

November 6, 2020



## Family Newsletter



Check out our *\*now weekly\** newsletter to stay informed about what is going on at LPS!

[Visit our Website](#)

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### Upcoming Events

**Monday, November 8:** Last day for Book Fair

**Wednesday, November 11:** No School, Veteran's Day

**Monday, November 16:** Virtual Family Cooking Night, 6:30 PM

**Tuesday, November 17:** Transition Information Night, 6:00 PM

**Thursday, November 19:** Partners in Education meeting, 8:00 AM

**Wednesday, November 25:** Early Release, 11:00 AM

**Thursday, November 26:** No School, Happy Thanksgiving!

**Friday, November 27:** No School

**Monday, November 30- Friday, December 4:** Post Thanksgiving remote week of classes

**Wednesday, December 2:** Free presentation on Psychological Testing, 6:00 PM

Monday, December 7: In-person school resumes

Wednesday, December 9: Parent Advisory Group meeting, 8:00 AM

Wednesday, December 9: All school Early Release, 11:00 AM

To see the full School Year Calendar, [click here](#)

## A message from Kurt

Happy Friday!

While there is certainly a lot happening around us in our country this week, there are not many updates I have to share with you on this Friday. I do want to let you know that we have updated our official Reopening Plan document with changes marked in red, which you can review [here](#).

As I have shared in previous communications, we are constantly evaluating and working on ways to better improve the educational experience for all of our students. We are hoping to have more concrete information soon on what that may look like. As soon as we have more information, we will let you know. In the meantime, please enjoy the beautiful weather expected this weekend.

*Kurt*

Kurt Moellering, PhD  
Executive Director

## All School News

### General announcements:

#### Book Fair FINAL DAYS

Don't miss our Scholastic Online-Only Book Fair which ends this Monday, November 8. Click here to check out the [Learning Prep On-Line Book Fair](#)

#### Remote Learners

If your student is finding that they are not being let into the zoom by the host after 5-8 minutes, please direct students to instead go into the Google Classroom of that class and see if there is a message or assignment for them to work on.

#### P.I.E. Meeting Link

Please use the following link for the next P.I.E. meeting on Thursday, 11/19:

Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89361346157>  
Meeting ID: 893 6134 6157

#### Lunch

To see what's coming up on the menu, [click here!](#)

### Good Citizen Slip winners

Good Citizen Slips are awarded to students who have been recognized for demonstrating one of LPS' Core Values: Respect, Responsibility, Honesty, Courage and Compassion.

Congratulations to this week's winners!

<b>Good Citizen Slip</b>	Respect	Responsibility	Honesty
	Compassion	Courage	
Name: _____	is a great		
LPS citizen because: _____			
From: _____	Date: _____		
Way to Go!			
		First and Last Name:	_____
			_____
			_____
		Cut out and place in bin	

Middle School: Filipe Santos Dias, Jack McElroy, Ivy Connolly, Katie Carey, Lyla Perduyn & Steven Kelly

High School: Caty Michelson, Kevin MacDonald, Ethan Tropeano, Will Burns, Marina Hatzigiannis & Nate Hollinden

## P.I.E. Executive Committee announcement

The letters of interest are in and we are excited to announce the parent volunteers for the PIE Executive Committee, for the next two years; Stacey Suckerman (high school parent), Rachel Clouse, (continued member and high school parent) and Timothy Flood (high school parent). This year, because of the complications of COVID, fewer parents have been able to volunteer their time. Therefore, we have decided to run a "mini PIE" committee. This group will engage in the same work that PIE usually does, just in the more limited framework of what COVID allows. It will include the two Principals, Jen Thorell and Amy Davis, as LPS representatives as well as the 3 parents mentioned above.

We are incredibly appreciative of the efforts, team work, thoughtfulness and positivity of the outgoing PIE Executive Committee; Nikki McCay, Tracey McElroy, Genie Peterson, and Susan McConathy. They were the pioneers of this committee and have been a pleasure to work with. LPS thanks you for volunteering your time to bring our students and families together for fun events, fundraising and supporting our field trips!

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## Clarification on Governor's order on masks

Please see below for further clarification on the Governor's mask order and its application to schools, which states that schools should continue to follow the DESE guidance:

*The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) has received questions about Governor Baker's Revised Order Requiring Face Coverings in Public Places, COVID-19 Order No. 55, issued on November 2, 2020. In particular, school districts are asking whether and how this Executive Order – which generally requires all persons over the age of 5 years old to wear a mask or cloth face covering when in a public location – applies to schools. In response, DESE provides the following information:*

- *The Executive Order provides a few exceptions based on sector-specific COVID-19 safety rules, including rules issued by DESE. As a result, **public school districts, collaboratives, and approved special education schools in Massachusetts should continue to follow DESE's requirements on masks, as set forth in the Initial Fall School Reopening Guidance on June 25, 2020. Specifically,***
  - *Students in grade 2 and above are required to wear a mask/face covering that covers their nose and mouth.*
  - *Students in kindergarten and grade 1 should be encouraged to wear a mask/face covering.*
  - *Adults, including educators and staff, are required to wear masks/face coverings.*
  - *Exceptions to mask/face covering requirements must be made for those for whom it is not possible due to medical conditions, disability impact, or other health or safety factors.*
  - *Mask breaks should occur throughout the day. Breaks should occur when students can be six feet apart and ideally outside or at least with the windows open.*
  - *Masks/face coverings must be worn by everyone on the bus during school bus transportation.*

*Please see the Initial Fall School Reopening Guidance for more details.*

- *Consistent with the Executive Order, **if a student who is participating in in-person learning is unable to wear a mask or face covering because of a medical or disabling condition, the school may require documentation to verify the condition. Similarly, the school may require documentation from an employee or other worker who is required to wear a face covering and requests an accommodation due to a medical or disabling condition.***

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## Learning plan for the holidays

Last week, an email went out to all families describing a modification to our Learning Plan in the time around the holiday season. To read the entire announcement, [click here](#).

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## Greenhouse updates

\*Viewing permission fixed\* Since Last week we sent a [slideshow](#) outlining what we're doing in the greenhouse, what we're growing, and why we're growing it. There's a short virtual Greenhouse tour at the end of the slideshow. The permissions have been fixed for anyone to view now - Enjoy!

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## Virtual Family Cooking Night!

Please join Lindsay on **Monday, November 16th at 6:30 pm** for a Virtual Cooking Night! On the menu is Butternut Squash and Turkey Chili. Any family interested please RSVP to [lcunniff@learningprep.org](mailto:lcunniff@learningprep.org). The ingredient list and Zoom link will be shared with all participating families



## Free Speaker Series event

Neuropsychological and Psychological Testing: Guidance for parents and professionals  
By: Dr. David Stein, Psy.D., New England Neurodevelopment, LLC

Wednesday, December 2, 2020  
6:00 - 7:15 PM

This presentation will guide families and professionals through the process of neuropsychological and psychological testing from when adults are first concerned about a child, through the testing process itself, and review the expected outcomes from an assessment. The presentation will focus on practical guidance as to how to engage in an assessment and to support children and families using evidence-based methods after testing is completed.

[Click here to RSVP](#)

## Flu vaccine mandate

*Nancy Ishkanian, School Nurse*

The flu vaccine is now required for all children attending Massachusetts schools ages 6 months and up. **The deadline to receive the vaccine is 12/31/2020.** This new requirement is an important step to reduce flu-related illness and the overall impact of respiratory illness during the COVID-19 pandemic. If not already included in your child's immunization records already submitted, please submit your child's proof of vaccination to the school nurses via fax (Fax: 617-527-1514), email ([nishkanian@learningprep.org](mailto:nishkanian@learningprep.org)) or provide us with a hard copy. Thank you!

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You shop. Amazon gives.

## An easy way to raise money for LPS!

Two-thirds of Americans purchase items on Amazon, do you? If yes, please consider using AmazonSmile for future online shopping. AmazonSmile is a separate website operated by Amazon that has the same products and prices as their regular website. The only difference is when you purchase on AmazonSmile .5% of your purchase goes to your favorite nonprofit of choice. That may not seem like much, but it can add up over time when an entire community like Learning Prep School takes advantage of the offer.

On your first visit to AmazonSmile ([smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)), go to Account, Other Programs, and Change Your AmazonSmile Charity to "Little People's School" (LPS's legal name) to sign up!

## Middle School News

### Accessing R.A.P.P. grades

As a reminder, your child is receiving weekly feedback that academic staff complete at the end of each week that you can access via Google Docs. R.A.P.P stands for (Responsibility, Attitude, Participation & Progress).

Counselors have shared your student's R.A.P.P. grade Google folder with you for you to review. If you have not received an email notification about that please be in touch with them with questions.

If you would like further assistance on how to access that folder, please see the attached document with video tutorials that have 4 suggestions based on different devices [Chromebook, Windows laptop, MAC iOS. [You can access that document here.](#)

## High School News

# TRANSITION INFORMATION NIGHT

ZOOM EVENT

**NOVEMBER 17, 2020 6:00PM-8:00PM**

*A panel of professionals will be available to address common transition topics including:*

- *State Agency Services*
- *Guardianship*
- *Public Benefits*
- *IDEA versus ADA*

Please RSVP by November 13<sup>th</sup> to  
Gretchen Petersen at [gpetersen@learningprep.org](mailto:gpetersen@learningprep.org)

## Do you have a work opportunity for our seniors?

The senior Experiential Learning Program (ELP) is looking to expand our remote work opportunities and we would love to collaborate with you! If you or someone you know is affiliated with a company that would be open to working with our students remotely, please let us know. This could include, but is not limited to, data entry, helping to produce mailings, making phone calls and more. Please contact **Abby Heath** at [atheath@learningprep.org](mailto:atheath@learningprep.org) or 617-965-0764 ext. 271, if you have any questions or opportunities you'd like to discuss.

## Other information



### Admissions Virtual Information Sessions

The best way to grow our wonderful community is by telling others! If you know someone who may be looking for a place like Learning Prep for their child, please encourage them to attend one of our weekly, Virtual Information Sessions!

Thursday, 11/12 - 9:30 AM  
Thursday, 11/19 - 8:30 AM



### Show your school spirit!

Here's a great way to show your Panther Pride! Check out the School Store to buy shirts, jackets, hoodies, hats AND MASKS!

[SHOP NOW](#) and enter code PLAY10 at checkout for 10% OFF!

Monday, 11/23- 12:00 PM

RSVPs can be sent to **Korina Martin**,  
Director of Admissions at  
[kmartin@learningprep.org](mailto:kmartin@learningprep.org)

Thank you to our sponsors!

