

(sent May 27, 2021)

LPS Community,

As we are now just one day away from completing the 2020-2021 school year, we wanted to share with you a few reminders before we enter summer break. Please also be looking for additional updates periodically throughout the summer as we make preparations for the start of a successful 2021-2022 school year!

Friday, May 28, 2021 is a Three-Hour Early Release Day

As we officially close out the 2020-2021 school year tomorrow, this is a reminder that schools will be on a three-hour early release schedule. As you know, this school year has been one of the most unique and challenging school years in recent memory. Dr. Tucker had a chance to reflect on the year and wanted to share a video message with our LPS community. To view this message, click here.

<u>Summer School Session Set to Begin Thursday, June 3, 2021</u>

Our summer school team has been working hard making final preparations for this year's program. Summer school will take place from Thursday, June 3 - Wednesday, June 30, 2021. Earlier today, summer school families were provided information regarding mitigation protocols that will be followed in June. To view this message, click here. With nearly three months remaining before the start of the 2021-2022 school year, decisions regarding changes to our mitigation strategies in the fall will be shared with staff and families later this summer.

Returning Student Registration/Annual Residency Verification Coming Soon

We are excited to announce that if you have a student who is currently enrolled with Liberty Public Schools for the 2020-2021 school year, you will be able to complete the required *Returning Student Registration and Annual Residency Verification* for all students in one place online. Starting Monday, June 7, parents will be able to log into their Parent Portal account and select the *Returning Student Registration* page in the left column. There, you will be able to update your student's information for the upcoming school year (contact information, medical changes, etc.). This is also where you will upload your residency verification items (utility bills, lease agreement, etc.). We ask that this process be completed for each of your students before August 1, 2021.

If you do not already have a PowerSchool Parent Portal account, and need to set one up, you can do that at any time by following the steps on the Liberty Public Schools website under *For Families*, then *PowerSchool*, or <u>click here</u>.

For more information regarding required documentation to prove residency, you can locate information on the LPS website under *For Families* then *Returning Student Registration* or by clicking here.

School Meal Waivers to Continue for 2021-2022 School Year

Recently, the U.S. Department of Agriculture extended the School Meal Waivers through the 2021-2022 school year, allowing schools to serve meals at no charge for all students through June 2022. This effort is to support the safe reopening and healthy, nutritious meals. Additional information will be shared by our nutrition services team as we approach the start of the 2021-2022 school year in August.

Upcoming Changes with PowerSchool System

Over the summer, LPS will be migrating the system we use for student management and grades to a hosted solution. As a result, the web address will change from https://ps.lps53.org to https://lps53.powerschool.com. We will send out notifications once the migration is complete, but you will need to update any bookmarks you may have saved. We anticipate the new link will be active during the first part of July. Your username and password will not change. If you do not have a PowerSchool account to view student grades, please contact your child's school to start the process.

Heritage Middle School Track and Field Space to be Closed This Summer

Beginning June 1, 2021, the track and field space at Heritage Middle School will be closed while the turf is being replaced and the running track is expanded and resurfaced. The work is scheduled to be completed by mid-August, in time for the start of the 2021-2022 school year. During construction, the track, field, and west parking lot will be closed to the public. The tennis courts will remain open during construction (access can be gained from the north parking lot along College Street). The building will remain open to LPS staff over the summer, and parking will be available in the north and east lots.

Back to School Vaccination Clinic Scheduled for June 10, 2021

It is not too early to start thinking about back to school vaccinations for our students. The Clay County Public Health Center will be providing a vaccine clinic on Thursday, June 10, 2021. Families must have an appointment in advance. For more information on this clinic, <u>click here</u>.

Opportunities for Vaccinations for Students 12 and Up

We have received questions from families who would choose to have their child(ren) vaccinated for COVID-19 this summer. Below, is information we recently received from health providers:

Truman Medical Centers/University Health has announced that they are now providing Pfizer COVID-19 vaccinations for people age 12 and up. You can now visit their COVID-19 vaccine clinics, which are open weekdays 7 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. You may call 816-404-CARE (2273) to schedule an appointment or simply walk in. Anyone under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a parent or

- guardian. You can walk in to receive the vaccine Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. 3:30 p.m., at their downtown location, 2211 Charlotte Street, or at the Lakewood campus, 7900 Lee's Summit Rd. If you prefer to schedule an appointment, <u>click here</u> or call (816) 404-CARE to speak to someone.
- Children's Mercy Hospital is hosting <u>vaccination clinics</u> for those ages 12-22. You can self-schedule on the <u>MyChildrensMercy</u> patient portal or by calling the COVID-19 Vaccine Scheduling Hotline at (816) 302-6300. Please know that scheduled appointments are required.
- In addition, all of the major retail pharmacies are offering appointments for 12 years old and up. Though walk-ins are permitted, appointments are recommended.

Emergency Broadband Benefit Program

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) announced a new Emergency Broadband Benefit program. This temporary benefit program will lower the cost of broadband service for eligible households during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The Emergency Broadband Benefit program provides a discount of up to \$50 per month toward broadband service for eligible households and up to \$75 per month for qualifying households. The benefit also provides a discount of up to \$100 per household toward a one-time purchase of a computer, laptop, or tablet if the household contributes \$10 to \$50 toward the purchase through a participating broadband provider. If you participated in the Liberty Public Schools Free & Reduced Meal Program, you may be eligible for this program. Eligible households can enroll through a participating broadband provider or directly with the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) using an online or mail-in application.

You will need your verification of benefits letter as proof of your participation in the free and reduced lunch program for your application. Contact the LPS Nutrition Services office (816-736-5375) if you do not already have a copy on file. If you have any questions about this program, please <u>click here</u>.

As always, thank you for your attention, and have a great summer!

Office of Communications

Liberty Public Schools