

“What We Wished We Knew...When We Were New”

from the Bowman PTA

What time does school start?

Classrooms are open and students begin tasks at 8:30 a.m., school officially starts at 8:45 a.m. After 8:45 a.m., students are tardy and *parents must* escort them into school and sign the “Late Arrival” notebook in the main office.

Buses are scheduled to arrive at Bowman between 8:15 a.m. -8:30 a.m.

Note - Students CANNOT be dropped off before 8:15 a.m. - there is no supervision at this time. Please do not put your child at a safety risk by doing so. AFTER 8:15 a.m., students can play on the blacktop and are supervised by school aides until the 8:30 a.m. bell. At 8:30 a.m. students should go directly to their classrooms. In case of inclement weather, students are supervised in the cafeteria.

What time are students dismissed?

Students are dismissed at 3:15 p.m. every day except Thursday. On Thursdays (the half day), dismissal is at 12:15 p.m.

Students in **Grades 3-5** may walk or bike to school independently with parent permission. If you are meeting your child, please do so by the flagpole. Students in **Kindergarten** may be dismissed to parents by the Kindergarten doors (information will come to K parents). **1st and 2nd grade walkers** need to be picked up from Room 23 (Please wait until 3:15 to enter). If driving, you join the “rolling car pickup” line at the front entrance. Students will be called by name to cars. Please place a large sign with your child’s last name in your front right window so the staff can announce names. There is no parking in any red or yellow zones in front of the school or down the sidewalk.

Third through Fifth Grade walkers may walk home independently with signed parent permission (you can arrange to include younger siblings with 3rd-5th graders, again with signed parent permission).

What do I do when visiting the school?

For safety concerns, the school is only accessible by the main entrance after 8:45a.m. You must ring the bell and be buzzed in by the main office staff. Once in the building, you must go directly to the main office, sign in and get a visitor pass. Please sign out and return your pass when you are leaving the building.

How does my child buy lunch?

Students have the option to purchase lunch by prepaying through mySchoolBucks online. First, request your child’s student number by sending an email to: **studentidnumber@sch.ci.lexington.ma.us**. You will need to provide the child’s name, grade, address, and home room teacher name. The ID number will be mailed to you. It will not be sent via email. Next, register and prepay for lunches at: <https://www.myschoolbucks.com/>. School lunches are provided by Whitson’s Culinary Group: <http://whitsons.com/>, the LPS site is at: <http://lps.lexingtonma.org/Page/633>.

What if my child’s dismissal procedure needs to change?

If you need to change your child’s normal dismissal (walk, bus, rolling pickup), you must send a written note to your child’s teacher (in your child’s folder) on the date of the change. You should include name of person picking up, phone number and if it is a permanent change.

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If you need to change your child's dismissal during the day, and only under EMERGENCY circumstances, you must notify the main office before 2:00 p.m. so they can ensure your child gets to the right place at dismissal time. **Again, we strongly advise not to call the office with changes unless it is an emergency.**

How do I sign my child up to ride the bus?

The procedures for enrolling your child to ride the bus are at:

<http://lps.lexingtonma.org/Page/659>

Where is the Lost and Found?

The Lost and Found bin is located in the Cafeteria near the coat pegs. It is purged monthly and the unclaimed items are given to charity. Please check the Lost and Found often. If your child's items are labeled, we will make every effort to return them to your child.

Where is the Nurse's office?

The Nurse's office is located across the hall from the new main office. You may contact Katherine Bell, RN, NP, MSN at 781-861-2500 x1105, or for more information, go to:

<http://teacherweb.com/MA/LexingtonPublicSchools/LexingtonSchoolNurses/apt4.aspx>

How do I find out if school is cancelled due to snow or bad weather?

Dr. Paul Ash, the Superintendent of Schools, places an automated phone call no later than 6:00 a.m. to the primary phone number you supplied when you registered your child. You may also check Lexington Public School's site

<http://lps.lexingtonma.org/Page/929>, (Please remember to refresh your browser).

Another reliable source is the website for WBUR-FM at www.wbur.org and click on "school closings." Also, you can watch the evening news on television channels 4, 5 and 7 or listen to the radio on WBZ-AM (1030) for school closings.

How do I learn about the PTA?

Our new website is an invaluable source of information about joining the PTA, school events, and ways to volunteer. Visit us at <http://bowmanpta.org/>.

How do I learn more about life at Bowman?

"The Insider's Guide to Bowman" is an expanded version of this flyer and is available at - <http://bowmanpta.org/bowmans-insiders-guide/>. It is extremely helpful on procedures, school day and special event information, and school and PTA contact information.

Still have questions?

Welcoming Committee 2012-13 Co-Chairs:

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