Dear Kindergarten parents,

Welcome to Kolling Elementary! We are happy you have entrusted us to educate your child. We look forward to meeting them on the first day of school, Wednesday, August 13th.

This document includes important information that will ensure a smooth transition to kindergarten for you and your child. Please be sure to read the contents carefully as many frequently asked questions are addressed. For all other inquiries, please contact our main office at 219-365-8577. The office opens Tuesday, July 29th.

You will also be receiving additional information from the Lake Central School Corporation about online registration. Please note that your child is only enrolled at this point and <u>you must</u> <u>go through the steps of online registration to complete the process</u>. Online registration will be completed annually for each LCSC student (new or returning) each summer before entering grades K-12. Online registration is open Monday, July 28th, through Friday, August 1st.

We encourage you to use bus transportation, including on the first day of school. If you plan to drop-off or pick-up, please become familiar with the procedures included below to ensure the safety of all students, parents, and staff.

<u>Click here</u> for the school supply list. You can also find this information on the Kolling Elementary website.





Dear Newly Enrolled Parent/Student:

Welcome to the Lake Central School Corporation! We are happy that you have entrusted us to educate your child and we look forward to having him/her with us.

Your student is officially enrolled for the 2025/2026 school year. The information you provided during the ENROLLMENT PROCESS reserved a spot for him/her in the fall. The process will be complete once you complete the ONLINE REGISTRATION in late July along with the rest of our student body.

What you can expect with Skyward Online Registration:

If you are a <u>new</u> family to the Lake Central School District, Skyward Family Access Login ID and temporary password will be emailed to you by mid-July. This email will also have instructions on how to set up your account, how to officially "online register" and how you will use the system to access your child's grades, report cards and student information throughout their time in the Lake Central School Corporation. If you do not receive a code by July 23rd, please go to <u>www.lcsc.us</u> and click on the Skyward Link. Click the "forgot password link" and enter the email address you enrolled your child with and the system will email your login and a temporary password. If that does not work, you can email <u>skywardaccess@lcscmail.com</u> with your child's name and school, and activation information will be emailed back to you. If you already have a Skyward Family Access account for an older child, the newly enrolled student has been added to that account. If you do not see him/her when you login, please email <u>skywardaccess@lcscmail.com</u> so we can resolve that for you. Remember, your child is only <u>enrolled</u> at this point; you must go through online registration to complete the process.

What you can expect with ParentSquare:

Around mid-July, you will also receive an email with information about how to set up your ParentSquare account. ParentSquare is used throughout the district and is our platform for keeping parents and guardians informed. In order to stay connected with important school and district information, be sure to follow the instructions in the mid-July email for setting up your ParentSquare account.

Important Dates:

July 21st: Skyward Codes emailed out to parents of all students new to the corporation and kindergartners. LCSC will email all parents, explaining online registration dates and times.

July 28th - August 1st: Online Registration

Online Registration begins after 10:00am July 28th and closes at 11:59pm August 1st **August 6th and 7th**: Registration Help in LCSC Tech Training Lab (10:00am - 3:00pm) **August 12th:** Elementary Schedules Available Online at 11:00am (see teacher assignments) **August 12th:** Kindergarten Students Trial Bus Ride (you will receive information about this from transportation) **August 13th:** FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL (full day)

Thank you,

Lake Central School Corporation

Kolling Elementary School Kindergarten Meet the Teacher Social

Kolling Kindergarten teachers will host a **Meet the Teacher Social** on **Wednesday, August 6th from 5:30-6:30 pm**. Each kindergarten student is invited to attend and is limited to only one adult per classroom. Since teacher assignments will not be listed in Skyward, we will have several places in the building where class lists will be posted the night of the event. Please follow the schedule below.

Boys Schedule (Enter at Door C):

- 5:30–6:00 pm Meet Principals and PTO Board in Café
- 6:00-6:30 pm Meet Teacher in classroom

Girls Schedule (Enter at Door A):

- 5:30-6:00 pm Meet Teacher in classroom
- 6:00-6:30 pm Meet Principals and PTO Board in Café



We invite you to use this time to show your child where his/her classroom will be, learn about what experiences your child will have in kindergarten, and enjoy a treat in our café- compliments of the Kolling PTO.

Parents are asked to bring all school supplies to the event so that children will have a lighter load on the first day of school. Please put all supplies in a large paper bag with your child's name on the bag. Small supplies should be labeled.

This opportunity is being offered to <u>kindergarten students only</u> as a means to ease the anxiety of starting school for the first time. In order for kindergarteners and parents to get the most out of the evening, we strongly encourage families to arrange for a babysitter for young, non-kindergarten age children when possible.

For safety reasons, parents will not be permitted to walk children to classrooms on the first student day or any other day of school. For this reason, we highly encourage you to participate in this event.

Lake Central School Corporation

8260 Wicker Avenue Tel: (219) 365-8507 St. John, IN 46373 Fax: (219) 365-6406

website: lcsc.us



Lawrence Veracco, Ph.D. Superintendent Sarah Castaneda Assistant Superintendent Yolanda Bracey, Ed.D. Director of Primary Education

Misty Scheuneman Director of Secondary Education

Rebecca Gromala Director of Student Services



To: Parents of 2025-2026 Kindergarten Students

From: Charles Strebar, Director of Transportation; Dr. Larry Veracco, Superintendent

Re: Kindergarten School Bus Practice Run

Date: April 24, 2025

This fall your child will be coming to a Lake Central elementary school for the first time. A kindergartner's anxiety (and yours) may be high as formal education begins. We have found that riding a bus prior to the first day can significantly reduce a child's apprehension regarding riding the bus to school, and we strongly encourage all families to participate. Additionally, our drivers really like the opportunity to introduce themselves to their new riders and their parents. Each kindergarten student will be allowed to ride the school bus with his/her parent or another adult the day before the start of the regular school year. Brothers or sisters under school age will not be allowed to participate in the school bus orientation due to child safety restraint laws.

This opportunity for the 2025-26 school year will begin with the buses **leaving the Transportation Center at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, August 12, 2025** to start picking up kindergartners. If you and your child are planning on participating in this orientation program please be at your bus stop at 10:00 to ensure your child does not miss the bus. If you are unsure of your stop, please call the Transportation Department at 219-365-3141. Remember that the buses are running their entire route and it depends on where you are located on that route as to what time your actual pick up time will be.

All kindergarten and adult riders will arrive at their respective school and will be shown the arrival location of their buses and the entrance to the school that the child will be using on his/her first day of school.

Currently, the transportation routes are being finalized for the 2025-26 school year. By Friday, August 1st, you will be able to obtain information on your specific route at the following web address:

https://www.infofinderi.com/ifi/?cid=LCSC2LER0606T

We hope you participate in our practice bus ride on August 12th.

The First Day of School and Beyond

The first student day is Wednesday, August 13th, 2025. The school day begins at 8:10am and dismissal begins at 2:25pm. The district has planned 7 early release school days throughout the year. Early release day dismissal will begin at 12:05pm. In addition to the directions below, our staff has also created a video to help explain drop-off and pick-up procedures. <u>Click here</u> to access the video.

All Grades Drop-Off Directions:

If you choose to bring your child to school, you must use curbside drop-off. We anticipate a large number of car riders, so it is critical (for safety and smooth transitions) that you help us by staggering arrival times as listed below. This means <u>your vehicle</u> <u>cannot enter our parking lot until the assigned time.</u> If you have children in multiple grades, you may pick one of their time slots.

| Parent Drop-off Times | | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|--|--|--|
| 7:45 | Grades 3 and 4 | | | |
| 7:55 | Grades 1 and 2 | | | |
| 8:00 | KDG and Preschool | | | |

All parents must cooperate with these staggered drop-off times. Students will enter through Door B or Door C, depending on which is closest to your car.

<u>Even on the first day of school,</u> parents are not permitted to park and walk their child to the sidewalk. With the number of vehicles in our parking lot, it is not safe to allow so much pedestrian traffic. <u>Safety first!</u> We have plenty of staff to help support every nervous, sad, or excited student that comes our way. We always do! Students being dropped off will not be marked tardy until we have reached the end of the drop-off line.

All Grades - Pick-up Directions:

You must use curb-side pick-up and wait in your vehicle for your child to be dismissed. We will begin loading cars at approximately 2:30pm on full days and 12:05 on early release days. Use the staggered times below to determine your arrival. When you arrive early, cars often block town roads and disrupt the flow of traffic including buses and emergency vehicles. To prevent this, please enter the parking lot at your assigned time. If you have children in multiple grades, you may pick one of their time slots.

| Full Day Pick-up Times Barriers at Loading Zone Open at 2:25 | Half Day Pick-up Times Barriers at Loading Zone Open at 12:00 | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| 2:30 KDG and Preschool | 12:05 | | |
| 2:35 Grades 1 and 2 | 12:10 | | |
| 2:40 Grades 3 and 4 | 12:15 | | |

You must enter the parking lot from the Kolling access road and enter the loading zone along the sidewalk in the front of the building. You cannot enter from US 41 for curbside drop-off or pick-up. For pick-up, you must have a sign with your child/children's name visible in your windshield. The sign should be written dark enough and big enough for staff to read from afar. Even if you feel the staff knows you well, we ask that every vehicle have a sign.

All cars are to remain in park when in the unloading/loading zone and <u>no car can leave until our staff has directed you</u> to do so. This is especially important for the first car in the line. We may still be unloading/loading vehicles behind you and if you leave, everyone will start moving when children are still loading.

- Cell phone use is not permitted while in the loading zone.
- The loading zone will be closed with barriers until pick-up begins. Cars are not permitted to pull up to the barriers and park in front of them.
- Cars are not permitted to stop/park at the Kolling access road stop sign and wait for the loading zone to open. If you arrive before the loading zone opens, you can either come back at your assigned time or pull into the parking lot and park in a designated parking spot. DO NOT CREATE YOUR OWN PARKING SPOT.
- Smoking is not permitted on any Lake Central School grounds.

The first few days of school may take longer as we get familiar with students and parents, but I am confident that pick-up will run just as quickly, smoothly, and safely as it always has. **Remember, safety first!**

Kolling Elementary Student Drop-off & Pick-up Map



Green arrows show the flow of traffic when coming into the lot for student drop-off or pick-up.

Yellow arrows show the flow of traffic when leaving the parking lot after student drop-off or pick-up.

STOP BAR

If you are the first vehicle in the line, you must stop at the stop bar that is painted on the parking lot. You MUST NOT move from that spot until the staff member tells you that you can. Once all vehicles in the unloading/loading zone are clear from students, the staff member will direct the first car to exit.

2025/2026 Early Release Days

- Parent Pick-up begins at 12:05.
- Students will be dropped off at bus stops approximately 2 hours and 25 minutes earlier than their normal drop-off time.

Tuesday, September 9th

Tuesday, October 14th

Tuesday, November 11th

no early release days in December or January

Tuesday, February 10th

Tuesday, March 10th

Tuesday, April 14th

Tuesday, May 12th



The Lake Central Food Service Department works hard to create fun ways to liven up mealtime for your child. We want your child to enjoy their time with us! We would like to cover just a few of the exciting Food Service details. First, and foremost, all children are offered nutritious and fresh meals containing all of the recommended dietary requirements your child needs.

Choosing Breakfast: Start your child's day off right with a healthy school breakfast! Breakfast will give your child more energy, keep them healthy and help to improve their grades. We have several items to choose from. There is a different hot item daily, along with yogurt parfaits and several cereals in addition to fresh fruit, juice and milk. School breakfast is served daily between 7:50 and 8:10. The cost is \$2.25 or \$.30 for eligible reduced price meals and is deducted from your child's Food Service Account in Skyward. Everyone is welcome - bus riders, car riders and walkers. If your child arrives late make sure to tell the office they need to eat. We will accommodate late arrivals.

Choosing Lunch: Each day we offer different meal options for your child's lunch. Be it a hot or cold entree, all lunches come with a choice of fruit, hot and cold vegetables and milk. Your child's teacher will ask them in the morning what their choice is for lunch and place the order for them so there is no stress for your child. It is best to review the choices with them the night before, that way they know exactly what their options are. Once they come into the cafeteria, the student grabs their lunch card and goes through the serving line. The cost for lunch in elementary school is \$3.00 or \$.40 for eligible reduced price meals. If they choose to purchase a milk only, it is \$.60. A la carte items are available for all children to purchase whether they are purchasing a school lunch or bringing a home lunch. Funds must be in their Food Service Account to purchase a la carte items.

Special Dietary Needs: We will work with any parent who has a child with a special dietary need. The school's Food Service Manager can make substitutions based on a doctor's recommendation. Diet order forms are available on our website. We must have a diet form filled out in order to accommodate substitutions.

Theme Days: We have at least two theme days per month to keep the children interested in lunchtime and to teach them better nutritional choices. For example: we recently had "Build a Bear-Rific Lunch" where we decorated the serving lines and had a Coloring Contest to Win a Teddy Bear. The focus was on selecting at least 3 of the 5 food groups offered. To find out what is coming next, be sure to check out the lunch menus found on our website at <u>www.lcsc.us</u>.

Celebration Treats: Would you like to make your child's birthday special with a healthy treat option for their classmates? Birthday Treats are available through Food Service. Check out our website for treat options, additional information and order forms. Allergy information is also provided.

Visit our website at <u>www.lcsc.us</u>, click on "Departments" and then "Food Services" for more exciting information from your Food Service Department. There you will find information like:

- Monthly Breakfast & Lunch Menus with Nutritional information
- Program and Contact Information
- Making Skyward Payments into your child's Food Service Account
- Birthday Celebration Treats
- Special Accommodations
- Free & Reduced Meal Applications

MEAL CHARGE GUIDELINES:

The National School Lunch Program (NSLP) requires school food authorities to establish written administrative guidelines for meal charges. <u>Click here</u> to access the Meal Charge Guidelines and Payment Options provided by the Lake Central School Corporation.

We encourage parents to call the Food Service Department at 219-865-4416 with any suggestions or questions pertaining to the food program. All pricing and menus are subject to change. We hope you find this information useful.

Have a great school year.

DeAnn Alleva Director of Food Service LCSC Food Service Department

Kolling Elementary School Website



<u>Click here</u> or scan the QR Code above to visit the Kolling Elementary Website Page for important information, including:

| Lake Central Elementary School Policies and Handbook | Parent Drop-off & Pick-up Procedures | Beginning of the Year FAQ | School Supply List | Procedures for Building Access |
|---|--|------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Links for various | Technology Help | Building Calendar | School Safety | Useful District |
| school services | Page | | Information | Quick Links |



