

Greetings Lincoln Heights Family,

We are looking forward to a full week as we head into February. I want to continue to thank everyone for their patience and flexibility as we navigate changes with transportation and Covid protocols. It is greatly appreciated. I only have a few updates this week, please check them out below.

Announcements and updates for the week:

School Updates:

Magnet News: It's time to CELEBRATE!! This past week we found out Lincoln Heights has been recognized as a 2022 Magnet School of Distinction. This is a great honor, and it speaks to the work the staff, students, and community is doing to make our school a great place to be. We will be formally recognized at the 2022 Magnet Schools of America National Conference in April.

COVID Testing: Our school, in partnership with MAKO Medical, will begin offering weekly, on-campus COVID-19 testing for students and staff. COVID-19 testing is an effective way to reduce transmission, especially when layered with other measures.

We strongly recommend all families participate in this free program. Participation helps safeguard the entire school community and gives you information to help you keep your children healthy.

Participation in the program is voluntary. A parent or guardian must register any K-12 student under 18 years old in order for a COVID-19 test to be administered. Pre-K students who attend school within K-12 school buildings are eligible for the state-approved vendor testing with Mako. However, Pre-K students who attend school outside of K-12 school buildings are not eligible for the state-approved vendor testing with Mako.

The testing is simple: Trained MAKO Medical staff quickly and gently swab students' noses. They place all the swabs in a single tube (that's the pooling step). The samples in that tube are then tested as a single sample, using one test. If a positive test is received, everyone in the "pool" will return to school the next day to take another test to identify the person who tested positive for COVID-19. [Learn more about pooled testing.](#)

[Register now. >](#)

Our testing will occur on Wednesday's between 11:45-12:45. They will begin this week on February 2nd.

Thank you for helping to keep our school community safe and healthy.

HEALTH AND SAFETY UPDATES (For any illness)

Stay Safe! Stay Home When Sick (Reminder): As a reminder, please make sure you have reviewed the district's [Safe Return to School Plan](#) to ensure the health and safety of all our students, staff, and school community. Also, review the [When to Return](#) information in the event you experience **any illness, diagnosis, or exposure**. If your child is sick or experiencing any illness, please keep them home. We must follow the 3 pathways set by WCPSS for them to return to school.

You may send any documents to DMeadors@wcpss.net . Please do not hesitate to call the front office if you have any questions. We are happy to help!

PTA Updates:

Join the LHECMES PTA!: The LHECMES PTA is accepting new members. Please consider [joining](#).

Spirit Rock – Did you know you can now celebrate a special occasion by renting out the Spirit Rock in front of the school. The PTA has organized a fundraising campaign for the Spirit Rock. Check it out on MemberHub. <https://app.memberhub.gives/lhesspiritrock>

Educationally,

Scott Gaitan, Principal