

PAG Meeting 10/17/24

LPS: Kurt, Cate, Amy D, Amy P, Marianne, Vanessa, Dawn

Families: Kim Phillips, Jonathan Phillips, Emma Jenkins, Meredith Lopez, Matthew Bellantoni, Stacey Santos, James Topper, Nicole Sylvia

What is PAG?

Mini-State of the School presentation to parents that shares information and encourages collaboration between LPS and families.

Meets four times each year on the 3rd Thursday (usually) of the month from 9:00am-10:00am

Upcoming PAG meetings:

- December 20, 2024
- February 27, 2025
- April 17, 2025

What is PIE?

Partners in Education

Fundraises and plans events to support the LPS community.

Meets 5 times each year

- Sept 19, 2024
- Nov 21, 2024
- Jan 16, 2025
- March 20, 2025
- May 15, 2025

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89453990390>

What are Grade Level Parents?

Grade Level Parents share info with families and organize social events and opportunities for their grade(s) or for their school building.

Should be starting up soon, family email lists will be going out to grade-level parents soon

- 12th grade - Kristen Koehler
- 11th grade - Meredith Lopez
- 10th grade - Jessie Brauer
- 9th grade - Katherine Munz
- 8th grade - Lauren Timmons
- 7th grade - Amy Domow
- 6th grade - Rachael Noonan
- 4th/5th grade - James Topper

School Calendar can be found [here](#)

Upcoming Events

- **Oct 25** After School Student Council Events

- **Oct 29** HS Info Session for MS Families
- **Nov 2** PIE Family BBQ (rain or shine)
- **Nov 18** 9th & 10th Grades Info Session [Zoom]
- **Nov 20** 11th & 12th Grade Info Session [Zoom]

Fall/ Winter Middle School Student Council

Calendar Updates

Nov 5 Early Release

Nov 11 No school - Veterans Day

Nov 27 Early Release

Nov 28 & 29 No School - Thanksgiving Recess

Fall/Winter MCAS Retests

Families with students retaking MCAS tests will receive communications.

Nov 6 & 7 High School ELA Retest

Nov 12 & 13 High School Math Retest

Feb 4 & 5 High School Biology

Program Updates

Enrollment

Middle School

4/5th Grades - 10

6th Grade - 10

7th Grade - 17

8th Grade - 23

High School

9th Grade - 16

10th Grade - 19

11th Grade - 17

12th Grade - 15

Enrichment

Enrichment classes have started!

Supports academic and functional skills

Student input is considered 1 top choice and 1 no thank you

Choices include creative writing, flower shop, shark tank, yoga, social media, current events, ASL, and a Fall/Winter Panther Paper

BCIL/Pre-ETS- Life Skills and Career Exploration Groups are available to older students.

Thank You for coming to Curriculum Night!

Thanks to all families who joined us on October 10 for our annual Curriculum Night!

Let Cate know if you were unable to attend and or need the communication from any of your student's teachers

Speaker: Rob Buyea

Rob Buyea, the author of our 2024 common read selection: Because of Mr. Terupt came to Learning Prep and gave 2 School presentations and ran a creative writing workshop for students. Authors and writers are very popular guest speakers with our students and we hope to have more in the future!

Professional Learning Communities

PLCS are our primary Professional Development focus for this year. This has been developed after implementing our MTSS program a few years ago. All students receive MTSS Level 1 support to help them be successful. Students identified as needing more support are referred for Level 2 support and interventions.

PLCs analyze student data regularly. 4th PLC meeting was held yesterday. Teachers meet in groups of 4-6 and evaluate the data collected for the 12 students assigned to them and monitor their progress and needs. Anticipate it being a tremendous value to our student's success

Look for trends & make recommendations

MTSS referrals part of the process

Diversity Equity Inclusion

DEI Committee- organized by Nadine Seibel, which meets every 6 weeks. Work is rooted in who we are and our mission. We are lowering barriers to education to make sure all of our students feel seen, heard, understood and welcome.

Dr. Liza Talusan will be coming in for a DEI focused Professional Development later this year for staff.

Climate Survey is an anonymous climate survey of the students to evaluate how we are meeting these needs. Families will receive communication prior to these surveys being rolled out.

Activities Update**After School Program**

Fall Session Dates

Contact Sophia with any changes to a student's attendance at the

LPS on Social Media

Follow @lpspanthers

Enrichment group is creating content for our social media. Jen K publishes content to keep families connected

How to Support LPS

Marianne's priority this year is parent engagement and support of LPS!

Fall Friends and Family Fund Appeal will be coming soon. Any donation amount has a huge impact on the work we do here. Please consider recommending us to your friends and family as an organization to support!

Supporting Learning Prep School is crucial in enriching the environment for our students. Your involvement—whether through volunteering or contributing to school initiatives—directly impacts their growth and success.

Volunteer Opportunities @ LPS- A survey was sent out earlier this year to collect volunteer interest and connect them to opportunities to volunteer at LPS!

Panther Support and Engagement Committee- New this year, has 7 or 8 families involved so far. Please reach out to Marianne if interested in joining

Help us update our mission statement

Our 4 question survey went out earlier this fall to develop a mission statement that truly reflects how unique we are and what we offer to our students beyond an education, including the traditional social experiences and peer relationships found here. The survey will be closing soon. Please send us any input!

Questions?

How does enrollment compare this year to last year?

We have remained consistent in the high 120's. 127 current, 128 last year and 127 2 years ago. Prior to this admin team, our numbers greatly varied. We had too many students at one point. 3:1. Future goal could be in the 140-150

Is the 8th grade bubble problematic?

When those students graduate, we'd have a lot of seats to fill. There is not one grade number that poses a problem

Are half days counted as school day? Yes

Why is the first week of school all half days? Training and onboarding of new staff is packed into the afternoons. Due to staff contracts, we're limited to how many full professional development days we can have. Returning staff also have a higher load than a public teacher allows students to ease back into school.

Is it worth it to transport students so far away for such a short day?

Not a huge impact on closer families, but long commutes are.

HS families question why there is a full week of half days.

Half days are used as Executive Functioning preparation for our HS students and easing into the routine. MS students need more support and can become very easily overwhelmed with learning routines, binder setup, so the half days are incredibly beneficial to them.

Kim Phillips would like to Marianne, connect to have a conversation about an idea from another parent for fundraising. Would like to meet in person. Marianne to reach out and set up time.

May 16 Dinner Dance for 7 & 8th graders. Could 4, 5 & 6 graders volunteer to help with the event? Will discuss later

Feel free to share topics of interest with Kurt and Cate if there are things you'd like to discuss in future meetings.

Contact us:

Kurt Moellering: Executive Director kmoellering@learningprep.org

Cate Wilson: Chief Operating Officer cwilson@learningprep.org