

Parent Advisory
Council Rep:
Anne Thielen
(Oliver's Mom)

LHL Tribune

March 2015

Minneapolis Kids
Minneapolis Community Education

www.facebook.com/MplsKids



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Extra! Extra! Read All about Us!



Brrrrr! It's a chilly one out there. Please continue to send all winter attire because we will go outside every day weather permitting, above zero degrees in temperature or wind chill.

Children have been over the moon on kid-led projects and more and more are signing up. Leo led an exciting license plate project, while Juliet and Sonia taught other kids to finger knit. Thank you to Jordyn

and Vanessa for sharing their expertise on lovely lanyards. Thanks to all of those kiddos that are sharing their amazing talents.

It was brought to our attention as well that there just is not enough physical activity for girls. We do see this as an issue as well and we are going to try to make an effort on setting something up on the other side of the lunch room whether it being jump roping, skip-it, hula hooping, etc. Thank you for all the amazing feedback—we have such incredible families here.

Welcome

We welcome Jordan on board and say goodbye to Elizabeth.

Jordan started with us in January and will be with us both in the AM and PMs. Along with hanging out with our truly amazing group of friends here at Minneapolis Kids, he is hanging out with other kiddos working on getting his teaching license.

Elizabeth has worked with us a good portion of the year, but has decided to take a job in the Saint Paul school district. We wish her well on her new position.

Accreditation Corner

READY...SET... ACTION!!! LHL has been working hard on the accreditation process and have come up with an action plan. Some areas of improvement we are working on are:

- ⇒ Maximum group size to not exceed 24
- ⇒ Implement more community Involvement
- ⇒ Set specific times and location for children to do their homework
- ⇒ Kid input/child led projects
- ⇒ Better communication with families
- ⇒ Designated spaces to show off students' art work

You are Welcome to Move Around!!!

We always have someone nearby as you enter the building for a variety of reasons. First and foremost, for the safety of the children. We know who is entering and exiting the building. It is an easy way for the hallways to be monitored and the staff person can be a reference for where your child is located.

We extend the invitation to all parents that you are welcome to get your child from the location they are playing in. Sometimes it is fun to see what cool projects they are working on or what friendships are developing. Look at your child's colored magnet and location and then go take a peek.



Kids Welcome:

Before School 6:30-9:40
After School 4:00-6:00

Non-School Days in March and April

Fri, Mar 27: On Site at LHL—“Paging Dr. Jones” Join our favorite archeologist “Dr. Indiana Jones” as we make dinosaur eggs, hunt for artifacts and other exciting happenings.
[TSRASTLLSCAM](#)

Mon, Mar 30: Field Trip—Pepitos and Movie TBD 10:30—3:00
 4820 Chicago Ave S 55102 (651)225-6006
[www.pepitosrestaurant.com](#)
****Buffet-style taco lunch provided. Want something else? Bring a bag lunch. The movie is next door at Parkway Theater.**
[TSSC](#)

Tues, Mar 31: On Site at LHL—National Board Game Final 4
 Who needs the Collegiate Basketball Final Four? We have our multiple board game competition! From Candyland to Risk, tourney brackets for each game make it official. Who will be our champions?
[TSSTLLSC](#)

Wed, Apr 1: Field Trip—Good Times Park
Grades 2+ 9:30—1:00 / Grades K-1 12:00—3:30
 3265 Northwood Circle #100, Eagan 55121 651-454-5736
[www.goodtimespark.com](#)
****Bring tennis shoes.** Grades 2+ will eat lunch when they return to LHL. Grades K-1 will eat lunch at LHL before they leave.
[TSRAST](#)

Thurs, Apr 2: On Site at LHL—Goin’ On a Bear Hunt
 We are going over, under, and around obstacles as we search for those elusive bears. Along the way, we’ll have a few other indoor/outdoor adventures to delight all our friends.
[TSRASTNALLSCAM](#)

Fri, Apr 3: Field Trip—Science Museum 10:15—3:45
 120 Kellogg Blvd, W. St Paul 55102 (651)221-9444 [smm.org](#)
****Bring a bag lunch and drink.** [TSSTLLSCAMNA](#)

Communication

In response to the family survey, we are trying a variety of ways we communicate with our families. A few of the things we are doing are the monthly newsletter, parent table notices, REMIND texting, and our website.

We also have a white board in our entry way featuring riddles submitted by the kids, a weather indicator telling us what we need to wear, the project of the day and any other information that would be important for all to know.

We have an ongoing problem with parents picking up their children after the 6:00 pm closing time. We hear a lot of concern from the children when parents are late.

We decided as a team to address the late pick ups via emails to both parents so all are aware of the situation. This keeps the issue between adults and removes a potential stressful situation for the children when essentially it is the parent’s responsibility to be on time.

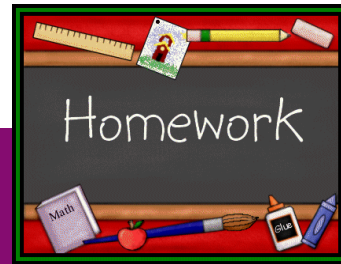
Both LHL and LHU have implemented this change. We are making a conscious effort to work together to make things consistent through both programs.

The first late email will state your child’s name, check out time, and a reminder to make a back up plan for when you are delayed.

The second email will repeat both times a parent has been late with a reminder to implement your back up plan. The third will include the Main Office and a reminder that care may be terminated if another late pick up happens.

You will be billed as usual for the minutes after 6:00 according to the computer sign out. We will send out the email notices on the Monday of each week.

Hopefully this will lessen the worries of the children and bring our late days to an end.



Children are able to do homework anytime they are with Minneapolis Kids. In the afternoons, the children can opt out from going outside to complete their homework in the lunchroom in peace and quiet. Let us know if you would like your child to work on his/her homework while she/he is with Minneapolis Kids.

Our Mission: To provide high quality school age child care for families. We offer a safe, nurturing, educational and recreational experience where children are encouraged to pursue interests and develop friendships, independence, and confidence.