Motew
Deputy COO

Jeff Portnoy
Director of Technology

Thank you,



Nick Leonardos
Executive Director

Additionally, enclosed you will find an information packet for your reference and forms that must be returned no later than the first day of school. Forms should be mailed, or dropped off at the main office. Extra copies of mentioned forms can be printed from the LCCPS' website: www.lccps.org

- Emergency Form
- Opt-Out Form: LCCPS and MA Charter Public School
- Annual Directory Disclosure Notice
- Student/Parent/Teacher Compact
- Medical/Health Forms
- Calendar
- School Uniform Policy
- School Supplies List
- Traffic Safety
- Extended Day Program-Community Teamwork Inc.
- Reopening Plan