

# LIGHTFOOT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Home Of The Timberwolves!



August 18, 2024

Dear Timberwolf Families,

We had a PAWSitive first full week of school. Together we have a VISION to ensure our students have the content knowledge and skills they need for college and career opportunities. We look forward to seeing all our Timberwolves on Back to School Game Night, Thursday, August 22, 2024, from 6:00-7:30 PM! Visit your student's grade level classrooms to learn academic games to play with your student at home to reinforce what they are learning at school. Kona Ice will be available for purchase, supporting our PTA.

The staff here at LES desires to cultivate a positive environment through our Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS). Students are acknowledged at the classroom level as well as schoolwide and on the bus. Students are recognized for "Practicing RESPECT, Accepting RESPONSIBILITY, While we Stay SAFE." Ask your child if he/she knows these rules and if he/she has been recognized through a PAWSitive Ticket or PAWSitive Office referral. Students are also recognized for their attendance, earning classroom recognition and awards as well as individual for perfect attendance for each quarter and the entire year. Students and families are also recognized for efforts to improve attendance.

The [OCPS attendance policy](#) has changed. Student attendance is a cooperative effort and the School Board involves parents and students in accepting the responsibility for good attendance. Parents of students who are absent must provide a valid note stating the reason for the absence **upon return to school**. If (1) a student accrues a total of three consecutive absences or more than five absences total, for the school year, and (2) reasonable efforts to notify the parent of the absences have failed, then the Principal, or Principal's designee shall make a reasonable effort to ensure that direct contact is made with the parent in person through telephone conversation, or through the use of other communication devices to obtain an explanation for the student's absence and to explain to the parent the consequences of continued nonattendance. Upon the sixth absence the Principal or Principal's designee will require an in-person or over the phone meeting with the parent or guardian and student to create a plan for improving the student's attendance. If a school attendance plan has been adopted and the pupil is absent for more than one additional day after five absences, a documented reasonable effort of contact by the school Principal or Principal's designee with the student's parent/guardian will be made to conference with the pupil, the pupil's parent and school personnel by either telephone, email, postal mail, school meeting or home visit. Such conference may include the attendance officer and other community service providers to resolve issues related to the pupil's nonattendance.

A few reminders:

As required by Virginia Code and OCPS Policies, LES will conduct a code Red Drill in conjunction with the Orange County Sheriff's Office within the first 20 days of school. A second drill will be conducted after the first 30 days and another at the beginning of the second semester.

Stay PAWSitive Timberwolves!

Sincerely,

Merilee R. Grubb  
Principal

Important upcoming dates:

8/21/24 VALLS window opens for Third Grade

8/22/24 Gifted information Session for parents of 3rd grade gifted students and parents of gifted students new to LES

8/22/24 Back to School Night 6:00-7:30

8/23/24 Hat Day for \$1 to support PTA

8/30/24-9/2/24 Student & Staff Holiday

9/11/24 Interims go home

9/19/24 Student Early Dismissal Day for Parent/Teacher Conferences

9/20/24 No School - Parent/Teacher Conferences in AM

9/26/24 Fall Picture Day