

Dear Lakeside Presbyterian Nursery School Families,

The Church Session (governing body of Lakeside Presbyterian Church) approved a start date of September 15th, our original start date! But as you are probably aware there are going to be some changes. The changes that you will see below have been approved and adopted by the LPNS Board, LPNS teachers, and the Church Session. We will need volunteers to help implement our plan, which has the health and safety of our preschool families, teachers, and those utilizing and working at the church in mind.

Some important changes to note:

Hours and Days of Operation: The school day will run from 8:45-11:30 T, W, Th, and there will be no lunch or afternoon class. This is to allow cleaning of the classrooms between groups. Students who were enrolled for the afternoon are encouraged to instead enroll in the morning. Tuition will be \$215 per four week period; please do not pay for the full year in advance.

Pick up, Drop Off and Daily Temperature Screening: Parents will not be allowed in the building except for on an “as needed” basis such as if your child becomes sick and needs to be picked up. There will be daily temperature checks at the start of each day prior to children entering the building. We will need and depend upon a volunteer each day to do this, as teachers will be in the classrooms with students. The volunteer will then walk children to their classrooms, this will help reduce the number of people going in and out of the building. Teachers will bring the class outdoors for dismissal.

Class Rotation: Students will be assigned a mixed age pod and teacher and spend each day in a different classroom, rotating only to go outside. For example, a student assigned to Mrs. McIntosh will be in the Yellow Room on Tuesday, the Blue Room on Wednesday, and the Red Room on Thursday. The Red Room will be set up to look more like a traditional classroom with art, centers, and blocks. Each room will have a mix of activities such as sensory, fine motor, and gross motor activities.

Snack: Parents will provide a week of individually wrapped or easily served snacks for the class on a rotating basis; you will get a schedule in September. Examples of snacks are a box of crackers, applesauce pouches, or a small box of raisins. The \$35 snack fee will be used to cover expenses due to COVID-19 this year.

Closure based on community case rates: LPNS will close if cases per 10,000 are 50 or over for the past two week period, which is the same threshold Governor Walz laid out for public schools closing and going to distance learning. This will be decided on a weekly basis.

Masks: At the start of the school year students will wear face masks on a trial basis and we will see how it goes. We will be able to provide your child with some cloth face masks and will also have disposable ones on hand.

Protocol for COVID19 cases affecting our families: If a student or live-in family member has a positive COVID-19 test or clinical diagnosis, that student’s pod will have school suspended for 14 days. If a student goes home sick from school with COVID-19 symptoms, that student’s pod will have school suspended until the student has a COVID-19 test or diagnosis. If the results are positive, classes will suspend for 14 days from the day the student went home, if the results are negative the class will come back the next school day.

Payment of Tuition: Tuition and the COVID-19 fee (a total of \$250) are due August 28th. If you have already submitted a check please contact Sandy, our treasurer, sandydon711@aol.com. Please contact Ann at amm0377@gmail.com if your plans have changed and you will no longer be attending LPNS this year.

There is the potential that school will be cancelled due to lack of enrollment. Ann is working to find financial assistance to cover any gaps if enrollment is low. At this time, no refunds of tuition will be given should there be a shutdown due to exposure or positive COVID-19 case. If Ann is able to find sufficient financial assistance, refunds may become available. If school will not be starting September 15th, refunds will be given.

We appreciate your flexibility as we work through this unprecedented situation. We will continue to update you as we are able and will try to keep everyone informed of changes as quickly as possible. The teachers, parents on the board, and church leadership have worked very hard on these policies and strategies to try to keep everyone as safe as possible while keeping in mind the wellbeing of our children and the long term success of the program. At this time we feel we have done our best to balance all these needs, and are very much looking forward to the start of the school year. Our hope is that despite the pandemic, our children will have an enjoyable year of fun and growth at LPNS.

Thank you,
LPNS Board and Teachers