



# Loranger Memorial School

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October 15, 2021

Good morning Loranger Families,

It seems like the weather today is starting to feel a little bit more like fall after some warmer temperatures in the mid week. It was nice for our classrooms as we continue to use outside space for learning, but it was a bit warmer than any of us are used to at this time of year. A few updates for you before we head into the weekend.

## Parent Teacher Conferences

Parent Teacher Conferences are just a few weeks away, and we will be using Virtual Paragon's on-line Parent/Teacher Conference Reservation System to sign up again this year. You can access the sign ups [here](#). This link is also posted on our website under the Parents and Students tab. The system will accept reservations for conferences **starting on Monday, October 18, at 8:00am**, until Tuesday, November 2, at 5:00pm. **IMPORTANT** - When you go to the website, you will have to type in Loranger's master password before you can enter the System. You must enter **O0B3to8** in the field labeled "School's Master Password". If you encounter any problems or have any questions, please send an email to [LMSconferences@rsu23.org](mailto:LMSconferences@rsu23.org). As a reminder, our conferences will be held on Thursday, October 28th from 3:00 to 7:00, and on Wednesday, November 3rd from 12:30 to 7:00. Conferences will be held in person unless a virtual conference is requested. If you would like to request a virtual conference, please use virtual paragon to sign up for a slot first, and then email your child's teacher to request a virtual conference. Please inform the teacher of your date and time and that you would like a virtual conference. They will follow up with a virtual link prior to the conference date. In continuing with our focus on health and safety, all individuals present for conferences will be required to wear a mask.

## Picture Day Reschedule

We want to apologize again for the inconvenience of the cancelled picture day on October 1s. We are very excited though to be moving forward with McKenney Photography, a local company for our school picture needs. We have set a new picture date with them, **Wednesday, October 27th**. They utilize a view first system, where you are able to view your photos prior to purchasing. We will be sharing more information about that soon.

For those of you who pre-ordered pictures through LifeTouch, our previous vendor, they are working to reimburse you through your credit card for that purchase amount. You should be seeing that information on your credit card statement soon.

## 360 Survey

### Student in grades 6-8

In the following weeks, students in grades 6-8 have the opportunity to participate in a 15-minute survey about the overall culture of the school. The surveys will be completed online and during school time. It is important that we hear from all members of the school, including our students.

The results will help our school community improve in meaningful ways. The survey was designed by educational researchers at the Johns Hopkins University Institute for Education Policy, who will also analyze the results. All responses are strictly confidential and will only be analyzed by researchers at JHU. School personnel will not have access to individual responses. No names, birthdates, addresses, or IP addresses, will be attached to any responses. If you want to see the questions beforehand, please ask your principal or any member of the Johns Hopkins team. Their contact information is below. Participation for your child is completely voluntary. If you DO want your child to participate, you don't need to do anything. If you do NOT want your child to participate, please advise your child to answer "NO" to the first question on the survey. Thank you for participating in our survey. Please know we are listening to your input.

### **Parent Participation**

We are also asking parents of students in all grade levels to participate in this survey during the month of October. We see this as an opportunity to reinforce our strengths as a district, and reveal our areas of needed growth. It is important that as many parents as possible participate in the survey in order to obtain a complete view of the school culture. None of the data gathered in the survey will be linked with your identity in any way, and all responses will be kept completely confidential. If you agree to participate, you will be asked to answer questions for about 10 minutes. This survey will help us learn more about ourselves, and how our schools can help our students even more. Participation in the survey is completely voluntary, and you may change your mind and stop at any time.

Here is a link to the survey: [LMS Parent Survey](#)

If you could please complete this survey by Friday, Oct 22, it would be most appreciated.

If you have any questions or comments about the survey, please contact Dr. Ashley Berner at [Ashley.berner@jhu.edu](mailto:Ashley.berner@jhu.edu), Dr. Kecia McCoy at [kmccoy18@jhu.edu](mailto:kmccoy18@jhu.edu), or Dr. Carol Macedonia at [cmacedo3@jhu.edu](mailto:cmacedo3@jhu.edu). Thank you very much for your assistance.

### **Morning Arrival**

We are seeing more students arrive earlier than we have coverage for, and would like your assistance in making sure students are not present until their school day starts. For our grades 3-5 students our doors open at 7:45 and school starts at 8:00, and for our grades 6-8 students our doors open at 8:15 and school begins at 8:30. We appreciate your help in ensuring that our students are arriving at school during the time that we are able to provide supervision. Thank you.

### **RSU23 Pool Testing Information**

If you are interested in having your child participate in pool testing, you can see the [RSU23 Information and Signup Page](#). You can also reach out to either school nurse; Sarah Burnham at [sburnham@rsu23.org](mailto:sburnham@rsu23.org) or Katie Gagnon at [kgagnon@rsu23.org](mailto:kgagnon@rsu23.org). They would be happy to assist you with any questions you may have.

### **Student Dismissal & Parent Pick Up Procedures**

Thank you all so much for your patience and understanding with the changes we have made to our afternoon dismissal procedures. We've been able to find a procedure that keeps students safe and maintains efficiency to get families in and out during dismissal time. Just a few reminders for you as we go forward:

- Please do not park in our parking lots to pick up your student. The procedure we have created by using the entrance from E. Emerson Cummings Blvd is moving along and when vehicles enter and exit our parking lots it can create unnecessary congestion. It also creates more safety issues as all of our bus students are navigating our back parking lot at dismissal time.
- Please do not park at Fielder's Choice. Having pedestrians crossing Jameson Avenue also slows down the process for getting students and parents out while maintaining safety.

Thank you again for partnering with us to improve safety during our dismissal times.

### **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](mailto: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](mailto: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:**

- Thursday, October 28 3:00 to 7:00 - Parent Teacher Conferences
- Wednesday, November 3 - Early Release Day
- Wednesday, November 3 12:30 to 7:00 - Parent Teacher Conferences
- Thursday, November 11 - Veterans Day - No School
- Wednesday, November 24 through Friday, November 26 - Thanksgiving Break - No School
- Wednesday, December 1 - Early Release Day

Enjoy your weekend!

Matt Foster