



Longfellow Newsletter

September, 2016

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<http://www.longfellow.ecasd.us>

Sarah Lynch, Principal
Brenda Wallace, Secretary
Michele Hazen, Secretary

Welcome Back!

As we return to school this week, I'd like to welcome you all back to Longfellow. Of course we are also welcoming the youngest and newest members of our student learning community with the addition of our kindergartners. The building is filled with the exciting energy of children all ready and eager to spend the year exploring and learning together. We'll start the year by reminding everyone how to Be Safe, Be Kind, and Be Ready. Please ask your child about it so they can explain it to you.

Although many things change each year, there is one constant at Longfellow. We continue to work with families and a community who provide us with phenomenal support. All of you make our work and success possible!

Happy New School Year!

Sarah Lynch

Longfellow Principal



Parent Handbook

Please keep your orange Parent Handbook handy that you received at Family Orientation so that you may refer to it throughout the school year for important information such as school calendars, schedules, school policies, etc.



UNIVERSAL FREE BREAKFAST AT LONGFELLOW SCHOOL



Have your student start his/her day the healthy way by eating breakfast! We are committed to the academic success of all of our students. One of the best tools that we can use to help all students succeed is to make sure they eat a healthy and nutritious breakfast, whether at home or at school.

School breakfast is an ideal solution on busy mornings when students are running late or when parents have early work schedules. Often students are not hungry first thing in the morning but are ready to eat when school begins. Other students may have long bus rides and are hungry by the time they arrive at school. Whatever the reason, if breakfast at home is not convenient, please take advantage of breakfast at school.

Studies have shown that students who eat breakfast:

- Perform better in school
- Are tardy less often
- Are more attentive in class
- Are more likely to have better eating habits
- Are less likely to be overweight
- Have decreased absences and trips to the nurse
- Have fewer behavior problems

The School Breakfast Program is available **AT NO CHARGE** to **all** students from 8:20—8:40 a.m. ***If you student is not a busser, please have them arrive no later than 8:30 so they have time to eat breakfast before the start-of-class bell at 8:40.*** While it is your choice of whether your child eats breakfast at home or at school, we do encourage your child to eat a nutritious breakfast.

Help us make sure that all students start the day alert, well fed and ready to learn!

Parent Reminders



- Please remember that there is no supervision on the playground until 8:20 and students shouldn't arrive until then.
- As always, even when raining, please direct your child to enter the school at Door #4 off the playground where a teacher will help them enter the school. Students **should NOT** be coming through the front door (Door 1) unless they are a patroller or in the EL Study Group.
- **Please make every effort** to discuss after school pick up or departure plans with your child either the night before or that morning. We need to refrain from interrupting classes near the end of the day with messages as this hinders the students' learning. Thank you for your help with this important matter.
- Without a written note or phone call from a parent, students **will be sent home the way indicated on the Emergency School Closing Plan** that was filled out on Family Orientation Day.

Picture Day



Just a reminder that picture day is coming up on **Friday, September 16th**. Please send your completed form with money on that day. If you have misplaced your order form or need an extra one please call or stop by the office. You can also order pictures online through Lifetouch as indicated on the order forms. Any questions on ordering, please **contact Lifetouch** directly.

Vision Screening



The American Optometric Association recommends that all school-aged children have an eye exam by an eye doctor every two years and every year if they have glasses or contacts. Only an eye care professional can diagnose and treat a vision problem, but school screenings can help find children in need of a full eye exam. Vision problems can result in poor school performance or poor behavior due to frustration. The school vision screening for the upcoming 2016-2017 school year will be on September 22nd and will include grades kindergarten, 2nd and 4th. If you have any questions please call your school nurse.

Longfellow Physical Education

GET OUTSIDE AND PLAY! Longfellow students hear me say these words every time they are lining up as their Physical Education class is ending. According to the CDC (Center for Disease Control) webpage, children 8-18 years of age spend an average of 7.5 hours a day using entertainment media including TV, computers, video games, cell phones, and movies. Of those 7.5 hours, about 4.5 hours is dedicated to viewing TV. Eighty three percent of children from 6 months to less than 6 years of age view TV or videos about 2 hours a day.

A sedentary lifestyle has been shown to lead to numerous adverse health risks including cardiovascular disease, type 2 diabetes, obesity, breathing problems, and muscle/joint pain. These alarming facts confirm the need to keep children active. There are many websites with great ideas for getting children outdoors and active. Google, "helping children be more active outdoors" for a listing of websites with ideas.

Have fun and be healthy,

Tom Dahl

Longfellow Physical Education Teacher



Title I and Parent Involvement



In accordance with federal law requirements, we are informing you that you may request information regarding the professional qualifications of your child's classroom teachers, including the following:

- whether the teacher has met state licensing criteria for the grade level(s) and subject area taught,
- whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or provisional status through which state licensing criteria have been waived, and
- the undergraduate degree major of the teacher, and any other graduate certification or degree held by the teacher, including the field of discipline of the certification or degree.
- Are there instructional aides working with my child? If so, what are their qualifications?

You may also request information regarding the professional qualifications of any paraprofessional providing services to your child. Requests for teacher and paraprofessional qualification information should be directed to Sarah Lynch at 715-852-3810. The requested information will be provided to you in a timely manner.

In addition, since Longfellow is a Title I school, we will notify parents of the following in a timely manner:

- The child's level of achievement on state assessments.
- When the child has been taught for 20 consecutive days by a teacher of a core academic subject (English, reading or language arts, math, science, history, civics and government, geography, economics, the arts, and foreign language) who does not meet the requirements of being highly qualified.

Immunizations



To meet family needs for flexibility, the **Eau Claire City-County Health Department** has **scheduled walk-in immunization clinics to appointments**. To schedule an appointment for immunizations please call 715-839-4718 (press 6). Receptionists are available to assist clients with scheduling an appointment time that works with their schedule.

Persons eligible for immunizations at the Health Department include children through 18 years of age who are

- * Medicaid eligible
- * Uninsured
- * American Indian or Alaska Native
- * Underinsured (Child has health insurance, but the coverage does not include all vaccines or covers only selected vaccines. Contact the health department for specific eligibility requirements.)

Adults, aged 19 and older, who are uninsured or underinsured are eligible to receive some vaccines for no cost. Hepatitis B and influenza are available to adults for a fee regardless of eligibility. Adults interested in receiving immunizations at the Health Department, should contact the Health Department to determine availability of vaccine, eligibility and cost.

Please contact a nursing supervisor at the Health Department at 715-839-4718 if you have any questions or concerns. We appreciate your partnership in helping us increase the immunization status of our community!



Head Lice in Schools



- Head lice can be a nuisance, but they have **not** been shown to spread disease.
- Personal hygiene or cleanliness in the home or school has nothing to do with getting head lice.
- Transmission of head lice usually occurs through direct contact with the **head** of another infested individual.
- Lice cannot hop or fly; they crawl. Nits (eggs) are attached to the hair shaft with a glue-like substance and are very unlikely to be transferred successfully to other people. In-school transmission is considered to be rare.
- When live head lice are found on a student, the parent/guardian will be notified by phone. The student will remain in the classroom, and a letter with treatment information will be sent home with the student at the end of the day.
- When nits (eggs) are found on a student, the student will remain in the classroom, and a letter with treatment information will be sent home with the student at the end of the day.
- Parents are asked to treat for head lice and remove all nits (eggs) before sending their child back to school. Most lice treatments do not kill nits, so it is important to remove all nits to prevent them from hatching into live lice.
- Treatment for lice is **not** recommended unless the child actually has lice. Parents are encouraged to make checking for head lice a part of routine hygiene, as lice is present in the community at all times of the year.
- Lice cases are tracked, and letters to parents notifying them of lice in the classroom will be sent out on an as-needed basis as determined by the school nurse and administrator.
- ECASD procedures for head lice management are based on recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the National Association of School Nurses, the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, and the ECASD Medical Advisor.
- You can contact our school nurse, Paula Zurbuchen, with questions. Call 715-852-3800 and ask for Paula!

Sharing Community Information

The Eau Claire Area School District is excited to announce a new process in sharing community and program information from outside agencies as it applies to children and families in our district.

Beginning in September of 2016, our process of information sharing will change to online posting of electronic flyers in a specific section of the ECASD web site. A Community Announcements page will be established at our web site and will be organized quarterly by month. Local organizations who offer programs and activities for school-age children and families will be asked to send PDF copies electronically to Teri Piper Thompson at tpiperthompson@ecasd.us for posting in the Community Announcements section. Teri will post links to the PDF flyers and organize the section by month. Three months of activities at a time will be posted at our web site.

Paper copies of flyers will no longer be sent home with families. Organizations may still drop off 20-25 copies of their event flyers at all schools to be put out in common areas for families and students to pick up if they prefer a paper copy over an electronic flyer. **(LONGFELLOW'S will be in the wall slots in the main office lobby.)**

Partnership coordinators will be asked to continually share the following message in their newsletters and other communication channels with families:

The Eau Claire Area School District offers a Community Announcements section on its web site. Families and students may go to (Community Announcements hyperlink) to view flyers for upcoming events in our community that apply to school-age students and families. If provided by the organization, paper copies for events may also be available in common areas of our buildings.

We are delighted to be able to continue to offer this service to outside organizations in our community in a way that is user-friendly and more manageable for our students and families!

Insurance

We still offer "Student Accident Insurance" for parents to purchase extra coverage from an independent company called First Agency; however, the new company does everything online. The web link below is published in the Student/Parent Handbook (page 38) you received from the District. You can also find the link on the District's school web pages at the top on the blue ribbon, under FORMS.

<http://www.1stagency.com/wischools.php?num=634>



SEPTEMBER 2016



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
			1 Family Orientation Day for ALL Students	2 First Day Gr 1-5 and designated half of kindergarten students
5 NO SCHOOL Labor Day	6 First Day for designated other half of kindergarten students	7 First day for ALL Kindergarten students	8	9
12	13 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4:00 All School Picnic 	14	15	16 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kid's Meals Begins Picture Day
19	20	21	22 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kindergarten, 2nd and 4th Grade Vision Screenings 	23 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grade 2 Field Trip to Beaver Creek Kid's Meals
26 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CLC Begins 	27 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Longfellow's Dairy Queen Day—Birch St. Location 	28	29	30 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kindergarten & 3rd Grade Hearing Screenings Kid's Meals

The Eau Claire School District does not discriminate against pupils on the basis of sex, race, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, or physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability or handicap in its education programs or activities. Federal law prohibits discrimination in employment on the basis of age, race, color, national origin, sex, religion or handicap.