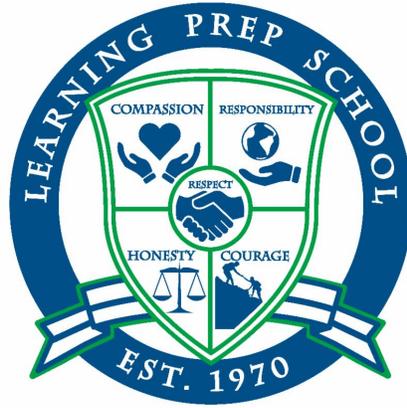


September 11, 2020



Family Newsletter



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

[Visit our Website](#)

Upcoming Events

Monday, September 14: Early Release, 11:00 AM dismissal

Tuesday, September 15: Early Release, 11:00 AM dismissal

Tuesday, September 15: LPS's 50th Anniversary Virtual Celebration, 6:00 PM (details below)

Wednesday, September 16: Full day

Thursday, September 17: Full day

Friday, September 18: Full day

Monday, September 28: No School, Yom Kippur

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

A note from Kurt

Welcome Back!

Kurt Moellering, PhD, Executive Director

Finally! Students in the buildings! It has been so wonderful seeing your kids adjust to this new environment. They are doing really well with all of our new policies and procedures. Some of them have even said they are happy to be back!

Just a few updates from me this week.

First, it has been wonderful having half days so far because it has allowed us to problem solve issues as they develop. As you'd expect with an entirely new model, there have been a number of things to problem solve including some technology issues. I ask for your patience as we work through all these challenges. Do be in touch with your principal if something specifically is not working. But we are aware of many of the technology issues, and are working as quickly as we can to resolve them.

Second, at some point next week we will be asking all families to complete a very brief health report before sending your child to school each day. It will ask you to attest that your child does not have any COVID-19 symptoms before coming to school. We are putting this short, digital form together now, and should be rolling it out soon. In the meantime, do continue to check your student every morning for symptoms before sending them to school.

Third, here's an announcement for those families whose students are only joining us remotely. It is your choice whether or not to have your student join classes remotely or in person, and you can move your student into or out of the in-person environment at any point. However, if you are remote and choose to go in-person, please let us know in advance so we can manage some of the more complicated details. We will need to reconfigure classrooms and schedules and this may take us a few days. Be in touch with your principal early so we can work out a plan with you.

Fourth, a reminder: Monday and Tuesday next week are half days as well. On your student's schedule, they will follow periods 1-4 on Monday and periods 5-9 on Tuesday. Wednesday is our first full day!

Have a wonderful weekend. Thanks for letting us work with your kids!

Principals Update

From Jen Thorell, High School Principal:

Welcome back to school for all of our returning families and those who are new to us! Having the students back in our buildings has been so energizing for us. So far, the students have been so well-behaved and genuinely happy to be back in school.

As we move forward with our learning model, we continue to ask for patience as we learn to "live" our schedules and classes. There will be issues along the way that we are constantly problem-solving. Some we can't anticipate until they come up and we are working as fast as we can to get them resolved. I imagine that it will take a few weeks for us to really iron out all the kinks. However, we are all very committed to making this work!

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call me at ext. 300 or send an email to jthorell@learningprep.org.

From Amy Davis, Middle School Principal:

We did it!!! It was so great to see all the students this week. It has been so nice to see their smiling faces (yes, you can see it in their eyes). I spoke to a guardian on the phone the other day who told me that their student was up all night on Sunday. My brain immediately jumped to "I get it...anxious" but then they said "he was so excited to come to school that he could not sleep!" Winning moment there.

As we ease into this school year we want to thank you for your patience and flexibility while we work out the kinks. We are all experiencing this and learning how this new format will look. These half days have been great in that they have allowed us to problem solve every afternoon to improve for the next day. This will continue to happen. I do have to say how impressed I have been with how flexible the students have been. Really taking all the newness and changes in stride and at times remembering the up and down staircases better than ME (hard to teach an old dog new tricks).

Hope you have a great week. I am sure your students are exhausted - this is a big change of pace for all of us. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call me at ext. 407 or send an email to adavis@learningprep.org.

Schedule for Remote Learners

For our remote learners:

On this coming Monday, we will have periods 1,2,3,4. The times of these are on the schedule and are the correct times.

On this coming Tuesday, the schedule is as follows and the Zoom links for periods 5-9 will work

HS students
5- from 7:50 to 8:33
6 from 8:35- 9:18
8 from 9:20-10:03
9 from 10:05 to 10:48

MS Students
5- from 7:50 to 8:33
7-from 8:35- 9:18
8 from 9:20-10:03
9 from 10:05 to 10:48

Parent Pick-up & Drop-off Procedures

General Notes

- First, thank you for your patience with us while we are trying to get the dismissal right for parents!
- **You no longer need to send a text to notify of your arrival!**
- If someone other than the parent/guardian or designated driver will be picking up a student, an email must be sent to either Dawn or Clara (see contact info below) with the pick-up person's phone number
- No visitors will be allowed in the buildings to use the facilities.

Drop off: **Students will not be allowed on campus before 7:30am**

Pick Up Procedures:

- End of day pick up
 - HS parents will line up behind the high school, next to the yellow house
 - MS parents will line up behind the high school, facing Washington street
 - Students will be called down, exit through their building and proceed to their parent's car
 - Early dismissal
 - Parents must inform the appropriate staff ahead of time if a student is to be dismissed early
 - High School students: Dawn at transportation@learningprep.org
 - Middle School Students: Clara at ccaruso@learningprep.org
 - When the parent arrives, call the appropriate staff that you have arrived:
 - High School students: Dawn Hurley at 617-965-0764 ext. 0
 - Middle School Students: Clara Caruso at 617-965-0764 ext. 411
 - Parents/guardians should park in a Visitor's Spot by the greenhouse in front of the white tent, in the main high school lot, and remain in their car.
 - Students will be called from their class, exit their building and proceed to their parent's car
-

Water bottles

Just a friendly reminder that we encourage all students to bring a water bottle with them to school each day. Thank you!

1st Blue/Green Events!

Susan Smith Powers, Dean of Students

Make sure your children wear their blue/green shirts on **Monday, September 14th!** Cohorts started a team building activity during Period 3 on Thursday. They are naming their cohorts and decorating a bulletin board as a group to show team spirit. This exciting event will give students and staff the opportunity to build relationships within their cohort, get to know each other better and help to develop a

safe (and fun) learning environment. Ask your children the color of their cohort and what was decided for a team name. We will be finishing this fun activity on Monday. More information and pictures to come!

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) or provide us with a hard copy. Thank you!



50th Anniversary Celebration

Alex Magay, Director of Development & Alumni Relations

We were all disappointed when we had to cancel our in-person 50th Anniversary Celebration due to COVID-19 because we love celebrating with you. Although we cannot be together in person, we can be together in spirit!

We would like to cordially invite you to participate in LPS's 50th Anniversary Virtual Celebration on **Tuesday, September 15, 2020, from 6:00 to 6:45 pm** on ZOOM. We will begin

the event by honoring Ted Sharp, our outgoing Executive Director. Then we will officially welcome new Executive Director Kurt Moellering to our community. Kurt started his tenure on July 1, 2020.

Since 1970, LPS has excelled at providing an individualized education to students with complex language-based learning profiles. To commemorate our 50 years of service to the community, NewTV, a local non-profit organization, visited our campus in January to interview students, parents, staff, administrators, and alumni on video. NewTV will broadcast this story to the public later this fall. Together we will premiere this video on ZOOM on September 15th for those who register.

Participants will also get to enjoy a slide show compilation covering our remarkable 50-year history! [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) for free, and we will send you a ZOOM link the day before the event that will allow you to participate. We cant wait to see you on Sept. 15th!

amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

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), go to Account, Other Programs, and Change Your AmazonSmile Charity to sign up!

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

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.



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, 9/16 - 10:00 AM
Wednesday, 9/23 - 12:00 PM
Thursday, 10/1 - 8:30 AM

RSVPs can be sent to **Korina Martin**,
Director of Admissions at
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!