

Lincoln Elementary School  
1100 13<sup>th</sup> St NE  
Watertown, SD 57201  
605-882-6340



Becca Briggs, Principal  
becca.briggs@k12.sd.us

Lincoln Elementary Families,

Welcome to the 2025-2026 school year! We've had a wonderful first few days of school. As we move through the year, I will be sending out information at the beginning of each month. The letter will include event reminders, our breakfast and lunch menu, and other important information for the month ahead.

Please read through the following reminders/information for the month of September:

### **Daily Schedule**

A copy of the daily schedule was given to families at our open house pre-conferences. Please note our specific morning timeline:

- Students should not be dropped off before 7:30am. Supervision is not available until this time.
- Students dropped off between 7:30-7:45am will wait in the entry with a supervisor.
- If students are dropped off after 8:05am, they should go straight to recess unless they are eating breakfast.

### **Early Dismissal Dates**

Early dismissal dates for September include:

- Wednesday, September 24 - dismissal at 12:20pm
- Friday, September 26 - dismissal at 1:20pm

### **September Menu**

Click on the link to view the August/September breakfast and lunch menu.

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ZrxMR-h\\_FlsEwfHpQBIMZbXL5W2Z6rbF/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ZrxMR-h_FlsEwfHpQBIMZbXL5W2Z6rbF/view?usp=sharing)

### **Supervision During School District Activities**

We will no longer have a student section for elementary age students at Watertown activities. The student section is now reserved for Watertown students in grades 7-12. **All other attendees are expected to sit in the family section with an accompanying adult.**

### **Activity Tickets**

Watertown Arrow Activity Tickets may be purchased online at <https://tickets.gobound.com/tickets/events/h202508121209468166c38366ee6ce4f/checkout>

### **School Pick up and Drop Off**

Please do not double park in the pick up/drop off loop. Vehicles may park and wait for students in the right lane, but should leave the left lane for driving through. Parking in the left lane blocks traffic and creates dangerous situations for students trying to cross between vehicles.

Reminder that vehicles cannot turn left when exiting the loop.

### **High Five Fridays**

Each month we will have a High Five Friday. On these days, students will be welcomed in the morning with high fives from various groups. We will start High Five Friday on September 5th with the Lincoln staff. Please see the included schedule.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1arnFQt7jx-JtlhOe5bP4r9zse29jl3jB/view?usp=sharing>

### **Facebook**

Please join our **Lincoln Elementary School, Watertown, SD** Facebook page if you have not done so already. We will be featuring the amazing things that are happening at Lincoln, along with important reminders and announcements.

### **Arrow Days**

Arrows Days will be the week of Friday, September 26th. A few highlights for Arrow Days festivities include:

- Button Sales during lunch on Thursday and Friday, September 18th and 19th. Buttons will be \$2 each.
- Dress up days
  - Wednesday, September 24 - Hat Day
  - Thursday, September 25 - Team/Jersey Day
  - Friday, September 26 - Arrow Day - wear Purple and Gold
- Friday, September 26 will be an early release - school will dismiss at 1:20pm
  - Parade will begin at 2pm

### **Delta Dental Mobile Program**

Click on the link for information regarding the Delta Dental Mobile Program held Oct 27-31:

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1\\_SHToizhM7XhfSQpDv6Zl3Lu7OfAma1d/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_SHToizhM7XhfSQpDv6Zl3Lu7OfAma1d/view?usp=sharing)

### **Attendance Matters**

I am happy to introduce Ashley Fordham, our new Family Support Specialist. Ashley will work with our elementary school families to provide support as needed to ensure a positive attendance year for our students.

Across the country, attendance concerns have continued to alarm and challenge school districts. How important is your child's education? How do you value education? What example do you set? The activities and lessons created by teachers daily in the classroom cannot be recreated or made-up like they used to. The resources specifically used by classroom teachers are not available to parents. The social aspect is enormous in preparing young minds for the future work force. Most jobs rely on a team building approach to solving, creating, and meeting a common mission statement.

Teaching the habit to be on time and that education is valuable and a priority should be a goal of every parent. We understand situations arise. Communication is vital to helping with these issues. There are very few perfect attendance students any more.

There are some changes to our expectations in the Watertown School District. Please take note of how we record attendance in Infinite Campus.

**Early Release Excused-** If you pick up your child after 10:00 but before 12:00 and after 2:00 but before 3:20 you must have a reason: dentist/ortho/medical/legal. It will be counted as unexcused if given no reason.

**Early Release UNEXCUSED:** If you pick up your child after 10:00 but before 12:00 and after 2:00 but prior to 3:20 AND do not have a reason.

#### **Parent Excusing Absence:**

**Parent Request:** Any time a parent calls to request their child leave or be absent from school, this includes if the child is ill; **Inclement Driving conditions**, Parent says due to weather, will not bring their child to school; **Family Vacation**, Parent says family is going on vacation; to be used if a student arrives after 10 or leaves prior to 2:00.

**Parent Excusing Tardy: Parent Request**, any time a parent calls to say their child will be tardy; **Dentist/Ortho/Medical/Legal Appointment** without a note; **Inclement Driving conditions**; to be used if a student arrives prior to 10:00.

**Tardy Excused: Dentist/Ortho/Medical/Legal Appointment**, only if a note accompanies; to be used if a student arrives prior to 10:00 or 12:00.

**Tardy UNEXCUSED: Cannot get in contact with parent; Parent not excusing tardy**; to be used if a student arrives prior to 10:00 or 12:00.

#### **Important Dates to Remember:**

- Monday, September 1 - No School, Labor Day
- Friday, September 5 - High Five Friday by Lincoln Staff
- Monday, September 8 - PTO Meeting at 3:30pm in the Lincoln conference room - all are welcome to attend
- Tuesday, September 9 - Vision and Hearing Screenings for 1st and 3rd grade
- Thursday, September 18 - Arrow Day button sales during lunch (\$2)
- Friday, September 19 - Arrow Day button sales during lunch (\$2)
- Wednesday, September 24 - Early dismissal for in-service at 12:20pm
- Wednesday, September 24 - Dress up day - Hat Day
- Thursday, September 25 - Dress up day - Team/Jersey Day
- Friday, September 26 - Dress up day - Purple and Gold
- Friday, September 26 - Early dismissal at 1:20pm, parade begins at 2pm

Thank you for all you do for our students and school. I look forward to a great year!

Becca Briggs  
Principal  
Lincoln Elementary