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# LINTON MIDDLE SCHOOL DECEMBER NEWSLETTER 2023



## Winter Break

Our last day before winter break is Friday, December 22, 2023. **The district is CLOSED beginning Saturday, December 23 until Tuesday, January 2, 2024** Our first day back is Wednesday, January 3, 2024. I hope all our families have a restful break full of happiness and family love.



## Spirit Week

**Linton's Spirit week to celebrate the winter break is listed below. All clothes choices must follow school rules and be school appropriate.**

**Monday, December 18 – Ugly Sweater Day**

**Tuesday, December 19 – Favorite Sports Day**

**Wednesday, December 20 – Beach Day**

**Thursday, December 21 – Celebrity Day**

**Friday, December 22 – Festive Pajama Day**



## FID (Flex Instruction Day) Information

Just a reminder that the Penn Hills School District does not have snow days anymore. We have Flex Instruction Days. If we cannot have school in the building the district will call a FID Day. The whole district is on the same schedule using student devices. Students will join Teams and have class with their teachers online. The schedule is below for the entire district. Each student should have brought home an FID packet. This packet will only be used IF there is no electricity or Wi-Fi in your area during a FID Day and your child cannot get on Teams. You

will need to contact the school by phone 412-793-7000 ext. 6110 or 6111. You can also email if you are able to. The work must be brought into school the next school day and given to your child's teachers to be graded.

FID Day online Schedule:

**Modified Student Schedules: K-12**

**Attendance:** Students must participate and be on each Teams meet  
Guardians should also submit a formal note if a student is eligible for an  
excused absence.

\*If Power or Internet is an issue call students' school:

Penn Hills Elementary call 412-793-7000 ext. 7113, ext. 7102, or ext. 7103

Linton Middle School call 412-793-7000 ext. 6124, ext. 6110, or ext. 6111

Penn Hills High School call 412-793-7000 ext. 5284, ext. 5207, ext. 5208, ext.  
5209

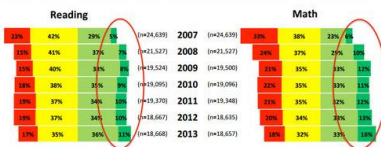
1	10:00-10:30	<p><b>Students in Grades K-12 will follow their daily course schedules. Be sure to be at each meeting with your teachers.</b></p> <p>*Prep Period should be deemed as Office Hours and Staff should be available for parent and students' meetings, professional learning, grade level meetings, staff meetings, etc. Each teacher will communicate to students how best to communicate i.e.: Teams Meet or email as an example.</p>
2	10:30-11:00	
3	11:00-11:30	
4	11:30-12:00	
Lunch	12:00-1:00	
5	1:00-1:30	
6	1:30-2:00	
7	2:00-2:30	
8	2:30-3:00	



## Health Concerns (Vaping)

We have attached some information about the concerns of vaping to the email along with this newsletter. This school year we have seen and rise in the number of vape incidents occurring at Linton. We are working with our SAP Liaison and Healthy Schools to have meetings with students and families when there is a vape found. This is more of a concern for the health and safety of all our students. The information attached is to assist families to have discussions about the health issues associated with nicotine and vaping.

DCPS has the highest rates of advanced students ever.



## STAR and CDT Testing Information

PSSA Student/Parent reports were sent home with students during the last week of September. There was a letter accompanying the reports from the Pennsylvania Secretary of Education. So far this school year we have completed our Beginning of the Year testing, and one round of progress monitoring testing. Coming up when we return from winter break, our Middle of the Year assessments will be given between January 3<sup>rd</sup> and January 24<sup>th</sup> in Math, Science and English Language Arts.



## PTA Information

The PTA is an integral part of Linton Middle School. Everything outside of classroom education can only happen with the PTA - assemblies, teacher appreciation week, book fair, etc. These events are only possible because of volunteers and fundraisers we do throughout the year.

The next PTA meeting is January 18<sup>th</sup> in room 133 beginning at 6PM.

Questions? Email: [LintonMiddleSchoolPTA@gmail.com](mailto:LintonMiddleSchoolPTA@gmail.com)

Also Below is the Box Tops information:

Hey!

Join me in earning cash for our school by using the Box Tops app. It's an easy way to make a difference. All you have to do is buy Box Tops participating products (like Cheerios!) and scan your grocery receipt. Box Tops are worth \$.10 each and they add up fast! Twice a year, our school receives a check to help pay for whatever we need - equipment, supplies or experiences the kids love!

Use this referral code MU3P7WCL when you sign up and you'll get 20 Bonus Box Tops when you scan your first receipt now through 05/31/2024, while supplies last! Download the Box Tops for Education app here: [https://btfe.smart.link/c2jjdifkw?referral\\_code=MU3P7WCL](https://btfe.smart.link/c2jjdifkw?referral_code=MU3P7WCL)



## Word Gen Initiative

This year Linton will continue the Word Gen Initiative. Every 5-day week (we do not have new words on short weeks) the whole building introduces 5 new vocabulary words to our students. It started at the beginning of the year. All adults get the list every week and they are displayed in the cafeteria, the office and in most classrooms. The schedule is as follows for lessons in each core subject:

Mondays – ELA intro to all 5 words

Tuesdays – Math lesson using the words

Wednesdays – Science lesson using all 5 words

Thursdays - Debate in Social Studies classes using all 5 words

Fridays – Argumentative writing in ELA class using all 5 words.

The extracurricular classes also display and use the words for that week. We then use the words throughout the year. This year we're working on list 2.



## Linton's Advisory Program

**Advisory Program:** Linton Middle School will run an advisory program this school year. Each student will choose an adult advisor they will work with during their time at Linton Middle School. The advisor groups will meet once a month during a special schedule. They will discuss many issues with a small group to help each student navigate their years at Linton with a positive adult working closely with them. If your child was a student here last year, they already have their advisor. Our next Advisory meeting is Wednesday, November 29<sup>th</sup>.



## Student drop-off (Start of the School Day)

The safety and security of our students and staff is of utmost importance to us. We have put in place a morning routine that we believe helps to keep everyone safe. Parents/Guardians can drop off students on the left side of the building (gym side) at the second set of exterior doors, **S2**. This is the safest place to drop off your child(ren). Please do not pull into parking spots when dropping off your child(ren). There are three rows for parents to enter when they arrive at the school. Parents are encouraged to use **Maple Lo Street** to enter the property during morning drop-off for the safety of all students and to avoid bus traffic. **Students cannot enter the building until 7:45AM as there is no adult supervision available until 7:45AM. The doors will be open 7:45AM to 7:55AM**



**LINTON MIDDLE SCHOOL has adopted a mission statement:**

The mission of Linton Middle School is to empower our students and community to achieve a positive and all-inclusive educational experience in a welcoming and safe environment. We endeavor to provide and promote the necessary skills to foster lifelong learning habits, to be creative thinkers, and to be able to lead and succeed in the ever-changing world.

This is our goal as the educators that work at Linton Middle School.



## A Reminder for Synchronous Learners.

A reminder that student cameras are to be on as well as microphones to allow for interactions between students in the class both online and in the classroom, if applicable. If you are having issues, please contact your child's teacher or any one of the people listed at the end of this newsletter. **The next opportunity to change your child's educational choice is by the end of the nine weeks, January 11, 2024. I will send out a notice when we return from winter break.**



### Educational Choice 2023-2024 School Year

Synchronous (virtual) learning is closed for the second nine weeks. There will be information going out when we return from Winter Break (January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024).

**Please remember that pictures or videotaping is not permitted during any class meetings.**

CONTACT INFORMATION

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