Dear Loring Families,

After engaging with students, staff and families around budget, staffing, equity and the vision for Loring School, we have made a strong plan for the 2021 school year. I’m going to share some of the information that helped drive our final budget/staffing plan and will give you an update on our staffing for next year.

Our stakeholders were asked to reflect on the vision for student success and equity with this question: What would the school look like, feel like, and sound like, when all students are successful, and the school is achieving educational equity? Here are themes from the responses:

- Students feel safe, respected and challenged.
- Active and engaged learning that is based on a student’s academic needs.
- Truthful and representative curriculum.
- Prioritizing the hiring and retention of staff of color.
- Narrowing the academic achievement gap between students of color and white students until there is no gap at Loring.
- Strong relationships formed between students, families and staff.

Our stakeholders were asked to write what core values they felt are important for Loring School and how those values are put into action. Here are the overall themes from the responses:

- Calm, safe and predictable environment where all children can learn and achieve to their greatest potential.
- Valuing community and a strong sense of belonging, connectedness and learning from each other.
- Valuing teaching to the whole child with programs that support health and wellness.
- Strong partnerships and relationships are formed and reinforced throughout the years.
- Diversity amongst staffing and students.
- Equity.

Budget/Staffing Process

It was challenging to deal with approximately $116,000 in cuts to the 2021 budget, but with retirements and shifting resources, Loring has created an optimal solution / plan based on our core values. One of the driving factors in this
budget is retaining and supporting our talented teachers and staff. Here is the current staffing plan for the 2021 school year:

**High 5**
Elizabeth Saemann – Teacher
High 5 Associate Educator – Hiring for this position after Mrs. Renee announced her retirement

**Kindergarten**
Michelle Donahue – Teacher
Lisa Alm-Plaziak – Teacher
Kaitlynn Cline – Teacher

**1st Grade**
Krista Lima -Teacher
Mark Forsline – Teacher
Stafford Gutknecht – Teacher

**2nd Grade**
Zib Beck – Teacher
Haylie Zenner – Teacher
Karla Anderson – Teacher

**3rd Grade**
Robyn Eller – Teacher
Linda Siverson-Hall – Teacher
TBD – Hiring externally for a 3rd grade position

**4th Grade**
Barbara Rundles – Teacher
Angela Bailey -Teacher

**5th Grade**
Tia Tanzer – Teacher
Allison Thompson – Teacher

**Specialists**
John Raidt – Technology/STEM
Nancy Duwenhoegger – PE
Lindsey Baldwin – Art
Austin Ertelt – Music

**Special Education**
Ricardo Layne – Teacher
Tara Brower – Teacher
Annmary Boler – Teacher
Neville McKinnie - Teacher
Clarissa Gracie – SEA
Ann Wilson-Dodson – SEA
Max Grassa – SEA
Colton Moyer – SEA

**Interventionists**
Morgan Stangl
Christine Roland

**English Language Learner (ELL)**
Sarah Campbell – Teacher

**Associate Educators**
Jose Bedoya – Bilingual Spanish
Brian Moynihan – Instructional
Stephanie Peterson – Instructional
Ernest Tucker – Dean of Students

**Office and Administration**
Noy Sithiphong – Head Secretary
Romina Hiti – Transportation/Office Support
Carly Siewert – Family Liaison
Sheila Webb – Social Worker
Ryan Gibbs – Principal
Janey Erickson – Health Service Assistant
Kelly Erickson – Nurse

If you have any questions, comments or feedback regarding the budget or staffing process, please feel free to call or email me at: 612-668-2060, rgibbs@mpls.k12.mn.us

Sincerely,
Ryan Gibbs
Principal
Loring School
We’re ALL here, ALL the time, for ALL children!

**UPCOMING EVENTS & NEWS**

**5TH GRADE CAMP OSPREY WILDS**
Fifth grade families—please get your permission slips in for Osprey Wilds by March 26th. The cost for the camp is $150 per student and covers all transportation, lodging, and food, as well as the great activities that students will experience. Please make checks payable to ‘Loring Elementary School’. Please return completed forms and payment to your student’s homeroom teacher. If you have any questions, please ask Ms. Thompson at allison.thompson@mpls.k12.mn.us or Ms. Tanzer at tia.tanzer@mpls.k12.mn.us
LORING LIGHT RAIL START UP

We are happy to share that the Loring Light Rail will run on Fridays again starting APRIL 10 to the end of the school year! The Friday 0.5-mile walk to school gives students a concentration boost. Furthermore, students who engage in physical activity see gains in achievement and attendance. Best of all, students get to walk with friends, classmates, staff, and parents.

Beginning April 10 all bus riders will be dropped off at Victory Memorial Drive and Knox and met by Loring staff. Students will follow the walking path to Sheridan Avenue where they will turn left to school. Along the route, students will be supervised by school staff and supported by school safety patrol and volunteers.

Walkers and driven students are invited to meet us at the starting point at 8:25 a.m. Please park away from 45th/Victory Memorial Drive and Knox to not block the school bus zone. All students who ride the school bus will be included in this program. There is nothing further you must do. The Loring Light Rail will run every Friday. If you have questions or do NOT want your student to participate in this activity, please contact Nancy Duwenhoegger (Ms. D), physical education teacher, at 612.668.2060 or nancy.duwenhoegger@mpls.k12.mn.us by March 25.

KIDS COOK

Kids Cook Classroom is an integrated Cooking and Gardening Program at Loring. These interactive lessons are in the garden and outdoor kitchen on Earth Day through May. Robin and Starla Krause are community volunteers that plan, prepare and teach these lessons for each grade level. They are dependent on parents, other community volunteers to assist with these classes. Please look at your calendar and select a classroom lesson that is of interest to you. Plan on spending a day or half day outside in the garden with the children.

Gardening Volunteers 8:30 - 12:00  Cooking Volunteers 12:00 - 4:00  Clean-Up Volunteers 3:30 - 4:30

Spring lessons (All classes dependent on Weather):
April 22nd: Earth Day & Garden Clean-up 12:00 to 6:00pm – help is especially needed after 3:30pm.
April 24th: Arbor Day/ Garden Clean-up 12:00 to 3:00 (5th grade students)
May 11th: Trees, Plants and Vines Orchard (Kindergarten and High 5)
May 15th: Composting and Planting Potatoes (1st grade)
May 18th: What a Plant needs to Grow (2nd grade)
May 22nd: Three Sisters Garden/ Medical Herbs (4th grade)
May 26th: The Parts of the Plant We Eat (3rd grade)

NEWS FROM THE HEALTH OFFICE

MPS is working closely with the City, Hennepin County, and the Minnesota Department of Health to stay up-to-date on the best ways to keep students and staff safe from the COVID-19 (Corona) virus. At Loring, we are putting an emphasis on good hand washing habits, which is the most effective way to stop viruses (this includes the flu too!). You can help us by encouraging your scholar to practice good hand washing at home:
- Wash hands with soap and water for 20 seconds- about the time it takes to sing "Happy Birthday" twice.
- Wash your hands before eating, after using the bathroom, after playing outside, and after coughing, sneezing, or blowing your nose.
- Cough or sneeze into your elbow.
- Try not to touch your face, and if you do, wash your hands first.
In addition, if your child has a fever, please keep them at home until they are fever free for 24 hours (without fever reducing medicine) before returning to school. Please notify the school of influenza-like symptoms (fever, cough, sore throat).
For more information on the Corona Virus, influenza, and other communicable diseases, check out the CDC website https://www.cdc.gov/
SCHOLAR SPOTLIGHT

ART ON DISPLAY

We are so proud to have several scholar’s artwork on display at the Davis Center for the Viva City Visual Arts Exhibition 2019-2020! The following students have their art on display:
Zoe – 2nd grade, Ge’Mier – 4th grade, Savannah – 5th grade. Congratulations to all of them!

FAMILY & COMMUNITY NEWS

NOTES FROM FEB. 20TH PTA MEETING

During our last PTA meeting, we discussed the budget changes for the next school year. Although Loring did get a budget cut, Principal Gibbs is happy to report that there will be no huge changes.

Parents showed interest in supporting our staff. Much of our staff is a part of the Minneapolis Federation of Teachers and is currently going through negotiations. Their website has information about ways to support: www.mft59.org/

A big part of the discussion was around Loring’s communication with families. Many people agreed of wanting more communication in ways that they can keep track of the information – like an email or a flyer. Directly because of this we will be testing out some new methods of communication, such as texts, more flyers sent home, flyers in the front entrance, and sticker labeling scholars.

Lastly, there was a discussion of the CDD (Comprehensive District Design). Parents wanted more transparency from the district about how the proposed models will result in an increase of the success and desirability of the schools. They wanted to see the data regarding the racially isolated schools. There was note of how the train tracks were used as a boundary line and how it pulls on historical similarities. One brought up the district’s promise to the Shingle Creek Neighborhood to have Loring as a pathway. Lastly, it was shared that KerryJo Felder was organizing specific CDD discussions for the Northside. Her email is: KerryJo.Felder@mpls.k12.mn.us

SHOWCASE NIGHT
March 22; 5-7:00
Art * Science * Robotics
Loring Band* Poetry * Footlights
Food truck; True Food Catering
$7 hamburger meal
Loring students eat free
Help Shape Your School!

The Loring PTA exists to develop school community through family engagement, fundraising, and school (and district) improvement initiatives. You may have seen us around in such roles as popcorn server, bingo card dealer, or t-shirt maker - but this year we've also funded class field trips, new classroom seating to accommodate all types of learners, educational software and subscriptions for classrooms, and new balls and robots for scholars to play and learn with.

As an all-volunteer group, the PTA relies on the involvement of families to make things happen and will soon be electing its next slate of leaders for the 20-21 school year. If you'd like to learn more about the PTA and get involved, you can do any of the following: (1) attend our next group meeting on April 23rd (2) email loringcc@gmail.com OR call Paul S (612-229-1382) with questions; and/or (3) follow this link https://tinyurl.com/wpqrn8h to sign up for PTA meeting notices and let us know where you might be interested in getting involved. Thanks Loring community!

Loring’s Amazon Wish List

The PTA has asked Loring staff to create a "wish list" of things they'd like for their scholars. We’ve put this list on Amazon.com, though you are welcome to purchase the items at your favorite shop. You can find the list at tinyurl.com/loringlist

Support Loring While Shopping

If you are an Amazon shopper, you can also choose Loring to benefit from your regular purchases. Go to smile.amazon.com and click “get started.” When asked to pick your charity, search for Loring Community Council PTA. A portion of qualifying purchases will go to the PTA.

Coming Up

Readathon
3/2/2020 – 3/20/2020
During March, we have our Readathon Fundraiser. It’s simple, your kids read, and you ask friends and family to donate to support and reward their hard work. This is the PTA’s biggest fundraiser of the year! Packets were sent home with your students in February.

Contact Information

Facebook
www.facebook.com/groups/loringfamilies

Email
loringcc@gmail.com

Phone
Paul S, Secretary
612-229-1382
LORING SUPER SATURDAYS!

Join us at Loring on Saturday mornings for classes that are fun and engaging.

APRIL 11, 18, 25, MAY 2, 9, 16
LORING COMMUNITY SCHOOL
2600 44TH AVE N, MPLS 55412

Spring classes include:
- Trucks, Trains & Cars
  (Ages 4 - 6) / $45 / 10-11:30a
- Little Chefs Cooking Class
  (1st - 3rd Grades) / $49 / 10a-12p
- Archery (3rd - 8th Grades) / $45 / 10a-12p

Sign up online at
mplscommunityed.com
(Search "Loring") or call
Mariah Messer 612-668-2077

Community Education
FAMILY FUN AT NORTH MARKET

TROPICAL ADVENTURES!

Tired of the snow? Take a break from the cold and ice to enjoy activities like making colorful paper flowers, playing a tropical fruit guessing game, and making your own fruit smoothie.

SAT. MARCH 14, 2020 // 11AM - 12:30PM
NORTH MARKET COMMUNITY ROOM
4414 HUMBOLDT AVE N. MPLS-55412

For more information contact 612-668-2077 or visit mplscommunityed.com (Search "North Market")
Welcome to Minneapolis Public Schools 2020 Summer Programs!
June 15 – July 23
Monday - Thursday

This year the district will be **offering 3 programs** for students to enroll in.

1. **GEMS-GISE Academy for current K - 5.**
The GEMS-GISE STEM Academy focuses on explorations in science and mathematics through project based and problem based learning experiences that promote the integration of engineering and technology concepts, content and process.

   Current K – 4th grade students program will be held at Hmong International (1501 30th Ave. North) for Loring students. This is a district-wide program with transportation available for qualifying MPS students. The time will be 9:15 – 3:35.

   Current 5th grade students program will be held at Northeast Middle School (2955 Hayes St. NE). The time will be 9:15 - 3:45

2. **General Summer Program for Current K - 4th Graders**
This program focused on accelerating student growth through culturally relevant, socially and emotionally support instruction. Students participate in engaging integrated science, literacy and math learning experiences. General Summer Programs offer music, art and physical education and students participate in onsite and off-site program field trips.

   This program will be held at Cityview (3350 4th Street N) for Loring students. Transportation is available for qualifying MPS students. The time will be 8:00 – 2:30

3. **Multi-Culture Immersion Program for Current K – 4 Graders**
NEW THIS SUMMER!! Students will experience Summer Session through an Afrocentric lens, or become immersed in the Immigrant Experience or Native America Minnesota Past and Present. Students will walk in the footsteps of leaders and learn history through stories of their own and others. They will explore who they are and who they want to be.

   Students will explore cultures though hands on activities in arts, social traditions literature and language. Students learn about historical contributions from experienced teachers and local community experts representing African American, American Indian and global immigrant cultures.

   This program will be held at Sullivan/Anishinabe or Nellie Stone for Loring students. The time will be 8:00 – 2:30

**EASY REGISTRATION ONLINE AT** [http://summerschool.mpls.k12.mn.us](http://summerschool.mpls.k12.mn.us)
**Question please contact Ms. D at** nancy.duwenhoegger@mpls.k12.mn.us