

Lincoln Families,

Welcome back to school! I hope you are soaking in this beautiful stretch of summer weather and these final days before the start of school. As you can imagine, it's been quite a busy summer in preparation for this unconventional return to school! Like each of you, I have no greater wish than for a traditional start to the school year and for the opportunity to welcome your kids back to Lincoln in person on August 27. Unfortunately, those selfish desires have been temporarily sidelined in honor of the safety and well-being of our kids, staff, and community. Therefore, however unconventional it may seem, the Lincoln staff and I couldn't be more excited to welcome your kids back to Lincoln for the "remote" start of the 2020-21 school year.

I offer a heartfelt welcome to the over fifty new families joining the Lincoln community this school year. Although your initiation to our Fine Fine School seems somewhat anticlimactic, please know how excited we are to welcome you, and especially your kids, to our school.

As the countdown ticks closer, I can only imagine the numerous questions our kids and each of you have related to the start of school and remote learning. Therefore, through the following video and the content of this message, I am hopeful to cover many of the high level questions you might have. So, grab some popcorn and enjoy my first video message of the 2020-2021 school year!

[WELCOME BACK TO LINCOLN VIDEO](#)

Schedules:

At the forefront of establishing our "remote learning" plan for fall 2020 has been the specific intention of creating aligned grade-level schedules. Below are links to each of these. Upon examination, you will see that each grade-level will follow a consistent schedule each day. Additionally, Lincoln teachers will be in constant collaboration with each other to ensure that the lessons taught each day are aligned and consistent across each section. Classroom teachers will also be sending this information in their forthcoming communications along with individual class rosters and more specific class schedules. In many ways, these schedules are intended to provide a consistent structure to our kids' day, while also attempting to capture the feeling of an actual "in-person" school day.

The instructional day will be as follows:

1st-4th Grade:

9:00 AM-3:00 PM

Each day lunch will be from 12:00 PM-1:00 PM

AM Kindergarten: 9:00 AM-11:20 AM

PM Kindergarten: 12:40 PM-3:00 PM

[Lincoln AM Kindergarten Schedule](#)

[Lincoln PM Kindergarten Schedule](#)

[Lincoln 1st Grade Schedule](#)

[Lincoln 2nd Grade Schedule](#)

[Lincoln 3rd Grade Schedule](#)

[Lincoln 4th Grade Schedule](#)

Live instruction/Independent work:

There has been much conversation surrounding "synchronous and asynchronous" instruction. Simply put, these terms equate to "live instruction" and "independent practice," respectively. Each day, our students will have multiple opportunities to engage with their teacher/class through whole group live instruction, small group live instruction, and independent practice. Classroom teachers will share more detail about this in their communications.

Social Emotional Wellness:

Now more than ever, the social emotional wellness of our kids is paramount to us at Lincoln. In conjunction with our incredible social workers, Ms. Gilmartin and Ms. Payton, our classroom teachers will place special emphasis on social emotional well-being during their daily interaction with your kids. Using the D90 adopted curriculum "Second Step," in conjunction with classroom meetings, teachers are working diligently to keep the social emotional needs of our students at the forefront of all they do.

Additionally, D90 continues to maintain a strong partnership with the National Equity Project. Creating and sustaining equitable instructional practices and experience for our students remains a high priority of our work.

Supply Pick Up:

On Thursday, August 27 and Friday, August 28, families will have the opportunity to pick up school supplies, as well as to safely meet their teachers. Please reference the schedule below. A large tent will be erected on the Franklin blacktop where the pickup of supplies will occur. Supply pick up will include school supply kits ordered through the PTO and various other instructional resources that teachers have compiled for families. Face masks must be worn. Additionally, please follow the physical distancing markers that will be on display to ensure the safety of all. In the event you are unable to attend one of these pick-up times, please contact me to arrange an alternate time.

Extra school supplies will be available next week in the PTO webstore. If you did not purchase a school supply kit through the PTO, here is a link to the Lincoln School Supply Lists: [2020-2021 Lincoln School Supply Lists](#)

SUPPLY PICK UP SCHEDULE

LOCATED ON THE FRANKLIN PLAYGROUND

Thursday, August 27

Kindergarten

Last Name A-L	8:30-9:30 AM
Last Name M-Z	9:30-10:30 AM

Grade 3

Last Name A-L	11:00-12:00
Last Name M-Z	12:00-1:00

Grade 2

Last Name A-L	1:30-2:15
Last Name M-Z	2:15-3:00

Friday, August 28

Grade 1

Last Name A-L	8:30-9:30
Last Name M-Z	9:30-10:30

Grade 4

Last Name A-L	1:00-2:00
Last Name M-Z	2:00-3:00

In addition to supply pick up on August 27 and 28, classroom teachers will be coordinating class meetings with their students. The "normal," 9:00-3:00 instructional day will commence on Monday, August 31.

Weekly School Drop Off/Pick Up:

Beginning the week of Sept. 14, students will have the weekly opportunity to drop off and pick up materials including library books, completed work, etc...at Lincoln. Specific grade levels will have specific drop off and pick up days to ensure physical distancing and safety. Please check out the Lincoln Log and classroom communications for more details.

Mondays - Grade 4

Tuesdays - Grade 3

Wednesdays - Grade 2

Thursdays - Grade 1

Fridays - Kindergarten

Technology:

All returning students to Lincoln will be able to access remote learning lessons through their D90-issued iPad. All Kindergarteners and other new students to Lincoln can pick up their iPad on our supply pick up days, August 27 and 28 on the Franklin playground.

Elementary teachers will primarily use ZOOM, Seesaw, and Google Classroom platforms in their daily instruction. The D90 Tech Team is busy at work creating family/guardian tutorials that will be of assistance as caregivers help their kids navigate these platforms. More information regarding this will be forthcoming from D90.

Attendance:

Your child's daily participation and attendance is integral to their success and growth this fall. Much like during regular school, attendance will be taken daily in both the AM and PM. Should your child need to be absent from instruction for any reason, please be sure to call the Lincoln office at 708.366.7340 or email lincolnattendance@district90.org. I'd also

recommend reaching out to your child's teacher and notifying them of any absences.

Visiting Lincoln:

While visits to the office of Lincoln should be minimal for the duration of remote learning, please know that should you need to visit the school, a face mask must be worn at all times and physical distancing must be maintained. Additionally, there will be a temperature check and hand sanitation station upon entry.

Communication:

One of the many things we strive to do well at Lincoln is to foster consistent, concise, and clear channels of communication. Here are a few of the communication highlights to look for during remote learning:

Classroom/Grade Level Communications:

Classroom teachers will be sharing with you their individual communication plans and methods. Additionally, to foster consistency, each grade level at Lincoln will be unveiling a grade-level website on which families can access communications, resources, and other important information. Details on this will be forthcoming from your child's teacher.

Lincoln Log:

The Lincoln Log will remain our primary communication method. The Lincoln Log is a joint school/PTO communication that is aimed at streamlining our communications and providing families with one simple weekly resource in which they can access all things Lincoln. The "Log" is published at 5:00 PM each Sunday evening with the intention of providing families with an overview of the coming week. If you are not yet registered to receive the Lincoln Log, please visit the PTO website to register: [LINCOLN PTO](#)

****The first Lincoln Log will be published on Sunday, August 23.**

Morning Messages:

Each morning at 8:00 AM, your kids will be able to access my daily morning message. Much like this past spring, I have lots of fun and engaging surprises, Tik Tok videos, costumes, music performances, and much more to jumpstart your kids' learning each day. So that these messages don't interfere with the instructional day, they will be available at 8:00 AM each morning for your kids and family to enjoy as they prepare for the day!

Remote Learning Tips:

To maximize your child's remote learning experience this fall, I encourage you to consider some of the following tips:

- Create consistent family expectations and daily routines for remote learning.
- Create an environment and learning space that honors the specific needs of each learner in your home including flexible seating, fidgets, and other sensory tools that might maximize student focus and engagement.
- Encourage the use of headphones while listening to teacher instruction. (If you ordered school supplies from Lincoln, headphones are included.)
- Always reach out to me or your child's teacher if you have questions or are seeking other tips.

Lincoln PTO:

The Lincoln PTO is the lifeblood of our school community. They are a boundless source of support for our school. Although many of their back-to-school events have been temporarily sidelined, please know they continue to work tirelessly to support our kids and teachers. This year our PTO will be led by our co-presidents, Alexis Agema and Devin Howe. Please be sure to check out the Lincoln Log for more important information

regarding the Lincoln PTO and ways you can get involved and support Lincoln from afar.

I've likely only begun to scratch the surface with the content covered in this message and video. Therefore, please don't hesitate to reach out if there are other questions or supports that I might provide you to ensure your family's transition to this unfamiliar start to the school year as seamlessly as possible.

No one wants to see your kids back in school more than me and the Fine Fine teachers at Lincoln. While I look ahead with great anticipation to the day your kids return, please know that in the meantime you have my unwavering commitment to do all I can to guide our school community through round 2 of remote learning.

As always, I am humbled by your support of Lincoln and by the opportunity to lead our school. Please never hesitate to reach out with any questions, ideas, suggestions, or concerns you might have. Please tell your kids I say hello and I miss them all!

All my best, CG