

12-20-2024 PAG Meeting

LPS Attendees: Kurt, Cate, Amy P, Marianne, Dawn

Family Attendees: Sara Abbott, James Topper, Jonathan Phillips, Meredith Lopez, Wynne & Cary Meyer

PAG & PIE

PAG: Parent Advisory Group is a mini State of the School presentation that provides parents/caregivers an opportunity to connect directly with LPS leaders.

Discussion topics include the academic program, testing schedules, policy updates, upcoming school and LPS community events, and ways to support the school.

Share information and encourage collaboration between LPS and families

PAG meets four times each year typically on the 3rd Thursday of the month from 9-10am

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

PIE: Partners in Education organizes non-school related events for students & families, fundraises for LPS, and co-sponsors school events; speakers, field trips.

The PIE group meets 5 times each year on the 3rd Thursday of the month from 9-10am

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

PIE & PAG Meeting Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89453990390>

School Calendar: <https://www.learningprep.org/about-us/calendar>

Lunch Menu: <https://www.learningprep.org/student-life/lunch>

Alternative Lunch Update: We've expanded our daily alternative lunch menu. After the break, the alternate lunch will be:

Monday/Friday: Toasted Cheese

Tues/Wed/Thurs: Pasta with Tomato Sauce

Grade Level Parents

Share info with families and organize social events

- **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

Snow Day Info

Test Notification went out on 12/11

12/13 newsletter included [a google form to report if you did not receive the test message](#)

LPS reports emergency closures on our website and local news stations:

- WBZ Channel 4
- WCVB Channel 5
- WHDH Channel 7
- WFXT Fox 25
- NECN Channel 10

Snow Day Reminders

- LPS makes an independent decision to close school, delay opening, or dismiss early
- We attempt to decide the night before but may need to make an early morning call
- Transportation companies may have their own policies or may follow district closures
- Last day of school 6/17-6/25 depending on # of snow days
- Families always have discretion on sending their student to school during inclement weather. These absences are excused, but need to be communicated to Clara or Sherika.

Upcoming Events

1/24 Term 2 Ends

2/10 Family/Teacher Conferences

4/17 All School Family Night

Student Council Events

1/10 Blue/Green Shirt Day
1/24 HS Monster Mini Golf
2/28 HS February Dance
3/14 MS Pizza Party Bingo

Calendar Reminders

12/23/24-01/03/25 Winter Vacation
01/09 Early Release 11:00 Dismissal
01/20 No School MLK Day
2/7 Early Release 11:00 Dismissal

Transition Events

3/21 Financial Literacy Fair
4/4 Post High School Fair
TBD Alumni Panel
TBD Commonwealth Financial

MCAS Update:What we know so far

MCAS is no longer a statewide universal graduation requirement., but there are still many unknowns about what that means for LPS students. We know that the MCAS exams will still be administered according to schedule.

We will be working with districts to understand *THEIR* requirements for a student to graduate. We are also communicating with Districts and MAAPS to make a plan.

DESE will no longer be doing cohort or portfolio appeals. Districts may assume that responsibility.

If a student passed MCAS, before 12/05/2024, they have met the competency requirements for graduation.

The law was not written to consider students in Approved Special Education Schools. MAAPS and our attorney are working to get answers and guidance from DESE. We will share information as we receive it.

We are not sure what the impact will be on retest dates. Cate will communicate information to families of the students who would be scheduled for a retake.

MCAS Testing Dates

February 4 & 5 HS Biology Retest

March 6 & 7 HS ELA Retest

March 11 &12 HS Math Retest

Program Updates

Enrollment =130 students

Middle School

4/5th Grades - 10

6th Grade - 10

7th Grade - 18

8th Grade - 26

High School

9th Grade - 16

10th Grade - 18

11th Grade - 17

12th Grade - 15

DEI Update

Most of our DEI work happens behind the scenes. DEI is receiving negative and positive press currently. Our DEI goal at LPS is for stud to feel seen welcome and known.

Resha Conroy of the Dyslexia Association for Black Children spoke at a co sponsored Speaker Series that had about 150 attendees.

Liza Talusan, author of Identity Conscious Educator will be here in March for a staff Professional Development

Climate Survey- an anonymous survey will be given to students again this year to gauge how well we are doing to make our students

PLCS

This is our first full year of PLC groups meeting. These Interdisciplinary Team (all faculty) reviews each student at least twice a month. Each group is assigned a group of students to monitor for the entire year.

Focus on:

- Trends in attendance, behaviors, and academic progress
- Reviewing past and current academic and cognitive testing
- Collaborative and creative Tier II strategies for students recommended to MTSS
- Diving into data to inform instruction in content areas

Faculty PD

- AI Tools
- Thinking Maps Updates
- Natalie Noonan, PsyD Neuropsych Training
- PLCs and Data review
- DEIJ

Family/Teacher Conferences

Monday 2/10/2025 on Zoom

Activities Update

Winter Fair 2024

Everything was amazing! Popcorn and Cotton Candy were huge hits. PIE fundraiser was very successful. Students enjoy the shopping experience. Thank you to all donors and volunteers.

After School Program

Registration information will be coming after Winter Break.

Session Dates:

Monday Sessions: Jan 27 - March 17

Tuesday Sessions: Jan 28 - March 11

Thursday Sessions: Jan 30 - March 13

Program Director: [Sophia Rosselli Buttner](#)

Remember to follow us @LPSPanthers!

Supporting LPS

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

Our annual Spring Fundraiser will be Thursday May 1- Event Name to be announced in January!

Currently focusing on End of Year Friends and Family Fund Appeal.

Panther Support and Engagement Committee had it's first meeting last week. Email Marianne if interested in joining

Please consider sharing our social media content with your network!

Watch for our mid-year survey!

Short sent twice a year, to measure how well we are serving our students and families. It is made up of mostly the same questions from year to year. We do add questions relevant to current happenings at LPS. We really appreciate all of the feedback

Questions?

Question: Are there thoughts to skip MCAS this year?

Answer: The current DESE recommendation is for schools to proceed with the exams as scheduled. Unknown if families will be able to opt out. If anything changes, Cate will send communications to families.

Comment: Received a screenshot of our Facebook Advertising for LPS- uses complicated learner instead of complex learner. From a branding point, can that be changed?

Cate requested Sara send it to her so we can fix it.

Question: Who can I connect with for guidance on being a grade-level parent and how to successfully plan events?

- **Answer:**
 - Meredith Lopez is happy to connect.
 - Amy Davis is also a good resource for historical experience.
 - Sara Abbott also happy to connect and share what Charlie's class has done.

Question: Does LPS do anything to give back to the teachers, such as class gifts?

Answer: Teacher Appreciation Week is a great opportunity for parents to give back to teachers.

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