

Linden Public Schools

School No. 6

Back To School Guide

2022-2023



William M Mastriano, Principal

(908) 862-3003

*This is a fluid document. At any point information can change, which will be communicated to parents as applicable.



Principal's Message

Greetings to our parents and families! As the new school year approaches, we would like to continue to work together in order to provide meaningful educational opportunities to our students. It is imperative that collectively, we continue to support each other. Your cooperation with and support of all district and school policies are paramount in order to ensure the health and safety of all students, faculty and staff. With your help, we will maintain the excellence of our instructional program and continue to strive for the achievement of our students.

Emergency Contact Information

It is of the utmost importance that we have current parent/guardian emergency contact information. If any of your information changes throughout the year, you must notify the school as soon as possible. This is our only means by which we can communicate with you at a moment's notice. An Emergency Verification Form has been sent home in the summer mailing. Please review, complete the Health Information section and make any updates directly on the form and return it on the first day of school on **Tuesday, September 6th**. Please note, this year Linden Public Schools is using OnCourse as our student information system (SIS). We are no longer using Genesis.

Academic Plan

The first day of school for all elementary students is **Tuesday, September 6th, 2022**. School begins at 8:25 a.m. and concludes at 3:00 p.m. Door #7 will open for students eating breakfast at 8:00 a.m. Remaining students will be granted entry into the building at 8:15 a.m. Please be aware that there is no supervision on school grounds prior to doors opening. Students will not be granted early access into the building, even in inclement weather. The district does offer a Before Care program for a fee.

Teachers and students will follow their schedules on the six-day cycle. The six-day rotation calendar will be sent home with your child, as well as their specials schedule. Miss Jeannie includes the 6-day schedule on our School 6 monthly calendar. This year, fifth grade will follow a departmentalized learning model for core subjects. We currently have 3 fifth grade

classrooms. Ms. Dades will teacher English Language Arts and Writing. Ms. Paternostro will teach Math. Mrs. McLaughlin will teach Science and Social Studies.

*Parents and students are encouraged to reach out to their teachers for support if needed via Class Dojo or email.

First Day Procedures

We are planning for students to meet their teachers on the Linden Avenue playground. There will be signage to designate teacher homerooms. There will be additional staff to assist our families. Please note, aside from the 2 parents per Pre-K and K student allowed to enter for orientation, no other parents will be granted entry into the building. K and PK orientation take place later in the morning. Please refer to summer mailing for specific times. In the event of inclement weather students in grades 1-3 will meet their teachers in the cafeteria and grades 4 & 5 will meet in the gymnasium. There will be staff to guide families to the correct location.

School Supply Lists

A **suggested** supply lists was sent home in the summer mailing. They can also be found on our school's website. These materials will support your child's learning. Please label your child's personal belongings. **Pre-K students must keep a spare set of clothing in their classroom.**

Health Screening

The district will follow the most recent guidelines established by the local board of health.

If your child is sick, or recently had contact with a person with Covid-19, please keep your child home and contact the school nurse.

Any student or staff member presenting Covid-19 related symptoms will be sent home immediately. If your child develops a fever or exhibits Covid-19 symptoms, they will be placed in an isolation space with supervision while awaiting pick-up. **If you are contacted, it is crucial that you arrange for the prompt pick-up of your child.**

As per Linden Board Policy 5142.2, "a student exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 may be required to submit to a COVID-19 test. The school nurse shall immediately notify local health officials, staff, and families of a confirmed case while maintaining confidentiality when the COVID-19 test is positive. The school nurse shall require the certification of a physician that the student is contagion free before readmitting a student to school.

Quarantine

Please note that quarantine requirements may change based on community transmission rates and CDC local Health Department guidelines.

Breakfast and Lunch

The 2022-203 Electronic Free/Reduced Meal Applications are available online beginning August 10, 2022. In addition, parents have the ability to prepay for meals online using a credit card, debit card, or checking account via *My School Bucks*. There are links under the Parents tab of the Linden Public Schools website at www.lindenps.org. The website to complete a lunch application is <http://www.schoollunchapp.com>. Families are only required to complete one application per household for ALL students enrolled in the district. IN ORDER TO BE ELIGIBLE, YOU MUST REAPPLY EVERY YEAR.

Student Price List:

Regular Lunch	\$2.40
Regular Breakfast	\$1.25
Milk (pint)	\$0.80

Due to the health and safety regulations imposed by the CDC, all students will be discouraged from using the water fountains. Therefore, **it is essential to send your child to school with water each day**. Juice and soda will not be permitted.

Before Care/After Care

Linden Public Schools has a before and after care program for a fee. This year, the program will be running with a limited capacity, and registration is first come, first serve. In order to register, please contact Antoinette Modrak at 908-486-2800 ext. 8410 or amodrak@lindenps.org.

Student Drop-Off Procedures

School begins promptly at 8:25 a.m. **Students will not be granted entry into the building prior to 8:15 a.m., regardless of the weather.** All classes will line up on the Linden Avenue Playground. There will be teacher signs for each homeroom. Once the doors open, grades PK-2 will enter Door #7, grades 3-5 will enter Door #9.

IN ORDER TO ENSURE THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF ALL STUDENTS AND STAFF, IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT YOU ADHERE TO THIS PROCEDURE. STUDENTS ATTEMPTING TO ENTER THROUGH THE INCORRECT DOOR WILL BE REDIRECTED TO THEIR ASSIGNED DOOR.

Tardy Students

Please make every effort to arrive at school on time, as tardiness disrupts the educational process. Instruction begins promptly at 8:25 a.m. Any student who is not in their homeroom by 8:25 a.m. will be considered tardy. **Tardy students must enter through Door #1.**

Student Dismissal Procedures

The school day concludes promptly at 3:00 p.m. All classes will be assigned to specific doors for dismissal. Parents and guardians are being asked to have their children picked up immediately upon the conclusion of each school day. Please refrain from calling your child out of the line and allow the teacher to dismiss the students individually. This is also not the time to engage in conferences with the teacher as he/she needs to focus on dismissing the class.

In order to stress the importance of timely pickups, please understand that, if you

repeatedly fail to pick up your child(ren) accordingly, we will be forced to contact the appropriate and necessary authorities (i.e., Linden Police Department or DCP&P).

A dismissal procedure form was sent home in the summer mailing (reverse side of Emergency Form). This form will also be posted on the school's website. Please fill it out and return it to school on the first day of school. Additionally, please make sure your child's teacher is aware of how your child will get home on the first day of school. Please note that your child will NOT be released to anyone NOT listed on the Emergency Form/Dismissal Procedure Form. Any changes that need to be made must be done in writing.

Dismissal Door Assignments:

Door #1: 1st Grade Door #2: 3rd Grade and PK

Door #3: Kindergarten Door #5: 4th Grade

Door #7: 5th Grade Door #9: 2nd Grade

School Security/Visitation Policy

We strongly recommend the use of phone and video conferences, as well as email if you need to contact a staff member. In order to ensure the safety of students and staff, visitors will only be allowed to enter the building in the event of **emergencies or scheduled appointments.** For more information, we encourage you to refer to the Linden Public Schools School Entry Protocol. This can be found on our school website. Please be advised that school visitation protocols may become more restrictive in accordance with local health concerns in mind.

Birthday/Holiday Celebrations

We do not celebrate individual student birthdays in school with parties and cupcakes and/or food items. Holiday classroom parties and PTA sponsored events are permissible, and will be handled separately.

Technology

All students in Pre-K through 5th grade will be provided with iPads. Students will be sent home with their iPads daily. They are expected to return to school with them fully charged (with charger as well) and ready to use the following day. Parents are STRONGLY encouraged to enroll in the district Tech Care accidental coverage program for the iPads. This will cover damages (cracked screens, water damage) that may occur. Otherwise, you will be responsible for paying the full cost. Please note that this is a change from the previous school year. Please log on to www.myschoolbucks.com to create an account if you do not already have one. All payments for Tech Care must be made online. If you have any questions about the enrollment process, please contact LaTonya Brown in the Technology Department at lbrown@lindenps.org or (908) 587-3263 ext. 8345.

Please contact the LPS Help Desk (908) 747-4001 for assistance with your child's district-issued iPad.

Teacher Communication

Parents are encouraged to maintain contact with their child's teacher via email, phone, or Class Dojo. Impromptu visits to the school to speak to your child's teacher will not be granted. Conferences will be available via WebEx. A staff directory with email addresses is attached.

Making the aforementioned procedures part of your family's routine throughout the year will benefit the School No. 6 community as a whole. As always, our goal is to have each child reach their full academic potential. Please know our students' health and safety will always be our main focus as we walk this road back with you. Should you have any questions, feel free to email me at wmastriano@lindenps.org or contact the school.

Sincerely,

William M Mastriano

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Principal

School No. 6 Staff Directory

2022 - 2023

Teacher Directory

Pre-K

Rm 105	Danielle Grant	dgrant@
Rm 106	Marissa Nigro	mnigro@

Kindergarten

Rm B3	Vincenza Vosseler	vvosseler@
Rm B4	Jefferey Merton	jmerton@
Rm B6	Aimee Zollinger	azollinger@

First Grade

Rm 102	Donna Didyoung	ddidyoung@
Rm 104	Laura Stewart-Cuttita	lstewart-cuttita@
Rm 109	Heather Naut	hcollazo@

Second Grade

Rm 101	Kim Zagaja	kzagaja@
Rm 103	Tracy Secor	tsecor@
Rm 208	Kim Kruse	kkruse@

Third Grade

Rm 205	Danielle Conway	dconway@
Rm 207	Victoria DeMarzo	vdemarzo@

Fourth Grade

Rm 201	Kelly Kenney	kkenney@
Rm 202	Jessica Kelly	jlkelly@
Rm 209	Jared DeBrizzi	jdebrizzi@

Fifth Grade		email:.....@lindenps.org
Rm 203	Nicole Dades	ndades@
Rm 204	Angela Paternostro	apaternostro@
Rm 206	Jennifer McLaughlin	jmclaughlin@

Specials and Support		email.....@lindenps.org
Art	Nikki Rizco	nrizco@
Music	Tracie Chapman	chapman@
Spanish	Valentina De La Cruz	vdelacruz@
Inst. Music	Evan Kempey	ekempey@
Math Coach	Walter Schweikardt	wschweikardt@
ELA Coach	Samantha Rodrigues	srodrigues@
ESL	Anna Pelesz	apelesz@
ESL	Ludmila Perz-Winters	lperz-winters@
P.E.	Rachel Carson	rcarson@
	Lukasz Jarmolowski	ljarmolowski@
Technology	Leah Push	lpush@
G & T	Tania Pacheco	tpacheco@
Remedial Reading	Melissa Wengerter	mwengerter@
Speech	Mary Beth Kniazuk	mkniazuk@
Social Worker	Jami Bodden	jbodden@
Nurse	Elizabeth Radil	eradil@