

Loranger Memorial School

148 Saco Ave. Old Orchard Beach, Maine 04064 Phone: (207) 934-4848 Fax: (207) 934-3712 Matthew Foster, Principal mfoster@rsu23.org

September 10, 2021

Good Afternoon Loranger Families,

Not quite a full 5 day week here at Loranger, but it was our first week with an in person Wednesday in a very long time. It is so great to be back with students full time! There is a lot going on, so please take the time to read through to the end. Thanks.

Open House

Our Loranger Memorial School Open House is scheduled for next Wednesday from 5:00 to 6:00PM. We are so excited for families to see our spaces because it is something we have not been able to do in a long time. We also need to remember that we are still in a pandemic, so while access to our building and classrooms is available, we have a few guidelines that we need to follow to stay safe. I have consulted with our Health Services team about how to do this in the safest way possible. Here are procedures that we need everyone to follow in order to hold a safe in person event:

- ALL attendees must wear a mask at ALL times indoors, regardless of vaccination status. We
 will have extra masks available at the front door for any who may need one.
- Before attending, please utilize the daily symptom screener that you are using for your child each morning. You can find a copy of that here.
- We will have a sign in and sign out sheet for each classroom in case the need may arise for contact tracing.
- Please keep each classroom visit to 10 minutes. We know that this is not ideal, however it is
 the best way for parents and students to see the classrooms and stay safe.
- If classrooms have multiple families inside, please wait in the hallway until there is room for safe distancing in the classroom.
- A reminder that will help to keep the visit brief is that this is not a parent teacher conference. It is an opportunity to see the spaces and classrooms that your child spends their day in.

It is always fun for students to share their new spaces with their parents, and this is what we are trying to accomplish this year. We appreciate your understanding of adherence to these guidelines. For any parent who is not able to or comfortable attending, we will share our virtual classroom open house videos from last year on our website so you may be able to see your child's classroom.

RSU23 Pool Testing Information

Pool testing will begin next Tuesday, September 14th for all students who are signed up. If you are interested in having your child participate you can see the <u>RSU23 Information and Signup Page</u>. You can also reach out to either school nurse; Sarah Burnham at <u>sburnham@rsu23.org</u> or Katie

Gagnon at <u>kgagnon@rsu23.org</u>. They would be happy to assist you with any questions you may have.

Student Dismissal & Parent Pick Up Procedures

We have seen a very positive improvement with both safety and efficiency of our 3-5 afternoon pick up process. THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE WITH THIS!

As a reminder, we have made some changes to the procedures in an effort to improve the safety of our students. The number of parents picking up has increased due to the pandemic, and unfortunately the layout of our building is not conducive to a high number of vehicles for pick up time. Parents of students in grades 3-5 can see the full procedure memo as well as a map here. We ask that you continue to follow those instructions and a few points below:

- Grades 3-5 Dismissal begins at 2:15 with bus departure students exiting our building first. We will follow a rolling dismissal, which means students who are being picked up by parents will be leaving their classrooms around 2:17.
- Parents who are picking up students in grades 3-5 should enter from E. Emerson Cummings Blvd for pick up. From there you will be directed to our student drop off and pick up parking spots along the side of our building.
- Please remain in your car for pick up as we would like to get parents in and out as quickly as possible.
- Grades 6-8 dismissal begins at 2:45. Parents who are picking up students in grades 6-8
 PLEASE DO NOT arrive prior to 2:35 as that only adds to the congestion for our 2:15 pick up.

This new procedure may take a little more time to complete, however it is necessary in order to increase the safety of our staff, students and parents. If time is an issue for your family, our bus ridership numbers are still below where they were prior to the pandemic, and all of our bus routes are completed in under a half hour. For those who will still be picking up, we thank you for your cooperation, patience, and understanding as we make these adjustments. It is very much appreciated.

Returning Student Online Registration

All returning students must be registered through our online registration system for this school year. The registration process provides us with pertinent information that we must have on file for your child. This includes up-to-date information such as current medications, health history, and emergency contact information. The registration portal is where you will submit transportation needs (when and if your child will ride the school bus) and sign your child's Device Responsibility Agreement, which will allow your child to be issued a school device.

An email was sent to all parents/guardians, on Monday, 8/23, with the link to the <u>PowerSchool</u> <u>Registration Portal</u>. The email included a 15-character snapcode that is unique for each student. Parents/guardians received a separate email for each of their children. If you did not receive the registration email, please email Donna Stearns at <u>dstearns@rsu23.org</u>. Please complete the online registration as soon as possible. Thank you.

Masks and Water Bottles

Similar to last year, masks must be worn indoors at Loranger. We saw many of our students bring their own masks that they are comfortable with. If you are sending your child with their preferred mask, we do ask that you send a spare with them just in case. We do have plenty of masks in various sizes available at school for anyone who may need them, however we are seeing students prefer to wear their own, and having a spare can be very beneficial.

We also ask that you send your child in with a water bottle if they have one. All of our water fountains are equipped with bottle fillers and this is the most convenient way to ensure all of our students stay hydrated throughout the day. We do have bottles available for any student who may not have their own.

School Nutrition Program

Breakfast and lunch are offered daily and are free for all students, all year long. Although school meals are free this year, we still need your help. Free & Reduced Meal applications, available at http://rsu23.schoollunchapp.com, help our district receive funding for all students and take less than 5 minutes to complete. In addition, SAT and college application fees may be waived if you are eligible. EVERY application received before September 15 (regardless of outcome) is eligible to win \$250, \$150, or \$100 to Hannaford. Please feel free to contact Caroline Trinder, Food & Nutrition Service Director, with any questions at ctrinder@rsu23.org or 934-4461 x 1239.

There is a chance we could go to remote learning if temperatures are too high during the first few weeks of school. If your family would need meal(s) delivered on those days, please email ctrinder@rsu23.org with your child(ren)'s names and address as soon as possible. Meals would be dropped off at your house sometime in the morning on those days.

A reminder of a few upcoming dates:

- Wednesday, September 15th Early Release Day for Students
 - o Grades 3-5 are dismissed beginning at 11:30
 - o Grades 6-8 are dismissed beginning at 12:00
 - We will follow all dismissal procedures as we do on a regular school day
- Wednesday, September 15th 5:00-6:00 LMS Open House

Enjoy the weekend,

Matt Foster