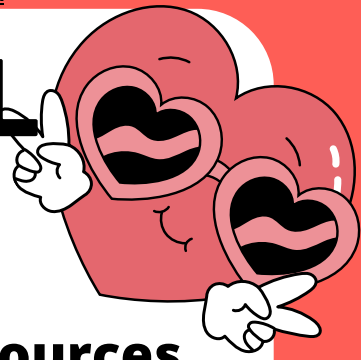




# LGPS CARDINAL CONNECTION

Sunday, February 2, 2025



## Principal Message

Dear LGPS Families,

Our school division will be observing School Counselor Appreciation Week this coming week. We are incredibly grateful for our counselors and all they do throughout the year to support our students, families, and staff. This is a great reminder that our school counselors are always here to help. If you feel they can assist in your child's school experience, please don't hesitate to reach out.

This week also highlights the hard work and thoughtful planning our counselors have put into preparing our school community for Virginia Kindness Week the week of Feb 10. Be sure to check out the special Family Kindness Week Challenge Board in this week's Cardinal Connection. We invite you to join us in spreading kindness at school, at home, and throughout our community!

Warm regards,  
Mr. Finger, Principal



## Upcoming Conferences

Please plan to prioritize a spring parent teacher conference with your child's teacher. Ongoing communication and work with your child's teacher is important for student academic success. Conferences will be on 2/13 from 2:30 - 6:00 (with a two hour early dismissal) and on 2/14 from 8:00 - 12:00

Scroll further down in the newsletter for the PTC Wizzard Family Guide

## 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

Loving those Phonics!  
♥ Make learning letters and sounds fun! Write simple CVC words (like "hug," "lip," "red") on paper hearts. Hide them around the house and have your child read each one aloud as they find them. A sweet way to practice phonics! ♥📖

### Math

#### I Love Math Tip

♥ Make math sweet! Count, add, subtract, or multiply heart-shaped candies. Try grouping them by color or creating equations. A fun and festive way to practice numbers while spreading a little love! ♥+—



- 2/3 - American Heart Association Assembly
- 2/3 - School Board Meeting @ 7:00 - Public Comment on Proposed Budget Priorities
- 2/3 - Yearbook Cover Contest Entries Due to Homeroom Teacher
- 2/5 - PTA Valentine Gram Form Due
- 2/6 - Interim Reports Go Home with Students
- 2/10 - 2/14 - Virginia Kindness Week
- 2/13 - Student Two Hour Early Dismissal for Parent/Teacher Conferences 2:30 - 6:00
- 2/14 - Student Holiday for Parent Teacher Conferences 8:00 - 12:00

# INSTRUCTIONS FOR KINDNESS FAMILY CHALLENGE

DEAR FAMILIES,

THIS FAMILY CHALLENGE WILL BEGIN FEBRUARY 3RD AND RUN UNTIL FEBRUARY 10TH.

ONCE AT LEAST EIGHT ACTIVITIES HAVE BEEN COMPLETED & COLORED IN, PLEASE RETURN THE GAME BOARD TO LGPS:  
**ATTENTION MRS. JACKSON OR MRS. BEARD (SCHOOL COUNSELORS).**

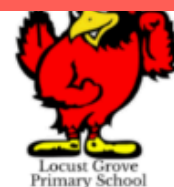
THE DEADLINE TO SUBMIT GAME BOARDS WILL BE FEB. 12TH, 2025.

ALL STUDENTS WHO RETURN A GAME BOARD WITH AT LEAST 8 ACTIVITIES COLORED IN WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE & BE CELEBRATED ON FEB. 13, 2025.

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR HELPING TO BUILD KINDNESS THROUGHOUT OUR COMMUNITY AND ACCEPTING THE FAMILY KINDNESS CHALLENGE.

GOOD LUCK AND HAVE FUN,

MRS. JACKSON & MRS. BEARD



# Kindness

## FAMILY CHALLENGE

<b>Read to someone</b>	<b>Did my chores without being asked</b>	Write a positive message to friend or family	Help someone	<b>Got at least 30 minutes of exercise today</b>
<b>HOLD A DOOR OPEN</b>	Brush your teeth and wash up *independently	ASK SOMEONE ABOUT THEIR DAY	Give a friend or family member a hug	Say "Thank you" to someone
Put something in recycle bin	Draw 'things I'm thankful' for	<b>create your own act of kindness</b>	<b>Get at least 9 to 12 hours of sleep at night</b>	Smile at someone
Clean up a mess that was not mine	Give someone a compliment	<b>Drink at least 40 ounces of water in a day</b>	Make someone laugh	<b>HELP PREPARE A MEAL WITH AN ADULT</b>







# YEARBOOK COVER CONTEST

We are inviting Locust Grove Primary students to design the cover of our yearbook. This year's theme is:

## STRONGER TOGETHER

### Requirements:

- \*8.5 X 11 sheet of white paper
- \*Vertical Orientation (up & down-not side to side)
- \*Must include our school name: Locust Grove Primary
- \*Must include the school year: 2024-2025
- \*Write your name and teacher in light pencil on the back of your drawing.  
(Entries that do not meet these specifications will not be considered)

**Submit entries to your teacher by  
February 3rd**

**WINNER WILL BE SELECTED BY THE LGPS STAFF MEMBERS!  
WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING OUR CARDINAL ART.!**

PLEASE EMAIL MS. MARCH WITH ANY QUESTIONS

[cmarch@ocss-va.org](mailto:cmarch@ocss-va.org)



# Valentine's Day GRAMS



SCAN QR CODE AND  
SEND YOUR CHILD A  
VALENTINE'S DAY  
GRAM! SIGN UP  
ONLINE, SEND IN  
PAYMENT WITH YOUR  
CHILD TO SCHOOL,  
CASH OR CHECK  
PAYMENTS, CHECKS  
MADE OUT TO ORANGE  
COUNTY  
ALL PAYMENTS ARE  
DUE FEBRUARY 10TH

BROUGHT TO YOU  
BY ORANGE  
COUNTY OFFICE  
ON YOUTH AND  
LGPS PTA

\$6.00 EACH

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTION, PLEASE  
CONTACT CORTNEY DAVENPORT AT  
(540)-661-5462

# 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

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!!

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

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

**¿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

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)





# PTC Wizard

## Parent Guide

Orange County Public Schools is now using PTC Wizard , a website that will allow parents to easily schedule parent-teacher conferences . This system will sync schedules for parents to help avoid meeting conflicts with different teachers across the division.

**Please refer to the letter sent home with students that includes your child's 6 digit lunch number. You will need this number to register for an account.**

### Step 1: Create an Account or Sign in with account created last conference

Use this Link:

<https://app.ptcwizard.com/ptc1725388648/login>

Or scan the QR code:



**PTC WIZARD**  
Orange County Public Schools

EN ▾

Parent sign in

Username

Password

Sign in

OR SIGN IN WITH

Google Microsoft

→ [Forgot Password](#) [Create Account](#)

You can also choose to view the site in Spanish:

If you forgot your password, click here

**PTC WIZARD**  
Orange County Public Schools

EN ▾

Create Account

First Name

Last Name

Enter your email address

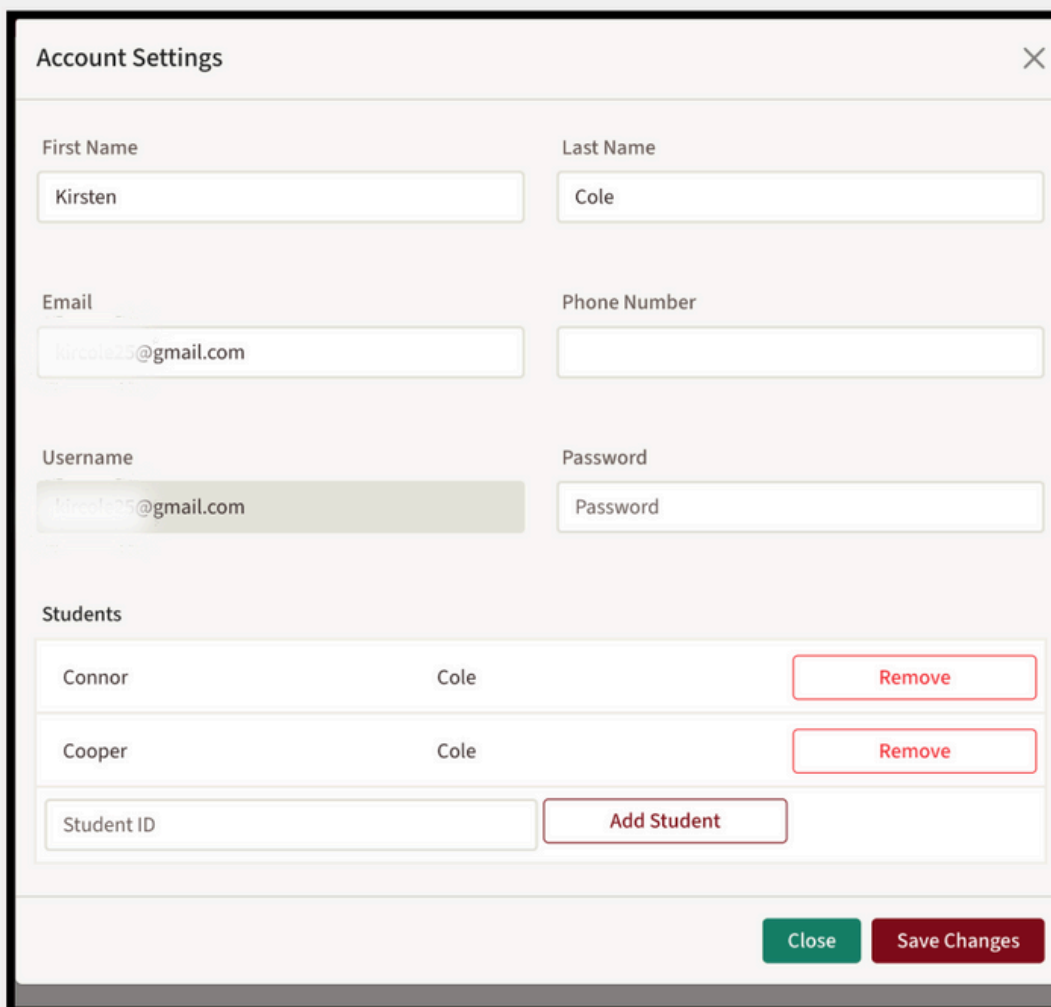
Password

Confirm Password

Create my account

## Step 2: Add Students if creating new account

Account settings will automatically pop up on the screen. You will have the option to add all of your children to your account. Be sure to save your changes.



The screenshot shows a web form titled "Account Settings" with a close button (X) in the top right corner. The form is organized into several sections:

- Personal Information:** Fields for First Name (Kirsten), Last Name (Cole), Email (kircole25@gmail.com), and Phone Number (empty).
- Authentication:** Fields for Username (kircole25@gmail.com) and Password (Password).
- Students:** A table listing existing students with "Remove" buttons for each.
- Add Student:** A section with a "Student ID" input field and an "Add Student" button.
- Actions:** "Close" and "Save Changes" buttons at the bottom right.

Students		
Connor	Cole	<a href="#">Remove</a>
Cooper	Cole	<a href="#">Remove</a>

Student ID	Action
<input type="text"/>	<a href="#">Add Student</a>

You will see available conferences on your homepage. Click "Add/Edit Meetings"

LGES Fall 2024 Parent-Teacher Conferences  
Thu Sep 19th - Fri Sep 20th

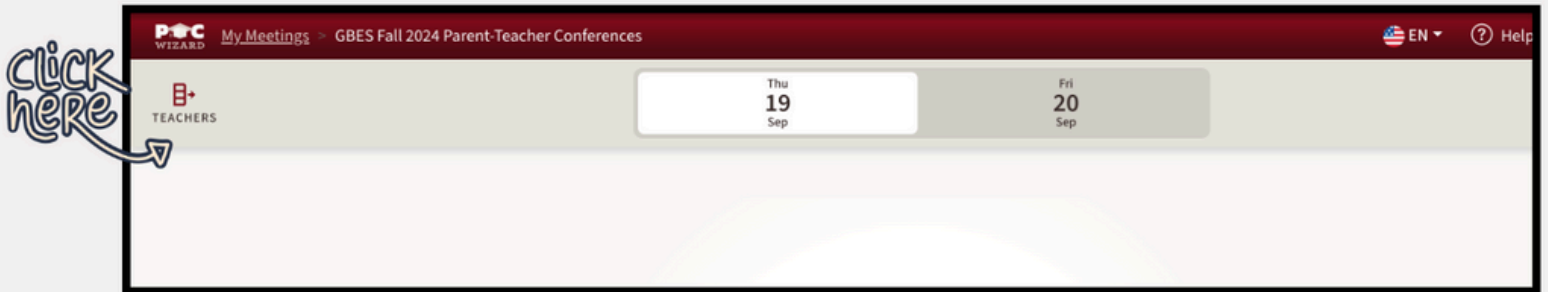
[Add/Edit Meetings](#)

**\*\*You may have to log out and log back in to see the available conferences.**

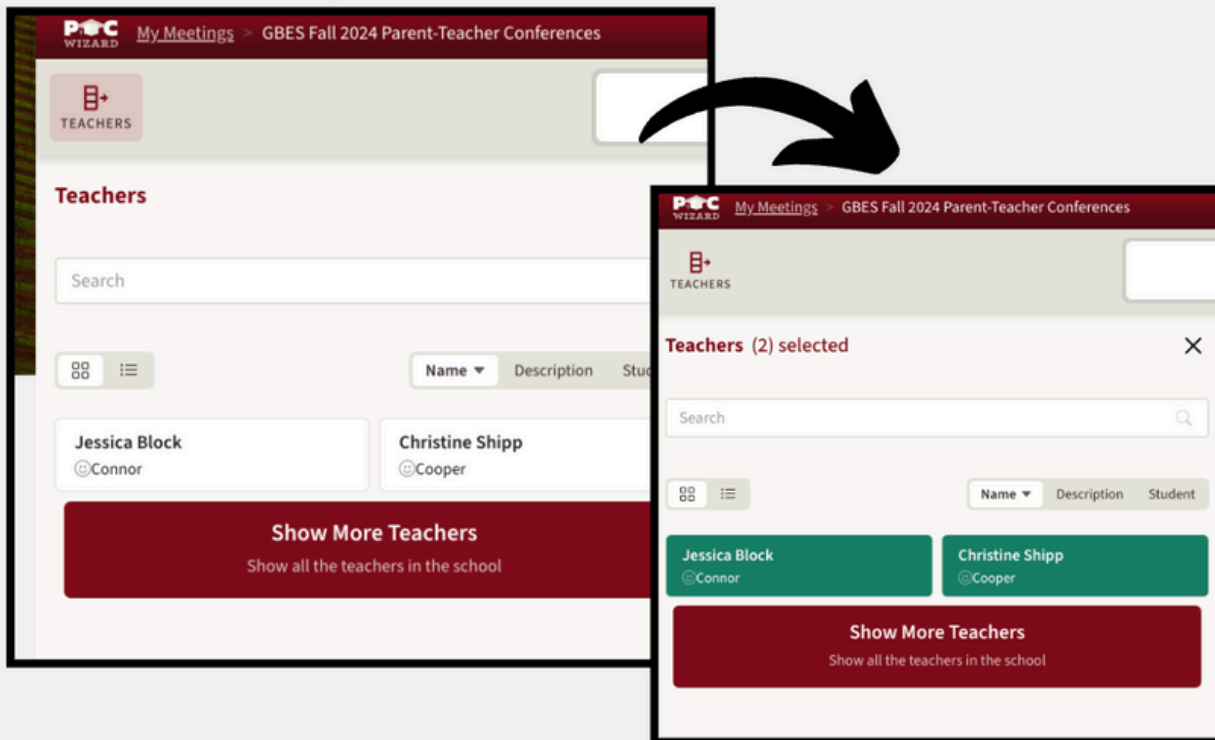
## Step 3: Schedule Conference(s)

Choose the date, teacher, and time of your conference.

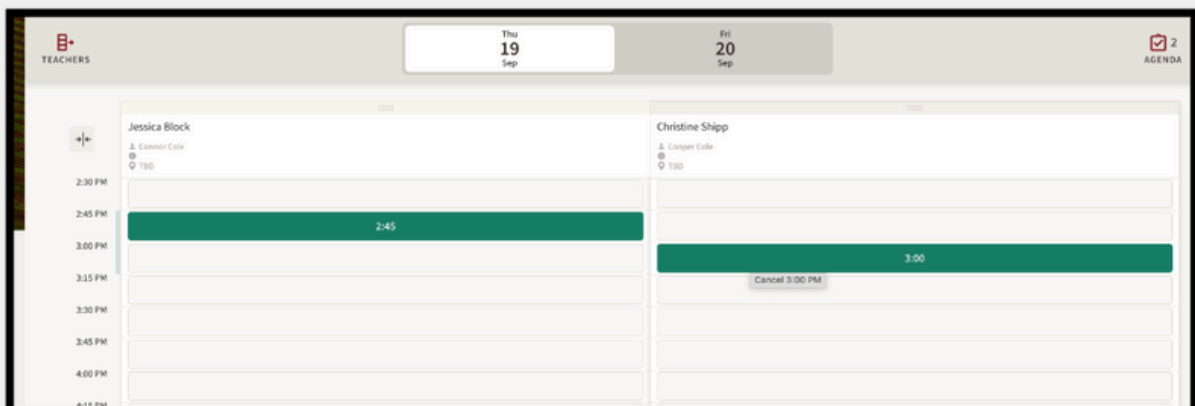
After choosing a date, click on the “Teachers” icon.



Any student that you linked to your account should show up under their teacher's name(s). Click on the teachers you wish to schedule a conference with. Your selections will turn green.



By clicking on the “Teacher Icon” again, the tab will close and you will see the availability schedule for the teacher(s) selected. Choose your times, and your selection will turn green.





## Step 4: View your schedule and print /email your schedule for future reference.

Click on “Agenda” in the upper right hand corner to view your conferences. You can also leave a comment for your child’s teacher if needed.

**AGENDA** 2

Sep 19 2:30 pm (15 mins) **Jessica Block** **CANCEL**

STUDENT  
Connor Cole

MEETING TYPE/LOCATION  
**IN PERSON** **PHONE**

COMMENT

**Save Comment**

Sep 19 3:00 pm (15 mins) **Christine Shipp** **CANCEL**

STUDENT  
Cooper Cole

MEETING TYPE/LOCATION  
**IN PERSON** **PHONE**

COMMENT

**Confirm this agenda**  
You can always return and make changes.  
Your current agenda will be emailed to you.

After confirming your agenda, you can print or email the schedule.

**My Meetings** **WIZARD** **EN** **Help** **Kirsten Cole**

**MEETING** **EVENT**

**PRINT** **EMAIL** **EXPORT**

**GBES Fall 2024 Parent-Teacher Conferences** **Add/Edit Meetings**  
Thu Sep 19th - Fri Sep 20th

STUDENT	MEETING WITH	DATE/TIME	MEETING TYPE	LOCATION	COMMENT	ACTION
Connor Cole	Jessica Block	Sep 19th, 2:30 PM	<b>In Person</b> <b>Phone</b>	Room Unavailable	<b>Add Comment</b>	<b>Delete</b>
Cooper Cole	Christine Shipp	Sep 19th, 2:45 PM	<b>In Person</b> <b>Phone</b>	Room Unavailable	<b>Add Comment</b>	<b>Delete</b>

If you have any issues or questions, please reach out to Mrs. Fletcher at:  
**kfletcher@ocss-va.org** or  
**(540) 661-4420 ext. 4051**