

NOVEMBER 13TH, 2019

Loring Community School

2600 44th Avenue N, Minneapolis, MN 55412

T: 612-668-2060 Online: Loring.mpls.k12.mn.us

<https://www.facebook.com/MPS.Loring>



PRINCIPAL CORNER

Greetings families! I can't believe we're already starting the second quarter of learning here at Loring. It's been an eventful opening of the school year and one of the best starts of the school year in my nine years as principal of Loring. In the midst of all the challenges we've faced with construction, I think it's really bonded all of us together to make us an even stronger community. I want to share all the great things happening at Loring this first quarter of the school year and to invite you to a very special construction completion ribbon cutting ceremony prior to our Turkey Bingo celebration on Friday, November 22nd starting at 5:30. Here are a few highlights from our first quarter of learning:

- Construction Completion – Students in 4th and 5th grade were the first group to walk through the new doors to the office a few weeks ago. Seeing how excited and proud they were of their new fancy office was really cute to see. It's very important for me as your principal to have not only amazing adults supporting your scholars each day but also to have world class facilities that we can all be proud of. We also moved the technology lab into our old office. This new space is a great place to showcase all the wonderful STEM learning taking place each day. Additionally, our MPS Kids before and after school daycare program now officially has its own space/room! MPS Kids is now located on the first floor across from the cafeteria. The upgrade in lighting allows us to dim classrooms and to provide optimal lighting instead of the standard institutionalized lighting that we had in the past. Air conditioning and heating systems are up and running. We're still working out some of the kinks in the system, but overall, it's been really nice having air conditioning during those hot fall days and now we have nice radiator heat during these cold months. Finally, our new cafeteria is officially completed. We're in the process of hiring staff to cook and to supervise the lunchroom. Once we are fully staffed, we'll be moving to on-site cooking for the kids! With all these changes, I just want to send out a huge thank you to all the families who have supported us through this difficult process. Thank you for being flexible and understanding with our parking, accessibility to the building and communication. Come celebrate with us on Friday, November 22nd starting at 5:30 for our ribbon cutting ceremony!

NOVEMBER 14

Picture Retake Day
Give to the Max Day

NOVEMBER 12-15

Ready, Set, Smile Clinic at Loring

NOVEMBER 22

Turkey Bingo and Flu Shot Clinic
5:30- 7:30 PM

NOVEMBER 25-26

NO AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS
(EXCEPT MINNEAPOLIS KIDS)

NOVEMBER 27-29

NO SCHOOL – FALL BREAK

DECEMBER 4

SPIRIT DAY – GRADE COLOR DAY

- High 5 Blue
- Kindergarten Red
- 1st Green
- 2nd - Black
- 3rd - Orange
- 4th - Purple
- 5th - Yellow

DECEMBER 6

5th Grade field trip to MN Zoo
Holiday on 44th

DECEMBER 23-27

NO SCHOOL – WINTER BREAK

DECEMBER 30 – JAN 3

NO SCHOOL – WINTER BREAK

- Youth Advisory – Mrs. Sheila, our school social worker, meets with student youth advisors weekly to get their input on the building climate and feedback on programming and issues that are meaningful for students. Last year they tackled the Equal Rights Act and presented to families about the need to have equal rights to women not only in Minnesota, but across our country. This year they're continuing their work on the ERA, but are also looking into our discipline practices here at Loring in order to continue to have us grow as a school. Digging into the inequities and offering solutions to the problem will be a big part of their work. We're so excited to have the youth advisors on the job!
- Community Action Group – One of our after-school community education programs is focusing on spreading kindness in our community and paying it forward. They have some special surprises for our building. One that I can share is a project they'll be doing on Thursday's that focuses on spreading kind messages across the building. Using sticky notes, art, poems and other positive mojo techniques to spread kindness will be awesome to see. Kids will be in for a really positive experience when they come to school on Fridays!
- Square 1 art fundraiser – This is a new fundraiser that we're testing out this year. It doesn't involve cookie dough and much better aligns to our health and wellness policy at Loring. Students create an original piece of art and this company will put it on stickers and other items that families can choose to purchase. Funds go directly back to our PTA to help support classroom activities like field trips and classroom supplies.
- Sweden Exchange – For the past few years we've had teachers and staff go to Sweden to observe their culture and education system and then Swedish teachers come visit our school system. It's been a fun partnership and our very own Youth Advisory presented to them a huge lesson on the importance of equity and how important this is to our Loring family.
- Ann Kaari Foundation – Ann Kaari was a former Minneapolis Public School board member, Northside proponent and huge advocate for Loring Community School. In memory of her service to the students and families of North Minneapolis. Her husband has started the Ann Kaari memorial, matching donations for Loring. Each year Mr. Kaari donates money that is matched by our PTA to support educational field trips and replacement clothing for our scholars. You'll hear more about how you can help support this great memorial in support of Loring School in upcoming newsletters!
- Partnership with Faith Baptist Church and Northside Church – We have two local congregations that support Loring through volunteering and many other charitable donations. Northside Church is at the beginning stages of collaborating with Loring. They will be hosting services out of our school on Sunday's starting later this month.

We look forward to continued excellence at Loring in the upcoming months. We appreciate your partnership, love and support of our Loring Community.

In peace,
 Ryan Gibbs
 Principal
 Loring Community School

rgibbs@mpls.k12.mn.us

"We are ALL here, ALL the time, for ALL children!"

OTHER NEWS AND IMPORTANT INFORMATION

PICTURE RETAKE

Picture retake is this Thursday, Nov. 14th. If you plan to have your student take a retake and they already had a packet given to them from the original picture day, please have them bring their packet with them. Please be sure to order your pictures online at www.mylifetouch.com.

WINTER WEATHER IS HERE

Our schools provide students with a safe and stable place to learn. We understand that canceling school may cause some families hardships related to finding child care. Please see the attached flyer concerning our winter weather procedures.

TRUE FOOD TASTE TEST

The first True Food Taste Test of the school year is coming up on November 13! During lunch, all students will have the chance to try a small sample of our Three Sisters Soup -- a delicious mix of corn, butternut squash, and beans! This recipe is inspired by the Native American legend of the Three Sisters—corn, bean, and squash—and how they help one another grow. The purpose of this taste test is to get students excited about trying new foods. It is also a lead-up to American Indian Awareness & Family Involvement Week, which begins November 18! For more information and the recipe, visit the MPS Culinary & Wellness Services website: <http://nutritionservices.mpls.k12.mn.us/tfft>.

STUFFED ANIMAL DRIVE

The Leopard Leaders from our afterschool Community Action class are organizing a Stuffed Animal Drive. The organization we have decided to donate to is called Stuffed Animals For Emergencies (SAFE). Their website is <https://stuffedanimalsforemergencies.org/>. The stuffed animals we receive will be donated to a SAFE location, then given to children in emergency situations who need the comfort of our donated toys. The drive will be taking place at **Turkey Bingo**, on November 22nd. We ask that families bring new or gently used stuffed animals to donate to our drive. We will also be asking for donations to contribute to our shipping costs, as there are no SAFE locations here in MN. We hope to be sending out our donations shortly after organizing and packing them. Any stuffed animals or donations will be greatly appreciated! If you cannot make it to our drive at Turkey Bingo, but would like to donate with us, you can contact the class teacher directly at melinda.chang@mpls.k12.mn.us. Thank you all in advance!



EMERGENCY CHANGE OF CLOTHES

Now that the elements are changing outside, it is important to make sure our scholars have an emergency change of clothes and shoes. This is also helpful for when students have other kinds of accidents that requires them to change into different clothing. It is better for our students to be able to change into their own clothing than the clothing in the health office. These clothes will be kept in the student's locker. If you need assistance with clothing or outer wear please contact our social worker Ms. Sheila Webb at 612-668-2067 or Sheila.Webb@mpls.k12.mn.us. Thank you.

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMMING TRANSPORTATION (BUSES)

Transportation has instructed us to advice families that just like regular day busing, buses may arrive 10-15 minutes before and after your scheduled drop off time. Also, be aware that with the seasons changing students are getting to their bus stops while it is dark outside. Lastly, with the temperatures getting colder it is a good idea to have a backup plan with your student in case they are not able to get into the house. For example; many families connect with a nearby neighbor and teach their student to go to that location in the event they are not able to get into their house.

DON'T FORGET, NO AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMMING NOV. 25-26

**5:30PM, FRIDAY,
NOVEMBER 22, 2019**



**LORING
TURKEY BINGO
& RIBBON CUTTING**

**A FUNDRAISER FOR
LORING COMMUNITY SCHOOL**

.....
HOT DOG DINNER- \$3*

BINGO- \$.50* PER CARD

FLU SHOTS- FREE

If insured, bring card

.....
**2600 44TH AVENUE
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55412**

**if scholarships are needed, contact Loring social worker,
Ms. Sheila, at 612.668.2060 or sheila.webb@mpls.k12.mn.us*

TRUE FOOD TASTE TEST!

THREE SISTERS SOUP

Corn, squash, & beans are often known as “The Three Sisters” in indigenous cultures because of how these plants help one another grow.

 *Nov 13-15* 



For more information, materials and recipes, visit cws.mpls.k12.mn.us/tfft

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! GIVE TO THE MAX DAY IS NOVEMBER 14TH!

On Give to the Max Day, thousands of people will donate to Minnesota schools and nonprofit organizations. Because it's all totally online, it's a great opportunity to raise some money for our students without attending an event or going door-to-door.

Loring will be sharing links on our website, our Facebook page, and through email. All you have to do is share those. It's easy and it really works!

Our Give to the Max Day page:

<https://www.givemn.org/organization/Pta-Minnesota-Congress-30549>
(This link will be on the school website and Facebook page, too!)



give
TO THE
MAX 

NOV. 14, 2019

**LORING PARENTS AND FAMILIES:
GET INVOLVED IN A FUN AND CREATIVE WAY -**

ART ADVENTURE

Art Adventure is a partnership between schools and the Minneapolis Institute of Arts. Parents attend a training at the museum, and then we visit classrooms to talk to our students about what they see and think about when they look at art.

**WE NEED VOLUNTEERS TO MAKE THIS HAPPEN.
YOU DON'T NEED TO BE AN EXPERT OR EVEN
HAVE ANY PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE WITH ART!**

HOW IT WORKS:

**DECEMBER: ATTEND A
CASUAL INFORMATIONAL
MEETING WITH OTHER
PARENTS**

**JANUARY: GO TO TRAIN-
ING AT THE MUSEUM**

**FEBRUARY: VISIT CLASS-
ROOMS!**



**WANT MORE INFORMATION?
READY TO SIGN UP?**

EMAIL CARIN AT CARIN.MROTZ@GMAIL.COM.

**WE'LL SET OUR DECEMBER MEETING DATE
TOGETHER, SO SIGN UP NOW TO HAVE A
SAY IN THE SCHEDULING!**



Winter weather is here

BE PREPARED IF WE CANCEL SCHOOL

Our schools provide students with a safe and stable place to learn. We understand that canceling school may cause some families hardships related to finding child care.

We consider closing school when:

- Wind chill is at -35°F (-37°C) or colder at 6:30 a.m.
- More than 6 inches of snow falls in 12 hours
- More than 8 inches of snow falls in 24 hours

We try to tell parents:

- By 6:00 p.m. the day before the cancellation, OR
- By 5:30 a.m. the day of the cancellation

We announce cancellations by:

Phone calls | Texts | Website | Facebook | Twitter | Radio | TV

Visit www.mpls.k12.mn.us/school_closing for more information.

