

Our mission is to maximize learning for all students

# MAXEY Messenger

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## **Maxey 2017-18 School Year Important Dates**

February 8 – Advanced Orchestra 8:00am  
February 9 – Beginning Orchestra 8:00am  
February 9 – 5<sup>th</sup> Gr Banner Club 8:15am  
February 10 – LPS Spelling Bee 8:30am at Culler MS  
February 13 – 5<sup>th</sup> Gr Chorus Rehearsal 8:00am  
February 14 – Band Rehearsal 8:00am  
February 14 – Student Council Sales/Recycling 8:30am  
February 15 – Advanced Orchestra 8:00am  
February 16 – Beginning Orchestra 8:00am  
February 16 – 5<sup>th</sup> Gr Banner Club 8:15am  
February 19 – No Elementary School  
February 20 – 5<sup>th</sup> Gr Chorus Rehearsal 8:15am  
February 21 – Band Rehearsal 8:00am  
February 21 – Student Council Sales/Recycling 8:30am  
February 22 – Parent/Teacher Conferences  
February 23 – Beginning Orchestra 8:00am  
February 26 – Student Council Meeting 8:15am  
February 27 – PLC Day early release 2:18pm  
February 27 – Parent/Teacher Conferences  
February 28 – Band Rehearsal 8:00am  
February 28 – Student Council Sales/Recycling 8:30am

## **PLC Days early dismissal—9:00 am 2:18 pm**

February 27  
March 27  
April 24

## **Maxey Parent Monthly Reserved Parking**

Just a friendly reminder. Please do not park in the parking space marked with a sign—Maxey Parent Monthly Reserved Parking. This is a reserved spot for a specific Maxey family that won the spot through PTO fundraising. Thank you.

## **The “Why” Behind the Behavior**

It can be easy to see **when** a student is engaging in an undesired behavior, such as blurting out in class. It is often more difficult to understand **WHY** they are engaging in this behavior. The reason one student blurts could be to get attention from their peers. Another student might blurt in order to avoid the assignment that was just given to them. Another reason a student blurts may be that they are missing skills and need more time to learn and practice them. If we respond to the behavior the same way for all students, we may accidentally be making the behavior worse. At (insert school name) we work to understand **WHY** a student engages in undesired behaviors, which allows us to meet the

needs of each student in a more appropriate way--helping them build skills they may need more instruction and practice to do successfully.

### **Early Childhood**

The Department of Early Childhood will begin accepting preschool applications for the 2018-19 school year on February 1st.

You will find information about the application process at

<http://home.lps.org/earlychildhood/programs/preschool/>.

Please bring your child with you in order to complete a pre-enrollment activity that is part of the application process.

The applications will be available at the Department of Early Childhood Office, located at 300 S. 48th Street and on our website, beginning February 1, 2018.

Our office is open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. In addition we will have extended hours on:

- Saturday, February 10th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- Thursday, February 15th from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, March 6th from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- Saturday, March 31st from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

### **A Message from the Health Office**

Please notify the Maxey health office if your student is diagnosed with influenza.

Health officials in Lincoln have reported an increased number of flu cases in our community. Lincoln Public Schools is currently not seeing high rates of absenteeism in our schools. But as a preventative measure, we are sharing some important information with you to help you and your family guard against illness during the flu season.

Cold vs. Flu

A cold is a milder respiratory illness than the flu. While cold symptoms can make you feel bad for a few days, flu symptoms can make you feel quite ill for a few days to weeks.

Cold symptoms

- sore throat
- runny nose
- congestion
- cough

Flu symptoms

- sore throat
- fever
- headache
- muscle aches
- soreness
- congestion
- cough

Most flu symptoms gradually improve over three to five days, but it's not uncommon to feel run down for a week or more. It is strongly recommended that staff and students with a fever over 100 degrees stay home until they are fever-free for at least a minimum of 24 hours without the aid of fever reducing medication. We recommend that students and staff also seek the advice of their medical provider in regards to use of antiviral medication and when to safely return to school.

At Lincoln Public Schools, we have an Infection Control Committee that continuously monitors and works diligently with all staff year-round to make sure we are prepared for flu season. The Infection Control Committee includes community partners such as the County Health Department to monitor illness in the community and within the schools -- helping us guide our coordinated response.

A weekly absence report is posted on the LPS website under the Parents tab. Our absences have remained similar to previous years. We are monitoring flu cases and request families work with their medical providers to guide school attendance. At a minimum, we request that students remain out of school for 24 hours once fever-free without the aid of fever reducing medication.

School nurses have posted information around school buildings reminding students to cover their cough and wash hands to prevent the spread of infection. School nurses often go into classrooms and provide instruction on healthy habits, especially to early childhood

and elementary classrooms. This would be a great opportunity to reinforce these important healthy habits at home. Thank you for partnering with us in keeping our students healthy and ready to learn.

### **Honoring Our Teachers**

Please take time today to nominate your favorite teacher for the annual Lincoln Public Schools Thank You Teacher event. In honor of Nebraska Teacher Recognition Day – Tuesday, March 6 – Lincoln Public Schools and KFOR/KFRX Radio are again collaborating to thank our educators with the annual Thank You Teacher contest. Nominations should be postmarked or sent by **Friday, Feb. 9**, at 5 p.m. and mailed to: Thank You Teacher, Communications, LPS District Offices, **5905 O St.**, Lincoln, NE 68510. You can also submit nominations online at: <http://lps.org/go/recognize>

### **School Dismissal Reminder**

Dismissing 670 students at one time can be a challenge some days, but we have worked very hard over the years at Maxey School to create dismissal procedures and a traffic flow that allows for all our students to walk home or be picked up safely. The traffic flow procedures are outlined in your Parent-Student handbook and can also be found on the Maxey PTO website. Many Maxey parents have helped create the procedures. We have had the Lincoln Police Department out at our school on multiple occasions and they feel the procedures when followed, allow for an efficient and safe dismissal. Most days, our dismissal is completed within ten minutes, but as the weather get colder and snowy, the process may take a bit longer as there will be a higher volume of cars moving slower. A few reminders to help with the flow of traffic:

- Right turn only into the carpool lane. In the **morning**, we run **two** lanes (inside and outside) through the carpool lane. In the **afternoon**, it is only **one** lane so the line of cars waiting to turn right afterschool is by the curb on 75<sup>th</sup> street and around the corner on grand oaks.
- If you are parking your car to come in to pick up your child, please use the parking lot. Please use the open spots and avoid the entrance/exit to the parking lot. The day car vans need space for their pick up.
- Please use crosswalks with your children. Cutting across the carpool lane is not safe and we want to set safe and appropriate examples for our children.

It is so important that we all use patience during this time of day. The traffic rules are put in place to keep all of our students and families safe. If you are having a “new” person pick up your children from school, please take a moment to inform them of the procedures.

Thank you so much for your attention to the dismissal carpool procedures and we are very appreciative to all of you for helping to keep dismissal safe.

### **Kindergarten Registration**

Kindergarten registration booklets will be mailed home to parents in February. Kindergarten Registration is on Wednesday, March 7 8am-6pm or Thursday, March 8 8am-4:30pm. If you have a child who will be coming into Maxey as a kindergartner next year and have not received a phone call or email to verify registration, please call the Maxey Office at 402-436-1153, ext 1 or email Annette Wiegert, [awieger@lps.org](mailto:awieger@lps.org). Also, if you know of families that are new to the Maxey area and have a child who will be attending kindergarten, please have them email or call the Maxey Office.

### **Maxey Science Fair**

Thursday, March 8 6:00-7:30pm. The Maxey Science Fair is open to all students. The Maxey Science Fair is a non-competitive opportunity for kindergarten – 3<sup>rd</sup> grades. 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders have the opportunity to win multiple awards. This is a fun opportunity for students to learn from an experiment or a demonstration. Information and registration sheets will be sent home in the January 10th Wednesday Folders. Registration forms will be due February 22.

**The LPS Compost Program is coming to Maxey Elementary!**

Organic materials (food scraps, paper products, and special compostable dishes) will now be collected in a separate compost container each day at lunch. We will also be recycling empty milk and juice cartons. Through this program, students learn the benefits of composting food waste and practice separating their lunch into the different waste streams. Our school will divert anywhere from 70-90% of their cafeteria waste from going to the landfill and will instead be recycled and composted. The organic material is sent to local composting facilities where it decomposes and becomes a nutrient-rich soil amendment for use throughout the Lincoln community.

**Does your child bring cold lunch? Here’s how you can help at home!**

- Avoid the waste from individually wrapped servings when possible. Instead, buy in bulk and put servings into reusable containers.
- Select drink containers that can be reused or recycled (many drink pouches/boxes can't be recycled or composted).
- Pack food in reusable containers instead of disposable plastic baggies or other plastic wrappers.

**Student Council**

Money from Wednesday sales this month will go to support the Heart Association. The money goes to support heart research and to help families with heart disease. Thank you for supporting the Maxey Student Council.

**Gritty Kid of the Week**

With our school-wide theme of GRIT, we are encouraging students to work hard and keep trying even when things are challenging. The students are really taking hold of the concept and showing great effort! Students are being recognized by their teachers for showing GRIT and are earning mustangs that they deliver to the office and get hung up in the lunchroom. Each week we are recognizing one student who is nominated by teachers and administrators as "The Gritty Kid of the Week". The student is announced during the morning announcements and has their picture hung in the main hallway for the week. Our "Gritty Kid" recognized this week:

Liam Feilmeier 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Mrs. Schoening

**The Temperature Is Dropping!!**

As the temperature drops, students should be wearing more layered clothing to school. If the temperature drops below 10 degrees with wind chill factor or if it is snowing/raining, we will have indoor recess. It is very helpful to have your students name written on the tags of their jackets. Many coats and sweatshirts show up in the lost and found on a daily basis and if we can read a name, we can return it to the owner. Outdoor recess is two times daily for students.

**LINCOLN BOARD OF EDUCATION** 5905 O Street • Lincoln, NE 68510

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**Feb 9**  
Winter Class Parties

**Feb 15**  
Night Out  
4:30 - 8:00 PM

**Feb 19**  
No School  
Elementary

**Feb 22**  
Parent Teacher  
Conferences  
3:45-7:30 PM

**Feb 27**  
PLC Early Out  
2:18 PM

**Feb 27**  
Parent Teacher  
Conferences  
3:45-7:30 PM

**Mar 7**  
PTO Meeting  
7 PM

**Mar 8**  
Night Out  
4:30 - 8:00 PM

**Mar 10-18**  
No School  
Spring Break



### Winter Class Parties

This year's parties are Friday, February 9<sup>th</sup>. Each class needs 8 volunteers to help on the day of the party. Contact your teacher if you would like to volunteer.

*If anyone would like to donate \$3- \$5 to their teacher to help cover party supplies, it would be greatly appreciated! Please send your donation in an envelope marked with your teacher's name and Winter Party Donation.*

For more details or questions, contact Kristy Manzitto, [roomparties@maxeypto.org](mailto:roomparties@maxeypto.org).

### New Co-Chair Needed



The PTO is looking for someone to learn all about Janet's Jungle by working with the current Chair and then take over the committee during the 2018-19 year. Please contact [president@maxeypto.org](mailto:president@maxeypto.org) for more information.

[maxeypto.org](http://www.maxeypto.org)

### Maxey Night Out



February's Don & Millie's Maxey Night Out will be **Thursday, February 15<sup>th</sup>** at Don & Millie's from 5 PM - 8 PM on 56th & Edgewood. Be sure to mention you are with Maxey!

### Volunteers Needed

The Monarch Press desperately needs volunteers!

Monarch Press is the name of the committee that binds and laminate student's projects before they take them home. No experience is needed! This is great chance to meet other Maxey Parents and have time to visit with them while also bringing joy to Maxey students who love seeing their work "published."

Sign up at the link on the pto website, [www.maxeypto.org](http://www.maxeypto.org)!



### Yearbook Pictures

If you have candid pictures of your students from Fun Night, Walk-a-thon, Color Run, Fifth Grade Salt Dogs field trip, Kindergarten Pumpkin field trip, or other fun pictures from this school year that you would like to have considered for the yearbook, submit them to [yearbook@maxeypto.org](mailto:yearbook@maxeypto.org). Pictures are due **Friday, February 16<sup>th</sup>**.



### After School Pick-Up

Please review the attached map for the after school pick-up procedures. Always remember to be looking for students and crossing guards. Also, obey Lincoln traffic laws and all posted signs. If you have any questions about the traffic procedures at Maxey, please contact the main office.

# After School Pick-Up at Maxey Elementary

## Front Lane (West Lane)

**Orange Cars:** park on side streets and have children meet you or walk up to Maxey and meet your children.

**Blue Cars:** pull up along the drop off curb and continue the line onto 75<sup>th</sup>, then Grand Oaks, then 76<sup>th</sup>. Wait until you are in the school lane to pick up children, not while on streets. When exiting, **DO NOT TURN RIGHT, Left Turn Only.**

**Red Cars:** Do not park in these areas so traffic may keep moving.

## Side Lane (North Lane)

**Green Vehicles:** Daycare Vehicles only

## Parking Lot

Students must have an adult to accompany them in the parking lot. When exiting the parking lot, **DO NOT TURN LEFT, Right Turn Only.**

*If you need more time, please park in the parking lot or on the side streets. Use crosswalks, obey Lincoln traffic laws and no parking signs. Do not block neighbor's driveways.*



