



# LGPS CARDINAL CONNECTION

Sunday, January 19, 2025



## Principal Message

Dear LGPS Families,

Thank you to our students, staff, and families for a strong return to school. I appreciate your support in reinforcing our expectations of being safe, respectful, and responsible.

This week will be very cold, so please make sure your Cardinal is bundled up! We'll have indoor recess on Tuesday and Wednesday and will monitor the weather as the week progresses.

Also, please remember to check your child's backpack daily for red folders and important information from their teacher.

Warm wishes,  
Mr. Finger

## Home Resources

Learning begins and ends with our children's first and most important teacher; their family. We are so pleased to partner with you in your child learning and development.

### Reading

Spot the Sound Team!

Digraphs are two letters that make one sound, like 'sh' in ship or 'ch' in chop. While reading, have your child spot and circle these "sound teams," then practice their sounds and think of other words that use them!

### Math

#### Break it Down

When solving a math problem, try the part-part-whole strategy. Start by identifying the whole number (the total) and then break it into two smaller parts. For example, if the whole is 10, you can split it into 7 and 3. This helps build number sense and makes addition and subtraction easier!"

## LGPS Photos and PTA Fundraiser

Valentine's photo packets went home with students on Friday. Follow the packet directions to purchase, or return it to LGPS by Friday, January 24th if not purchasing.

Also on Friday, the PTA launched its Winter Little Caesars Fundraiser! Check the sent-home info to participate and support our PTA in their efforts to support our school community.

- 1/17 - PTA Little Caesars Fundraiser Kicks Off
- 1/20 - No School for Staff & Students in Observance of Martin Luther King Day
- 1/21 - 1/23 - Cardinal Cart Days (Tues - 2nd / Wed - 1st / Thurs - Kindergarten)
- 1/22 - PTA & Office on Youth Valentine Gram Kick Off
- 1/24 - Valentines Photo Packets due back to school if not purchasing
- 1/24 - Club and Candidate Photos will be taken for the Yearbook
- 1/29 - PTA Dine & Donate at Bella Cucina 5:00 - 9:00
- 2/3 - American Heart Association Assembly



Upcoming dates:

**LGPS WILL CELEBRATE  
KINDNESS WEEK  
FEB. 10-14**



**Virginia's Kindness week sponsors are selling the above t-shirt and proceeds will go to support those impacted by Hurricane Helene. This is an optional purchase we wanted to make available to interested families.**

**[CLICK HERE if you wish to order a shirt.](#)**

The link will take you to an outside vendor supporting the week. Orders will sent directly to family homes. The school is not coordinating delivery or shirts.

# Promoting Good Attendance

## All Winter Long



Every winter, bad weather — snow, slush, freezing temperatures or even heavy rains — can present challenges to getting children to school. So do the illnesses such as colds, flu, fevers and earaches that often come with the winter months. Students might also have to stay home due to Covid-19.

### 1. Develop back up plans for getting your children to school in bad weather.

- Check to see who can give your children a ride to school if you aren't able to take them or the bus doesn't arrive.
- Talk with your school about forming a "walking school bus" with other families to get students to school safely.
- Contact your local government if roads to school are not regularly plowed.
- Join other families to clear snow from the sidewalks closest to the school.
- Tell school administrators about transportation challenges, including safety, and ask if they have plans for transporting students.

### 2. Keep your children healthy.

- Maintain a regular bedtime and morning routine.
- Ensure students eat a good breakfast every morning or check to see if your school serves breakfast.
- Ensure your children visit their medical provider and have received their vaccines, including flu and Covid.
- Stress hand washing, particularly before and after eating, and after using the restroom.
- Reinforce the importance of avoiding close contact with individuals who are sick, and not sharing cups and/or utensils with others.
- If your children seem anxious about going to school, ask teachers, school counselors, your medical provider and parents for advice on how to make your children feel comfortable and excited about learning.
- If you are concerned your children may have Covid, call your medical provider or school nurse for advice.

### 3. Keep your children engaged in learning if they cannot attend school in person.

- Ask your teacher or school for resources that you can use at home to keep your children learning, including computer tablets, internet access and online learning platforms.
- Identify who can support your children's learning at home, especially if you must go to work.
- Encourage your children to call classmates and stay connected to the teacher to find out about what they missed.

#### WHAT CAN PARENTS DO?



Unsure? Call the LGPS school nurse

540-661-4420 x 4010



### SEE YOU IN CLASS

- Runny nose or a mild cough but no other symptoms
- Temperature below 100.4 and no fever reducing medicine in the last 24 hours
- No throwing up or diarrhea in the last 24 hours

### BEST TO STAY HOME

- Fever of 100.4 or higher in the last 24 hours, with or without fever reducing medicine
- Persistent Cough
- Vomiting or diarrhea
- Instructions from a doctor to isolate from others

#### Heading to school! What should I know?

- By coming to school every day they're not sick, your child is:
- Building positive habits and a solid foundation for success
- Staying engaged in learning and on track for graduation
- Gaining valuable social skills
- Less likely to feel stressed and anxious
- Supporting the success of all

#### My Child is staying home. What should I do next?

- Notify the school by phone or email at 540-661-4415 [lindahopkins@ocss-va.org](mailto:lindahopkins@ocss-va.org)
- If possible let us know before 9:30am on the day of the absence
- Repeat this checklist every morning.
- We hope to see your student in class soon!!

# Please use this guidance to help you decide if we should see you in class or if your child should stay home.

We want you to get better when needed but need you in school as often as possible.



¿No estás seguro? Llama a las enfermeras de la escuela.  
540-661-4420 x 4010



### TE VEO EN CLASES

- Secreción nasal o tos leve pero sin otros síntomas
- Temperatura inferior a 100,4 y sin medicamentos para reducir la fiebre en las últimas 24 horas.
- Sin vómitos ni diarrea en las últimas 24 horas.

¿De camino a la escuela!  
¿Qué debo saber?

Al venir a la escuela todos los días y no estar enfermo, su hijo:

- Desarrollar hábitos positivos y una base sólida para el éxito
- Mantenerse comprometido con el aprendizaje y encaminado hacia la graduación
- Adquirir valiosas habilidades sociales
- Es menos probable que se sienta estresado y ansioso.
- Apoyando el éxito de todos los estudiantes

### LO MEJOR ES QUEDARSE EN CASA

- Fiebre de 100.4 o más en las últimas 24 horas, con o sin medicamento para reducir la fiebre.
- Tos persistente
- Vómitos o diarrea
- Instrucciones de un médico para aislarse de los demás.

Mi hijo se queda en casa.  
¿Qué debería hacer después?

- Notifique a la escuela por teléfono o correo electrónico al 540-661-4415 [lindahopkins@ocss-va.org](mailto:lindahopkins@ocss-va.org)
- Si es posible, avísenos antes de las 9:30 a. m. del día de la ausencia.

Repita esta lista de verificación todas las mañanas.

¡Esperamos ver a su estudiante en clase pronto!

# BUDGET DEVELOPMENT CALENDAR



**Superintendent's Budget Roundtable**  
6:00-8:00 PM



**Public Comment Dedicated to FY2026 Budget**  
Regular Board Meeting



**Presentation of Superintendent's Budget Priorities**  
Board Work Session



**Public Comment Dedicated to FY2026 Budget**  
Regular Board Meeting



**Presentation of Superintendent's Proposed Budget**  
Board Work Session



**Public Hearing on FY2026 Budget**  
Regular Board Meeting



**Tentative Approval of Proposed Budget OR Budget Work Session** (as needed)



**Tentative Approval of Proposed Budget OR Budget Work Session** (as needed)



# Counselor Corner- January

Mrs. Dubey, Mrs. Beard and Mrs. Jackson

"Discipline" is not always a bad word. The American Academy of Pediatrics has a great article giving several suggestions on disciplining your child/children. The following suggestions are given: show and tell, set limits, give consequences, hear them out, give them your attention, catch them being good, know when not to respond, be prepared for trouble, redirect bad behavior, and call a time-out. These are suggestions that may work well for your family. The link below will let you read more about the suggestions and how to use them.

<https://www.healthychildren.org/English/family-life/family-dynamics/communication-discipline/Pages/Disciplining-Your-Child.aspx>

## LESSONS

Mrs. Jackson will be using Xello with 2nd and 3rd grade for career lessons. She will be using books and an activity for kindergarten and 1st grade. Mrs. Dubey is also using Xello with 4th and 5th graders.

### Contact Information

Mrs. Dubey 540-661-4440 ext. 4360  
Mrs. Jackson 540-661-4440 ext. 4380  
Mrs. Beard and Mrs. Jackson 540-661-4420 ext. 4009

## ATTENDANCE REMINDERS

Being present in school is critical to academic success and improvement. When your child reaches six absences, you could be contacted by a counselor to discuss attendance concerns. A student is considered to be chronically absent when they miss 10% of the year. If they have missed 9 days so far, they are chronically absent.

### ATTENDANCE

LGES had 215 students that had perfect attendance for the month of December.

LGPS had 207 students that had perfect attendance for the month of December.