



Lincoln Cultural Center Montessori and Fine Arts Magnet

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Dear Fine Arts Magnet and Montessori Families:

It is my pleasure to be the principal of Lincoln Cultural Center. I realize it will be a big change for some of our returning students and for some of our family members. Let me take a moment to let you know a little about me. I am starting my thirty-second year in education, and all of those years have been with District 111. I was an English and Drama teacher for twenty-one years. I have spent the last ten years as an administrator at Kankakee Junior High School. I am very proud of the work we accomplished at the junior high school and hope to bring needed guidance and change to help our staff better the educational opportunities and safety of our school. I want to thank you for trusting us to care for and educate your child as they continue their educational journey. I promise that we will do all we can to meet the individual needs of all students.

If you ever have any concerns or suggestions, please reach out to me or any of our staff members. My email is Chuck-Hensley@KSD111.org and my phone number is 815-802-4802. We want to work with our families in all facets of education and school management. I want to ask that if you have a concern, please work with us to find a solution. Too often I have noted that individuals will immediately turn to social media to express concerns that sometimes causes unneeded concerns and confusion for others. There may be times we don't get things right the first time, but we will admit to that and find the best solution with your assistance.

We are working with the Kankakee Police Department Traffic Division and First Student Bus Company to find the best means of drop off and pick up. Currently there seems to be congestion and safety issues during drop off time. We will continue with last year's procedures until we are sure we have the best possible plan.

Important Dates/Times:

- Join us for our annual Back to School Bash on Monday, August 14, 2017, from 5:00 to 7:30 at the Kankakee Train Depot.
- Kindergarten Parent Meeting on Tuesday, August 15, 2017 at 3:00. We will start off in the auditorium.
- The first day of school for all students will be Wednesday, August 16, 2017, a full day.
- Open House is Tuesday, September 7, 2017, at 6:00 pm.
- Fall Picture Day is Wednesday, September 27, 2017.

Montessori Junior High Students:

- The junior high students have class from 7:40 am to 2:50 pm. Junior high students may begin to arrive at 7:15 am. At that time we will begin serving breakfast.
- When school is dismissed those junior high students who ride the bus will be taken to KJHS to catch their appropriate bus. Those who are car riders can be picked up in front of the school.

Dropping off at LCC:

- ***Please do not drop off students before 8:30 am.*** Before that time it is difficult to have adequate supervision. The safety of your child is paramount to us. We need your help to make this a reality.
- The area directly in front of the school on Warren Avenue is for Dropping off students. Please do not wait for your student to enter the school before leaving. We have adults on supervision at 8:30.
- Breakfast is served from 8:30 to 8:50. At 8:50 students are dismissed to go to their class.

Picking up at LCC:

- ***Call before 3:00 pm if there are any changes in pick up or bussing.*** Last year we experienced numerous class disruptions the last part of the day due to the volume of changes being made. The instruction at this time of the day is just as important as any other. We need to limit interruptions.
- ***Parents should not come early to pick your child up from school.*** Again, the end of the day is an important time for instruction and preparing for the next day's events.
- ***All Kindergarten and Fine Arts Magnet students will be dismissed at 3:35. Montessori grades 1-6 will be dismissed at 3:40*** to give the first group of students time to depart from the campus. Those families should not arrive until at least 3:45 pm.
- All students being picked up will wait in the fenced in area when weather permits. Parents should park and come to the fenced in area to get their child. You may park along the curb, in the empty lot across the street from the school, in King's parking lot, or in the neighborhood. No double-parking, please.
- All students not taking the bus need to be picked up by 3:55 pm.

With the deepest respect, please adhere to the drop off times. We cannot properly supervise all of our 450 students before 8:30. It is worth repeating that your child's safety is second in importance only to their education.

Lastly, if everyone follows the pickup instructions everyone will have an easier; less frustrating experience. We realize that you may be in a hurry, but so is everyone else. Let us all respect each other and work to make the end of the day a peaceful, safe experience for all.

Sincerely,

Chuck Hensley
Lincoln Cultural Center Principal
Director of Fine Arts K-12