



Lincoln Elementary School

Gettysburg Area School District

Dr. Matthew E. McFarland Sr.
Principal

August 30, 2024

Dear Lincoln Parents & Guardians,

I hope the start of yet another school year has greeted you and your family fondly. I look forward to working with you and your family as we continue to make Lincoln Elementary the best place for our kids to learn and grow. We appreciate your continued support!!!

A portion of the beginning of our school year has and will continue to be dedicated to collecting student data. As a result, we began organizing classroom instructional groups to focus more precisely on students' strengths and needs. Determining these strengths and needs was and will continue to be accomplished through administering an assortment of short assessments. Our goal is to provide each student with individualized instruction based on their unique needs. For some students this may involve some time working with a teacher other than their classroom teacher for a small portion of the day. This additional assistance may be provided by Mrs. Sherry Becker, Mrs. Angela Suehr, Mrs. Lisa Gray, Mrs. Shannon Jones, Mrs. Dee Dee Becker, Mrs. Andrea Sneeringer, Ms. Jessica Gillingham, Mrs. Justina Chamberlin, Mrs. Karlene Gutierrez, or Mrs. Julie Henry. This time spent with another teacher is designed to help enhance your child's learning.

Thank you for all the time you spend working with your child and all you do to help your child to become a life-long learner. Should you have any questions regarding our approach or the additional support that we provide, please do not hesitate to call me at 717-334-6254, option 4, extension 7150.

We Care What You Think

At Lincoln Elementary School we care what you think. Please visit the link below as many times as you would like and answer any question(s) that apply. Tell us your thoughts or anything that you think is important for us to know.

[We Care What You Think](#)

Important Dates

September:

- ✓ 2nd – No School for Students
- ✓ 4th – PTO Meeting; 515 PM, Lincoln Cafe
- ✓ 20th - No School for Students
- ✓ 23rd-27th - Ag Lab visits Lincoln Elementary
- ✓ 27th – Lincoln Shirt Day



Important Announcements/Reminders

✓ Twitter:

- Do you want to see more of the GREAT things students are doing @ Lincoln.

Follow us on Twitter: [@GASD_McFarland](https://twitter.com/GASD_McFarland)

Download the app on your phone or bookmark it on your computer!

✓ We have water bottle fillers in our hallways!! We encourage families to send water bottles with students each day. Please ensure that only water is sent.

✓ Student Day

- 8:20 – Doors open
- 8:40 – Late bell
- 3:10 – Dismissal begins

✓ Students should never have any type of over the counter or prescription medicine in their possession on school property.

✓ If a student brings an electronic/communicable device to school, it needs to stay in their bookbag and powered down.

✓ If your child is eating breakfast, please do your best to have them at school by 8:20am.

✓ If your child will be going home from school a different way than normal, a note must be sent in with the student or a parent/guardian must call the school prior to 2:30pm.

✓ Student Drop Off

■ Please be cautious as you are dropping off your child in the morning for school. Here are some helpful guidelines to ensure that all of our students and families are able to arrive at school safely.

- When dropping off your child/children stay in one lane using the curb closest to the school.
- Utilize the entire curb for drop off. If you are the first/only car pull the entire way up past the school to make room for others behind you.
- Do not pass other vehicles for any reason.
- Please be sure not to block the crosswalk with your vehicle.
- Look prior to moving your vehicle again after drop off.
- Do not park in handicap parking spots without appropriate placards displayed.
- When using our drop off lane in the morning, please stay in your car while dropping off your child/children.
- Do not use the parking lot as a drop off lane.
- If you prefer to get out of your car in the morning, we encourage you to park in the lot across from our doors and walk your child/children to our doors.

- It is our goal to ensure that each student arrives safely to school. We appreciate your help with this.

✓ Gettysburg Area School District Police Department

■ We are entering year three of building our GASD Police Department. Officer Weaver and Officer Carbaugh are assigned to our school. They assist us with many procedures and are heavily involved in evaluating and improving our practices.

✓ Lincoln Elementary PTO

■ Lincoln Elementary PTO - Our PTO is GROWING and we want YOU to be a part of this GREAT organization. Our PTO is very important to our students, staff, and community as it supports and provides resources to enhance the experiences provided at Lincoln Elementary. If you are interested in joining our team please contact our PTO @ Lincoln.PTO@outlook.com. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, September 4th at 5:15pm in the Lincoln Cafe. We look forward to seeing you there!



✓ **Attendance Procedures**

■ If a student is absent from school for any reason, a written explanation signed by a parent/guardian stating the reason for the absence must be submitted to the office. The excuse must be received by the office within three (3) school days of the absence. If a physician treated the student, the excuse should be written by the physician. Four (4) or more consecutive absences can be excused only with a note from the physician. Any student with ten (10) accumulated absences will be placed on a physician's note.

✓ **Nurse**

■ Please return the Health Survey (blue form) to the nursing office for your student(s) as soon as possible. This allows the nurse to care for your child's medical needs during the school day and provides information regarding health issues the nurse/staff need to be aware of.

■ Health Hero flu vaccination forms are due by Monday, September 16 th for those choosing to have their child receive the flu vaccine at school. Flu vaccines will be administered on Tuesday, September 24th .

■ If you have a student in Kindergarten, 3rd or 5th grade, they are mandated by the state to receive a dental screening this school year. All forms must be returned by Monday, September 30th. If a dental form is not received, a screening will be performed at school on Wednesday, October 4th by our school dentist.

■ Family First Health Dental Outreach Program forms were sent home offering a preventative dental program for students. If you would like your child to be included in these services please return forms by Monday, September 30th .

■ If your child requires an inhaler, EpiPen, or medication for school, please be sure to get these items to the nursing office. Medications should be brought to the nursing office by a parent or guardian, and not sent to school with your child. Items must be in the original container and accompanied by a medication order from the physician for administration. Here is link to the medication administration form required:

■ https://resources.finalsite.net/images/v1700126951/gettysburgk12paus/ncp9eflrs4nelsrrfiwy/med_permission.pdf

■ Please provide an extra set of clothing for your student(s) to keep in their locker in the event their clothing becomes soiled during the school day. There is a limited amount of clothing available in the health room. If clothing items are borrowed from the health room, please launder and return promptly.

■ Water bottles – Please send a water bottle with your student daily. It is important that the water bottle is kept clean and filled with fresh water for use each day.

■ The school nurse, Mrs. Sites can be reached at ext. 7127, or at ksites@gasd-pa.org if you have any questions or concerns.

✓ **Family Navigators**

■ Please visit the below link to access information from our family navigator

■ https://docs.google.com/document/d/1SxevA_ajtkoutBjsjBMl33wx8MI_QdZyNdONYHUCwE/edit

✓ **Box Tops for Education**

■ Please use the link below to download the Box Tops for Education App. Using this app while purchasing your groceries can help donate money towards our school. This money helps provide funds for various types of fun events for our kids!

■ <https://www.boxtops4education.com/s/get-the-app>

✓ **The Warrior Way**

■ Be Here: Every Day, On-Time

■ Be Involved: Participate, Engage, All In



GETTYSBURG AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

A Great Place To Learn

- Be Committed: Responsible; Safe Choices; Ownership for Actions and Learning
- Be Kind: Show Respect and Include Others
- Our students are spending their first few weeks learning about the Warrior Way and what it looks like to follow the Warrior Way in various locations on our campus.
- Students at Lincoln Elementary receive Warrior Way tickets for following the Warrior Way. The recipients of Warrior Way tickets are recognized each morning on our announcements. Typically these are sent home and we encourage you to celebrate this with your child as well. However, we are currently working towards our first school wide goal of earning 500 tickets. Upon reaching this goal we will randomly draw Warrior Way tickets to see who gets to pie a staff member in the face. What a GREAT way to start the year!
- LET'S GO WARRIORS!!!!

Yours in education,

Dr. Matthew E. McFarland Sr.

Principal

Lincoln Elementary School

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<https://www.gettysburg.k12.pa.us/domain/10>

Twitter: @GASD_McFarland

