



Dates to Remember

- Sept 17 - Back to School Night
- Oct 1 & 2 - No School

SEPTEMBER 2020

Dear Families,

September 16, 2020

On behalf of the LOA staff, we would like to say **thank you** for your partnership over the last two weeks. We knew starting out our new online academy would require a lot of flexibility and learning from everyone. All of you have been so kind and helpful as we have definitely needed to “**work out the kinks**”!

We are moving into the seventh day of school with 261 students K-8. Everyone is showing up ready to engage and learn online. Sessions that are missed live are found recorded on teacher's Google classrooms. After spending more time with the teachers assigned to LOA, I can say with confidence that your children are all placed in good care with a staff that is committed to supporting your kids with a wonderful school year. **Please welcome the following teachers as the 2020-21 staff!**

Position	Name
Administrator	Patty Morrison
Grade K / 1	Kendal Sterling
Grade 1 / 2	Kayla Maloney
Grade 2 / 3	Laura Foster
Grade 4	Sarah Windisch
Grade 5	Denise Sayers
Grade 6	Lindsay Hutson
Grade 7 / 8 All subjects	Lynn Atzet

*This week, the teachers have each identified any **remaining books or materials** they would like your children to have. More information will be shared about when and where to pick these up. We are trying to limit the number of “trips” you make for books and materials. All of us at LOA would like to thank your home school staff for their partnership and care that has helped create a smooth start for the children and us!*

Please note that this Thursday, September 17 is LOA Back to School Night. A special welcome from each staff member has been created and will be shared at your teacher’s google classroom and on our webpage found [here](#). We recognize teachers have each shared their schedules, procedures, and much more already, but wanted our students to have a BTS Night like everyone else! Please take a moment to sit as a family and watch the introductions and discuss school and how your child is feeling so far.

See **additional information** in the newsletter below including things to consider about assessments given in the home, extra support, counseling services, and technology support.

Sincerely,
Patty Morrison



ASSESSMENTS and Extra Support When Learning is Difficult

All students in the district are completing fall assessments. We try to spread these out over the first few weeks so students have time for learning and fun, as well.

Please support your child by encouraging them to do their best. Please be aware that the math assessment we offer our kids is progressive in skills. It will give harder questions as your child progresses. Your child should not be sitting and working for hours on this assessment.

These tests are not “graded” and we hope you will not feel the need to help your child. We truly want a clear picture of their strengths and weaknesses! Assessments in the fall for reading (ELA) and math help us determine core needs children have to work on throughout the year.

We are working with your child’s home school staff to determine how to provide extra support when needed. Your child’s teacher at LOA will communicate everything you will need to know after our fall assessments are completed.

K-3 students are completing the IRI (Idaho Reading Indicator) within the next two weeks. This assessment gives us a good idea of a student's strengths and weaknesses in reading. A reading plan is developed for any students who score a "2" or a "3". We will send more information home to every K-3 parent to share their skill level on this test and create a plan with your input, if needed.

As we review all assessments, your child's teacher will share with you a schedule that may include some more live sessions for small group work, individual learning pathways on some of our online programs, and other targeted, recorded sessions for extra learning.

We will notify parents if students in middle school show a need for advanced math or Algebra. We are working on finalizing their "schedules", required credits, and everything they need to be right on track for their future grades.

Parent Input and Questions



Thank you for reaching out to your child's teacher with questions about all things to do with online learning. Our teachers are already quite skilled with online teaching, but there is always more to learn. If your child is struggling with not only a subject area, but even the "how tos" of learning online, please let their teacher know. Each of them is trying very hard to "see" each student, hear all voices, and offer caring feedback.

If you haven't yet, please be sure to offer your input on their **family survey** they are providing. The teachers are learning so much from your input and this information is deepening their understanding of your child and what helps them thrive.

Social and Emotional Skillwork, Counseling, and School Based Therapy

We are developing a schedule for visits from a Lakeland school counselor for our students to gain social emotional skills throughout the school year.

Also, if your family finds a need for your child to receive school based therapy through Heritage Health, please contact principal, Patty Morrison, (pmorrison@lakeland272.org) and she will align you with one of our therapists. Therapy can be provided through Teleheath--a remote, private way for interactions between your child and a therapist.



Tech Problems?

*If you have a district
Chromebook and are
experiencing problems you
need assistance with,
please contact our
technology department at
helpdesk@lakeland272.org*