

LAPHAM ELEMENTARY



2021-2022 School Supplement to the District Policy Guide

SCHOOL OVERVIEW

Welcome to Lapham Elementary School!

Dear Lapham Families,

I would like to welcome each of you to the Lapham family. For those of you that have been at Lapham, welcome back, and for those of you who are new to Lapham, we are so glad you are joining us.

Lapham is located on the Isthmus and serves students in 4K through second grade. We also provide early childhood services for students on the east side.

This school year will mark a return to in person learning at Lapham and we are excited to see every Lapham learner. Last year was a challenging year and this year of reentry will also provide opportunities for us to reflect on what we have experienced and how we can create a community moving forward. We are excited to continue to collaborate and partner with each one of you to make learning engaging and rigorous for each of our students. Our staff is committed to providing experiences that prepare our students to be successful in our community, college or the career of their choice.

The Lapham Equity Vision states: “ At Lapham we affirm the identities and cultures of all to cultivate a deep sense of belonging. We are committed to promoting anti-racist practices in order to empower students.” We truly believe and are committed to this as we partner with each of you.

Please reach out via email, phone, or through Zoom to introduce yourself or connect with me. On behalf of the Lapham staff, we welcome you to the 2021-2022 school year.

Yours in Education,

Cathy Prozanski

Principal

School mission statement

Lapham Elementary is a deeply committed and child-centered learning community with a diverse population. We are striving to maintain a safe environment that encourages and supports learning, safety, respect, being a good friend and having fun.

Telephone

OFFICE: (608) 204-4140

FAX: (608) 204-0447

ATTENDANCE / SAFE ARRIVAL: (608) 204-4148

Address

1045 E. Dayton St.
Madison, WI 53703

Web address

<https://lapham.madison.k12.wi.us>

<facebook.com/MMSDLapham>

School Hours

Mondays 7:50 a.m. - 1:15 p.m. (Early release)

Tuesdays-Fridays 7:50 a.m. - 2:47 p.m.

About our school

Our curriculum is both rigorous and challenging and will continue to be so with the alignment of the Common Core State Standards. Through these standards, we are charged with the responsibility of ensuring that each child is prepared for college, career, and the community by the time he/she completes high school. The process begins in elementary school where our goal is to teach students to read and think critically, solve problems, and communicate effectively (both orally and in print), and to utilize technology in relevant ways.

Lapham is a partner school with Marquette Elementary, a unique arrangement in that children from two school attendance areas join for pre-kindergarten through second grades at Lapham and third through fifth grades at Marquette. Both of our schools are supported by the Lapham-Marquette Parent Teacher Group (PTG). This group of committed families meets monthly to provide leadership and community support to help make our schools successful. We have many parent volunteers who work with staff and students in our schools as well as students from UW and Edgewood College who work with our students and learn from our staff.

Lapham Elementary also shares building space with Capital High, an alternative high school program. While our school schedules are different, students from Capital High do both volunteer work and service learning for our school. We have a meaningful partnership with both staff and students. We refer to ourselves as Two Schools, One Community and are committed to our partnership with Capital High.

In addition to strong academics, we have fun events that involve our students and families: The Lapham Outdoor Classroom and Community Garden with annual School-wide Harvest, Fine

Arts Night, and the annual Holiday Bruncheon. These are just some of many events held at our school that you are encouraged to attend! We also have a strong partnership with Breathe for Change which supports our use of mindfulness practices that support social emotional skill development.

School calendar

Lapham's school calendar is updated monthly and available online or via our monthly school newsletter, the Lapham Lookout, which is sent home via email.

Key Policies and Guidelines

Behavior

Lapham uses a Positive Behavior Support model that emphasizes expectations through our Five Finger Promise. This includes: I am safe, I am a learner, I am a good friend, I am respectful and I have fun. We consistently support social emotional learning through relationship building and emphasis themes of learning each month that focus on social emotional learning standards connected to the Second Step curriculum.

Childcare/after-school information

Red Caboose provides after school care. To contact them, use the following:
School Age Program Director at 251-5432 or school.age@redcaboose daycare.org

Family engagement

We strive for our school community to be one where families feel welcomed, valued, and connected in meaningful ways that positively impact the education of our students. Throughout the school year we plan a variety of family friendly activities and encourage you to be an active member in our school community!

Field trips

Field trips are scheduled by individual grade levels/classrooms with notices and details sent in advance of any upcoming trip.

Picking up your child during the school day

To ensure the safety of your child, please send a note in advance to your child's teacher or the office. **We require parents to come into our office and sign out the student.** We will call the classroom to have the student sent down to the office to meet the parents. Please remember anyone picking up a student must be authorized and listed in Infinite Campus. Once school is in session, no non-school staff (including parents) will be allowed to go to a classroom unaccompanied and pick up a child.

Safety & Security

Families play a key role in school safety. At lapham.mmsd.org/safety, you can read about school-specific resources for helping keep students safe. You'll find more information on district safety and security, including how we communicate with you in an emergency, at mmsd.org/safety.

School improvement planning

At Lapham, we are continuously striving to improve and grow as a school community. To assist us in doing that, a School Improvement Plan is developed each year that identifies goals in the areas of Content, School Culture and Climate, Instructional Practice, Well Rounded Access and Participation, School Structure and Family and Community Engagement.

We are focused on supporting student learning through a belief of equity and excellence for all students. We are striving to accomplish this by using the Great Teaching Matters Framework that identifies:

- Setting high expectations for all students
- Acknowledging students through the use of affirming and clarifying language
- Developing a student's ability to take ownership of his/her learning
- Building meaningful relationships with students and families
- Monitoring student progress and providing feedback
- Creating a safe space that deepens our understanding of racial and cultural identity while also building a sense of community

School support services

Amber Cody, Social Worker 204-4161

Mary Spielbauer, Nurse 204-4146

Kristen Richgels, School Psychologist, 204-4183

Barbara Corsi, Program Support Teacher 204-4161

Student personal property

Students are encouraged to leave personal property such as toys and especially electronic devices (iPod, cell phone, etc.) at home. Having non-essential items at school interferes with learning and are at risk to be lost/misplaced.

Supervision of building / grounds

There is no playground supervision before school. Please do not drop off your child prior to 7:30 a.m. as there is no supervision. All students can enter the building beginning at 7:30 a.m.

Traffic safety, parking lot, pick up/drop off information

Parking is a challenge around Lapham, and student safety is our number one concern. To assist us with maintaining safety, please follow these guidelines:

- The main entrance to the building is Door 2, on Dayton Street. Door 2 is the entrance closest to the playground.
- The parking lot on Mifflin Street is for buses only, **there is no parking or drop off in the lot.**
- Ingersoll is for DROP OFF ONLY and no parking is allowed in the circle drive.
- If you need to park, please do so on Dayton Street, Ingersoll Street or Mifflin Street.

Find more information in the district policy guide, found at www.mmsd.org/policy-guide.