

LKMS Families,

We hope this finds you all well and enjoying the last few days and weeks of summer! Today is an exciting day at LKMS - our staff have returned to begin preparing for an exciting start to the 2017-18 school year. We have missed them! We cannot wait for our students to join them. I always say that a school is just a building without staff, students and families!

Please read the information below as it contains much important information regarding the start of the school year.

Thank you and we look forward to seeing all of you very soon!

Lucy Lublin, Principal

LKMS New Student Orientation

On Thursday, August 31 at 12:30, we will hold our 6th grade and New Student Orientation. Students will have an opportunity to meet staff, receive schedules, and get locker assignments. Parents will meet in the cafeteria during this time to listen to a brief presentation by school counselors and administration.

That same day, from 5:30 - 7:00, all students and parents are invited to join us for "Open House." Come and pick-up student schedules and tour the building before school begins on September 5, 2017.

Staff Changes:

We wish the following staff well on their new adventures. They will be missed!

- Laura Przybylek, Health Education
- Jonene Ford, FACS
- Patrick Walls, Orchestra
- Van Jackson, Paraeducator
- Touria Laabi, Student Assistant
- John Colmes, Night Building Supervisor

Please join us in welcoming:

- Steve Ammann, ELA 6th and 8th grade
- Jay Kim, Orchestra
- Laura Johnson, Health Education and Careers

- Kerri Kelske, Family and Consumer Science (FACS)
- Bill Bellamy, Special Education Paraeducator
- Carol Cuesta, Media Paraeducator
- Jayvonna Moore, Student Assistant

Family File

HCPSS Connect is now open to update your Family File. **Currently 211 of 723 (29%) LKMS families have completed this task.** This information is very important! Please take time to do this before the first day of school. If you need directions on how to access HCPSS Connect and/or Family File, please see the attached documents on HCPSS Connect and HCPSS Family File.

You will be asked to update or provide the following information:

- Parent/guardian contact information. *Please provide the most current contact information.*
- Emergency contacts. *Who do you want to pick up your child in case you cannot?*
- Medical information
- Arrival and dismissal procedures. *How will your child arrive to school and be dismissed on a daily basis? Additionally, provide what procedure your child should follow in case of an unscheduled early closing of schools.*
- Media coverage. *This includes students being photographed for awards.*
- Data confidentiality.
- PTA directory. *What information do you want included in our LKMS PTA Directory?*

If you need any help or experience any difficulty, please let us know.

School and Student Safety

As always, the safety of our staff and students is of utmost importance to us at all times. As a result, all visitors to LKMS will be asked to sign-in using “Lobby Guard” and all parents/guardians should be prepared to show ID when picking up their child. Please plan accordingly when timing your pick-up for appointments, etc.

We thank you for your understanding as we strive to keep all staff and students safe at school.

IMPORTANT – Immunization Information

Per COMAR, student immunizations are to be up-to-date by their first day of school. Per HCPSS procedures, proof of current immunizations is required at the time of registration. Students whose immunizations are not current on the first day of school

and who do not present proof of an appointment within twenty days from their first day of school are to be excluded on the first day of school. Students will be re-admitted to school when they provide proof of current immunizations or proof of an appointment with a provider for vaccine administration by September 25, 2017.

Please see the attached flyer with information about immunization clinics offered through the Howard County Health Department.

If you have any questions about your child’s immunization status, please contact our Cluster Nurse, Mrs. Stein at 410-880-5996.

Bus Information

2017–2018 Bus Schedules Now Available

HCPSS’ new and improved School and Bus Locator is now available at www.hcpss.org. The new locator offers an enhanced map, pop-up messaging, same day updating capability, and additional school information. Type in your address to see your child’s school, bus assignment and pick-up location and time.

End-of-Day Procedures

As I am sure you can imagine, the end of a school day is very busy in our front office with staff preparing to dismiss students in a safe and orderly fashion. Our front office staff can be found fielding calls from bus companies with last-minute bus information or helping students with last-minute needs before leaving school for the day.

As a result, we ask that you avoid coming in to the school after 3:00 to request that your child be dismissed early. Unless it is an emergency, we ask that parents/guardians wait to pick-up their child at the dismissal time of 3:10.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Mark your calendars!

Back to School Night

Please join us for our annual “Back to School Night” on Thursday, September 14, 2017 beginning at 6:30 pm. We will begin with a brief presentation from our PTA and then parents/guardians will have an opportunity to experience a “day in the life” of your middle school student. LKMS spirit wear will be for sale by the PTA.