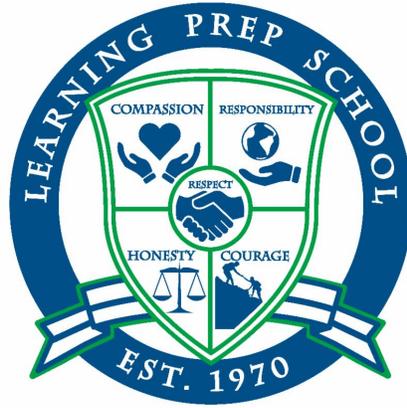


October 16, 2020



## 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

Tuesday, October 20: Parent Advisory Group Meeting, 8:00 AM

Thursday, October 22: Virtual Curriculum Night, 6-7:35 PM

Friday, October 23: Early Dismissal, 11:00 AM

Monday, October 26: Virtual Book Fair begins

Wednesday, October 28: Grandfriends Day, 10:00 AM

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

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

A message from Kurt

Dear parents,

A few brief announcements this week from me:

1. We are moving to a single health attestation instead of the daily ones you have been filling out. Therefore, if your student is on campus for in-person learning, please pay extra attention to the health attestation that comes to you via email on Monday morning. The language will have changed to indicate that you are agreeing to continue to check for symptoms before sending your student to school each day without the need for further attestations. Therefore, this one form coming Monday will eliminate the need for any future health attestation forms for the time being. But please carefully fill out Monday's form.

If your student is remote, you will have to fill this form out before sending your student to school again in-person.

If there are future closings later in this unpredictable year, we may have to revisit this. But, for now, the Monday attestation can be your last one.

Thank you in advance for continuing to follow healthy practices outside of school, for checking your student daily for Covid-19 symptoms, for keeping your student home if they do have symptoms, for following the travel guidelines . . . and, generally, for your partnership, patience, and communication through this.

2. We still need a volunteer or two for our Partners in Education committee. Thanks to those who have volunteered already. This is a great way for you to show your support for LPS. Please be in touch with Gretchen Petersen if you can help (gpetersen@learningprep.org).

3. I welcomed new and returning employees last week, but we are unfortunately saying a few goodbyes this week. Our long term computer teacher, Garry Lauck, recently left LPS, and one of our English teachers, Rose Quinn had her last day on Thursday. While we go through the hiring process, our reading specialist is covering Rose's classes; a combination of staff are covering for Garry's. We are actively interviewing for both positions, and I will let you know when replacements have been hired. Garry and Rose have both made lasting contributions to our school and made positive relationships with many students. We will miss them and wish them the best.

Have a great weekend,  
*Kurt*

**Kurt Moellering, PhD**  
Executive Director

## All School News

### General announcements:

#### Newsletter Format

Note new sections divided by All School, Middle School and High School to help you navigate to the announcements most relevant to you!

#### Lunch

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

### PAG meeting this Tuesday

The next Parent Advisory Group Meeting will be virtual at 8:00 AM. PAG meetings are designed to focus on the state of the school and to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas on the salient and timely focus points of the school, including the health, education, and safety of our students.

To join, use the following Zoom link:

Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86934248806>  
Meeting ID: 869 3424 8806

## Virtual Curriculum Night

Join us for a virtual Curriculum Night on **Thursday, October 22, 2020 at 6:00 PM**. Kurt will begin the evening with a welcome to the community, followed by 10 minute classes via Zoom with the teachers. Classes will end at 7:35 PM. Parents/guardians of seniors are invited to join a Zoom at 7:35 PM with the transition instructors. Detailed information will be sent via email on Oct. 21st with instructions for accessing Zooms as well as a copy of your child's schedule. We look forward to seeing you then!

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### Speaker Series event rescheduled!

We are thrilled to announce the rescheduling of our virtual, 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.

Event link and RSVP info to come!

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## Book Fair

The Scholastic Book Fair is back! While the Fair will be exclusively held online this year, we still plan on making it a fun and joyous experience for our kids. The Online Fair will include games for kids, virtual store walkthroughs and more.

Remember, every dollar you spend will benefit our school directly (25% back in rewards!). Save these dates and view our school's Fair site:

Fair Dates: **Monday, October 26 - Sunday, November 8**

Online Store Link : [Learning Prep On-Line Book Fair](#)

We can't wait to "see" you at the Fair!

*Marla Jacobs (mjacobs@learningprep.org)*

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## Grandfriends Day

As the fall air begins to chill, LPS prepares for our Annual LPS Grand Friends Day, which will be **Wednesday, October 28, 2020 at 10:00 am**. This year our event will be held virtually on ZOOM due to COVID-19.

This day is set aside each fall to honor our grandparents and grandfriends who positively impact our students' lives. If you register for the event, LPS will send you a ZOOM link the day before the event.

Our new Head of School, Kurt Moellering, will welcome our guests, and they will have the opportunity to hear from Kurt and other LPS administrators to see what's new at LPS. This school year has been a memorable one for obvious reasons. We are so proud of our entire community for coming together to make this school year possible. We look forward to sharing some of our stories and thoughts with you so you can see some of the fantastic things happening on campus this fall. Guests will also get to watch a recently produced video about LPS and our community and enjoy a slideshow with images from the fall semester.

### *And if your Grandfriend needs help with Zoom...*

Here is a link to a 1 minute YouTube video explaining how to create a ZOOM account that could be helpful to Grandparents that need to set one up:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4y\\_puMRsjTQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4y_puMRsjTQ)

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## STAR 360 Testing

Learning Prep School utilizes the Star 360 Assessment in combination with student work to assess student achievement in the areas of Reading and Math. Due to COVID-19, we were unable to administer this test in the spring of the 2019-2020 school year, however, administration of the Star 360 Assessment will begin next week. Students will participate during their English and Math classes. **Our testing window is from October 13th through October 23rd** to allow teachers the ability to choose a day within that time period that best suits their class schedule.

To learn more about the test and how it will be administered, [click here](#).

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## How to get involved

There are numerous ways for parents to get involved here at LPS. Partners In Education (PIE) and the Parent Advisory Group (PAG) are parent groups which each meet every other month and welcome your involvement. Below are descriptions and meeting times for each:

**Partners In Education (PIE)** is an association that includes parents and staff of Learning Prep School. The day your child joins Learning Prep School, and/or the day that you became a member of the school staff, you become a member of Partners In Education (PIE) at LPS. The rationale for The Partners In Education (PIE) organization is to provide support for the students and teachers by providing a range of activities and events each year designed to bring the various constituencies of the school together to advance and to celebrate the LPS community. Meeting days and times the 2020-2021 school year:

November 19th – 8:00am to 9:00am  
January 20th – 8:00am to 9:00am  
March 25th – 8:00am to 9:00am  
May 19th – 8:00am to 9:00am

**Parent Advisory Group (PAG)** meetings are designed to focus on the state of the school and to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas on the salient and timely focus points of the school, including the health, education, and safety of our students. Meeting days and times the 2020-2021 school year:

*October 20th – 8:00am to 9:00am*  
December 9th – 8:00am to 9:00am  
February 23rd – 8:00am to 9:00am  
April 29th – 8:00am to 9:00am

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## 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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## 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!

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## Family Directory

The Family Directory is available by student grade, student last name, and by town. As indicated in the "Information to Review" in your Annual Registration Paperwork, all families are included in the Family Directory unless otherwise specified. If you would like to be removed from the Family Directory, please contact Admissions.

To access the LPS Family Directory:

1. Login with your email address and self-created password to your Parent Portal account [Here](#).
2. Under the "Optional" checklist items, you will see the Family Directory with a link that will open a PDF that you can print or download.

Updated versions are made to the Family Directory quarterly. Continue to use the same link on your Parent Portal account as it will always bring you to the most updated version.

## Middle School News

### Middle School Yearbook

The Middle School intends to publish a yearbook for the 2020-2021 school year. Given the variety of learning environments this year, the yearbook committee would love students to send photos from home. Please email Emily at [edaddario@learningprep.org](mailto:edaddario@learningprep.org) with photos at any time! In addition to sending photos, we would love to hear one thing each student is looking forward to about their school year. Please email [edaddario@learningprep.org](mailto:edaddario@learningprep.org) with something you're excited about! Thank you for helping to create memories and make the yearbook special!

Stay tuned for more information coming on the High School Yearbook.

## High School News

### Positive Reinforcement Program

"Good Citizenship Raffle Tickets"

Starting next week, October 19th, HS staff will be able to recognize their students' accomplishments and hard work in a tangible way. Of course, they will still give lots of verbal praise! This will be an additional way for our high school students to feel recognized for being good citizens at Learning Prep. Some students may remember this from LPS middle school.

When a staff member notices a student doing something that may be difficult for them or doing something that shows they are a good LPS citizen, staff will let them know that they're giving them a good citizen slip (GCS) and what they did to earn it. The student's name goes on the slip and it is put in the GCS bucket in their cohort. The slips will be collected about every 2 weeks from all of the cohorts. We will then pull 6 names of students who will be able to choose a \$5 gift card. Gift cards may be from Dunkin, Chipotle, Dollar Store, Target or Amazon.

## Other information

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### 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, 10/22 - 12:00 PM  
Wednesday, 10/29 - 9:00 AM

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



### 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!

Thank you to our sponsors!

