

Greetings Lincoln Heights Family,

We are fast approaching our first day of school which will be on Monday August 23rd, and we continue to be excited to begin the 21-22 school year with you. This is Mr. Gaitan, your proud principal, and I am excited about our journey together this year. To keep you informed and connected to our school community, we will provide Weekly Messages on Sunday evenings via voicemail, email, and a text message link to our [Principal's Messages](#) page located on our website. Our voicemails will be approximately 2 minutes in length to provide general weekly updates. The weekly emails and website page will contain specific details, links to documents, and upcoming events so that you are able to refer to them at any time. Please review these items each week as we want to ensure you are fully informed.

Let's get into a few announcements and updates for the week:

Upcoming Dates:

Kindergarten Orientation: The kindergarten team would like to invite rising kindergarten students to join us on Tuesday August 17th from 5-6pm to an informational meeting on all things kindergarten. At this meeting the team will share a preview of the kindergarten day, expectations, lunch, and transportation. We will be maintaining social distancing during the evening and utilizing the gym and café to accommodate families. We are asking that if possible, limit family members to just the student and parents/guardians to help us keep everyone safe. In addition, masks are required indoors while on campus.

Kindergarten Orientation Flyer

Meet the Teacher 1st-5th Grade Students: On Thursday August 19th we will host 1st-5th grade students to meet their classroom teacher. In an effort to maintain social distancing we are asking for families to come at the assigned times if possible. These times are 3:00-4:00pm for students with last name starting with M-Z and 4:00-5:00pm for students with last names starting with A-L. Masks are required indoors while on campus.

Meet the Teacher Flyer

Other Updates:

Safe Return to School Plan (COVID-19 Guidelines): It is our priority to ensure your well-being, health, and safety. Therefore, before school begins, please make sure you have reviewed the [Safe Return to School Plan](#) to ensure the health and safety of our students, staff, and school community.

LHECMES Bus Transportation Routes: Bus stop information can be found on our homepage under Parents → Transportation → [Bus Routes](#). Bus riders will be provided Bus Tags to be attached to their book bags, K-1 students will have red tags and 2-5 students will have yellow tags.

PTA Updates:

Join the LHECMES PTA! The LHECMES PTA is accepting new members. Please consider joining.

Harris Teeter VIC Card Link: It's THAT time again! It's time to "Re-Link" your Harris Teeter VIC card for the 2021-22 school year. This is something we need to do each school year to earn valuable funds for our school just by going our regular shopping.

Re-linking is easy! Just ask the cashier to link your card to code # 1454 (LHES PTA) the next time you're checking out.

Reminders:

Free School Meals for the Entire 2021-2022 School Year (Reminder): We have received information that Breakfast, and Lunch, will be available at no cost to all students for the 2021 – 2022 school year. While WCPSS may be able to offer free meals to all students, it is very important for eligible parents to complete a meal benefits application because this data enables schools to obtain funding to provide other important educational resources to benefit our students. Other benefits that are issued directly to families that have applied and are eligible for meal benefits may also be available (such as the P-EBT cash benefit). Parents can complete a meal benefits application online at <https://www.myschoolapps.com/>. Paper applications also are available at all schools. More information can be found at [WCPSS Free & Reduced Meals](#).

That is all I have for you. Make it a great last week of Summer, and we look forward to seeing you soon!

Sincerely,