

## *Principal's Digest*

1/21/16

Dear Lincoln Parents/Guardians,

Thank you for reading the *Principal's Digest*. Please remember to refer to the school's website calendar ([www.lincolnelementary.org](http://www.lincolnelementary.org)) and the monthly PTA newsletter, *The Linc*, on a regular basis for school-related information and events. Happy New Year!

Sincerely,

Mark Armendariz  
Principal

### **Thank you for reading the following information**

#### Upcoming Events

- January 27 – *Girls in the Know* presentation, 6:00PM-7:00PM, in the school library (session 4 of 4)
- February 3 – Grade 4 Assembly, 10:05AM and 1:50PM (this is a date change)
- February 3 and 4 – PTA Book Fair in the gym
- February 4 – End of Quarter Two
- February 4 – Winter Open House, 6:00PM-8:00PM, for CURRENT Lincoln families
- February 5 – No School for Students, School Improvement Day
- February 8 – EFAC Board Meeting, 6:30PM, in the library
- February 8 – Quarter Three Begins
- February 8 – Neighborhood Night at Lincoln, 6:45-8:00 PM
- February 9 – LSC Meeting, 6:00PM, in the library
- February 9 – Chandeleur (during lunch periods)
- February 11 – Report Card Distribution Day
- February 12 – Friends of Lincoln (FOL) Online Auction Opens
- February 12 – French Cine Club, 3:45PM-5:30PM, in the auditorium
- February 12 – PTA Meeting, 9:00AM, in the dining hall
- February 15 – No School, President's Day
- February 16 – FOL Meeting, 7:00PM
- February 19 – College/University Apparel Day
- February 19 – FOL Online Auction Closes
- February 26 – Graduation Retakes and Winter Sports Picture Day

#### General Information

- The following event is for NON-Lincoln families that live in our community. Current Lincoln parents are needed as volunteers to help out with this event. Please contact Lincoln parent Dani Cupps at [danicupps@icloud.com](mailto:danicupps@icloud.com): Abraham Lincoln Elementary School will host "Neighborhood Night at Lincoln" on Monday, February 8<sup>th</sup> to provide residents of our community the opportunity to tour the three buildings of our school: the east building, the center building, and the new west building. Doors open at 6:30 P.M. **Please enter the school through door #14 in the new, west building.** Eighth grade Ambassadors will offer 30-minute guided tours of our school at 6:45 P.M. and 7:30 P.M. and Principal Mark Armendariz will address our guests at 7:15 P.M. Come for the first tour and stay for the principal's remarks or come at 7:15 P.M. and stay for the second tour. Several parents of current students also will be available to welcome neighbors to this iconic building.
- Mark your calendars for the upcoming Lincoln Book Fair! This is a beloved annual event for our school that highlights our community's love for reading. This year's book fair will take place in the school gym on Wednesday 2/3 from 9-5, and on Thursday 2/4 from 9-4 and then 6-8 pm. Note that Thursday evening is the Winter Open House: make plans to stop by the Book Fair to pick up a student's required reading text, or the latest in your child's favorite series... or even a fiction or nonfiction book for yourself! Thanks to our vendor, the

local family-owned Anderson's Bookshop, we'll have plenty of picks for both children and adults. Each child's classroom will have a designated time to visit the Book Fair - you'll be receiving the date and time for that in an upcoming flyer so keep an eye out. For now, make your reading wish lists - see you at the Fair!

- Parents of Lincoln/EFAC make crepes for the whole school on this special day. Students are able to receive a crepe of their choice (chocolate, sugar, jelly) and enjoy it during their lunchtime. Nut-free crepes will be also be available. Thank you EFAC parents!
- St. Pauls Church across the street from Lincoln School is accepting Spring registrations that begins in March for their after school care program. You may find more information at <http://www.spucc.org/connect-learn/act-ii-at-st-pauls>. They provide pick-up and escorting service to their program from Lincoln School.
- Please see the attached CPS academic 2016-2017 school calendar that was released over the winter break.
- I want to make sure everyone is clear about information regarding the future of our grades 6-8 IG program and the possible adoption of the IB Middle Years Programme at Lincoln School. First of all, the adoption of the IB Middle Years Programme at Lincoln School is not yet set in stone. CPS has informed me that, due to the district's budget crisis, they will no longer continue accepting grade 6 students into the IG program beginning the 2017-2018 school year. We are still looking at the IB Middle Years Programme as an option to replace the IG program. I will keep you abreast of any information as to what this may (or may not) mean for our school. Let me include an email exchange I had with one parent:
  - Will students applying for the 2016-2017 academic year have the Lincoln IG program as an option? **yes.**
  - Will students currently in IG be able to complete the program? **yes.**
  - If/When the program is converted to IB, will it be a test-in/academically selective program or a lottery? **I've been told by CPS that IF we take on the IB Middle Years Programme, the students of the incoming grade 6 class of 2017-2018 to the IB Middle Years programme from OUTSIDE OUR ATTENDANCE AREA will be via CPS lottery (it will NOT be a test-in/academically selective program). IF we adopt the IB Middle Years Programme, the 2017-2018 ALL the grade 6 students in our school would be in this IB Middle Years Programme. Again, the 2017-2018 grade 6 students that live outside our school's attendance boundaries would gain admittance to this program through the CPS lottery.**
  - 4. What are the curriculum differences between IG and IB? **The Office of Access and Enrollment and I need to look into the differences, if there are any.**
- Local School Council elections are right around the corner! Are you interested in serving on our school's LSC? This is a great opportunity to become involved in the school. Elections are this April. LSC candidate applications are available in the main office. We are also looking for election judges; judges will get paid \$150 for the day. All applications (candidate and judge) are available in the main office. The six page candidate application/info is also attached on the school website as part of an earlier published *Principal's Digest*.
- When your child is absent from school, please call to notify the main office **AND** submit **the attached** Reason for Absence Form to your child's homeroom teacher.
- As you prepare visits to high school, please keep in mind the following CPS policy: High school shadow days at independent and parochial schools are unexcused absences and shadow days to CPS high schools are excused absence days. This is a district policy.
- A parent reported to me that there was an incident this past weekend with a man in a white van trying to lure children. This happened on Lincoln Avenue at Cleveland on Saturday morning. This has been reported to the Chicago Police Department and detectives are investigating. Also, this past Monday morning, at around 8:45am, one of our students recognized the van and the man inside which was parked on Cleveland in front of Carnival with the motor running. The license plate was recorded and reported to the police.
- **College/University Apparel Day:** February 19th is "College Day" at Lincoln, a day for kids and teachers/staff to wear apparel of their favorite college teams to school. Yes, really, kids are encouraged to wear their favorite Oregon Ducks, Kentucky Wildcats, and Fighting Irish, etc. t-shirts or jerseys to school. We haven't had this event at the school for a few years and it's ALWAYS a fun time. Show pride in your alma mater or favorite college/university!
- **FOL online auction information:** FOL is starting to promote the upcoming online auction on February 4th at our upcoming Winter Open House. Stop by the FOL table to pick up your own March Madness bracket. Once we know the teams in the tournament choose your favorites and return the completed brackets to the FOL Bracket box at school. Lincoln Parents, Dan Pape and Chris Roelle, will keep track of the winners and let us know who

knows basketball best!! On February 12th, the bidding begins in Lincoln's online auction. From dining to travel to tickets, and more, there are fantastic items in this year's auction. To preview the items, take a look at [www.biddingforgood.com/lincoln](http://www.biddingforgood.com/lincoln). Bidding closes Sunday, February 21st. The March Madness excitement peaks on Friday, March 18th with the Live Auction and Party. As college teams battle to win First Weekend matches, join Lincoln Parents for decadent food and drinks, priceless classroom masterpieces for sale, and the Live Auction in support of the Lincoln students and teachers. The annual gala is a favorite tradition of Lincoln parents. Dress is "college casual" - don't miss the fun!! If you have donations for the auction, or would like to be a financial sponsor, please contact Cathy Bergmann ([cathy.bergmann@gmail.com](mailto:cathy.bergmann@gmail.com)) or Amy Chasse ([amychasse@yahoo.com](mailto:amychasse@yahoo.com)), or join FOL for "Drinks and Donations Drop-Off" on Thursday, January 28 from 7 to 9 pm at Josh Moulton Fine Arts Gallery at 2218 N Clark Street. Bring an auction donation for entrance to the gallery. Also, if you'd like to host a parent party, please contact Alison Theureau ([alisontheureau@yahoo.com](mailto:alisontheureau@yahoo.com)) or Beth O'Connor ([Bethaoconnor@comcast.net](mailto:Bethaoconnor@comcast.net)). Alison and Beth can help you pull together a group, or share a number of great suggestions.